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## Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

October 21, 2019

File: Environmental Doc Review  
San Bernardino County

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**OCT 21 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

### **Amethyst Road Pipeline Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Victorville Water District, San Bernardino County, State Clearinghouse No. 2019099065**

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) staff received the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the project (Project) on September 27, 2019. The IS/MND was prepared by the Meridian Consultants for the Victorville Water District (City) to solicit input from State and local agencies regarding potential environmental concerns associated with the Project. The proposed Project is described as the installation of an approximately 5,500-feet of a 24-inch diameter water pipeline within the road right-of-way, between Mesa and Sycamore Streets, within the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County.

Water Board staff, acting as a responsible agency, is providing these comments to specify the scope and content of the environmental information germane to our statutory responsibilities pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 14, section 15096. We encourage the City to take this opportunity to (1) clarify and quantify the proposed width and length of the construction-disturbance zone, (2) describe the necessity and level of coordination efforts with San Bernardino County Flood Control District, and (3) to prepare and implement a comprehensive Spill Prevention and Response Plan throughout the life of the Project. Our comments are outlined below.

#### **COMMENTS**

1. The Project description indicates the installation of approximately 5,500-feet of a 24-inch diameter water pipeline that will require the excavation of a trench approximately 5-feet wide and a temporary disturbance zone width of 10-feet for installation of the pipeline. Please clarify if the disturbance zone includes the

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PETER C. PUMPHREY, CHAIR | PATTY Z. KOUYOUMDJIAN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

pipeline trench, area for stockpiling of excavated soils, and Project ingress and egress.

2. Appendix D, Geotechnical Exploration, indicates installation of the 24-inch pipeline may need to be coordinated with San Bernardino County Flood Control District's Amethyst Flood Control Basin Project. The Project description should mention the potential for coordination with the San Bernardino County Flood Control District with regards to the installation of the pipeline within the limits of the Amethyst Flood Control Basin Project. Please clarify if coordination with the San Bernardino County Flood Control District will occur. The IS/MND should also address how the proposed pipeline will or will not impact drainage and/or promote erosion within the Oro Grande wash.
3. The environmental document should include a mitigation measure that requires the preparation and implementation of a comprehensive Spill Prevention and Response Plan. This plan should outline the site-specific monitoring requirements and list the best management practices necessary to prevent hazardous material spills or to contain and cleanup a hazardous material spill, should one occur.

## **PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS**

A number of activities if implemented at this site have the potential to impact waters of the State and, therefore, may require permits issued by either the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or Lahontan Water Board. The required permits may include the following.

4. Land disturbance of more than one acre may require a Clean Water Act (CWA), section 402(p) storm water permit, including a *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Storm Water Permit*, Water Quality Order (WQO) 2009-0009-DWQ, obtained from the State Water Board, or individual storm water permit obtained from the Lahontan Water Board.
5. Streambed alteration and/or discharge of fill material to a surface water may require a CWA, section 401 water quality certification for impacts to federal waters (waters of the U.S.), or dredge and fill waste discharge requirements for impacts to non-federal waters, both issued by the Lahontan Water Board.

Thank you for requesting our consultation. As a responsible agency under CEQA, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on environmental documents for this Project. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (760) 241-4942 ([jeffrey.fitzsimmons@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jeffrey.fitzsimmons@waterboards.ca.gov)) or Jan Zimmerman, Senior Engineering Geologist, at (760) 241-7376 ([jan.zimmerman@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jan.zimmerman@waterboards.ca.gov)).

Please send all future correspondence regarding this Project to the Water Board's email address at [Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov) and be sure to include the State Clearinghouse No. and Project name in the subject line.



Jeff Fitzsimmons, PG 8970, CEG 2694, QSD G08970  
Engineering Geologist

cc: State Clearinghouse (SCH 2019099065) ([state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov](mailto:state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov))  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife ([ali.aghili@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:ali.aghili@wildlife.ca.gov))

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