

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION
AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING**

Chino Basin Wastewater Optimum Basin Management Program Update

To: California Office of Planning and Research
Responsible and Trustee Agencies
Federal Agencies
Other Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Notice of Public Scoping Meeting

Project: Chino Basin Optimum Basin Management Program Update (OBMPU)

Lead Agency: Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Date: February 10, 2020

Notice of Preparation:

This Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify agencies and interested parties that the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) as the Lead Agency has independently prepared an Initial Study and determined that there are potentially significant impacts associated with implementation of projects identified in the proposed Optimum Basin Management Program Update (OBMPU), and an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. The OBMPU continues the OBMP's nine Program Elements (described in the attached Initial Study), and describes facility improvements needed to meet the OBMPU's long-term planning objectives over a thirty-year planning horizon. The OBMPU EIR will tier from prior OBMP environmental documents, including but not limited to the Final Program Environmental Impact Report for the Optimum Basin Management Program (SCH#200041047), July 2000, prepared by Tom Dodson & Associates (2000 OBMP PEIR). The IEUA has prepared this Notice of Preparation in accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15082).

The Initial Study is attached to this Notice, along with maps of the project area. The Initial Study has identified the following issues to be addressed in the scope of the EIR: air quality, biology, cultural resources, energy, greenhouse gases, hydrology and water quality, tribal cultural resources, and utilities and service systems. The Initial Study has not identified any other issues identified in CEQA Guidelines Appendix G that raise potentially significant environmental impacts.

The IEUA is soliciting the input from interested persons and agencies to assist in the further development of the scope and content of the environmental information to be studied in the EIR. In accordance with CEQA, agencies are requested to review the Initial Study that describes a program of proposed facilities and activities and provide comments on environmental issues related to the statutory responsibilities of the agency. The EIR will be used by Chino Basin Watermaster when considering approval of the OBMPU and related documents.

In accordance with CEQA, comments to the NOP must be received by IEUA no later than 30 days after publication of this notice. The review period for this NOP is from February 10, 2020 to March 10, 2020. We request that comments to this NOP be received no later than March 10, 2020.

Please include a return address and contact name with your comments and send them via mail or email to the address shown below:

Ms. Sylvie Lee, P.E.
Inland Empire Utilities Agency
6075 Kimball Avenue
Chino, CA 91708
Email: Slee@ieua.org; Telephone: 909-993-1600

Notice of Public Scoping Meeting:

A public scoping meeting will be held to receive verbal public comments and suggestions on the environmental issues associated with implementation of the OBMPU that will be addressed in the EIR. It will include a brief presentation providing an overview of the facilities proposed in the OBMPU. After the presentation, oral comments will be accepted. Written comment forms will be made available for those who wish to submit comments in writing at the scoping meeting. The scoping meeting will be open to the public and held at the following location:

Inland Empire Utility Agency
Agency Headquarters, Board Room
6075 Kimball Avenue, Building A
Chino, CA 91708

At 6:00 PM on Thursday, February 27, 2020