

STAFF REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 11, 2015

To:

Town Council

From:

Town Manager

Subject: Public Hearing for certification of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for

the SPMUD Diversion Pipeline Project

Date:

June 22, 2015

RECOMMENDATION:

A motion to make the Findings listed in Exhibit A and to adopt the attached Resolution certifying the Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the SPMUD Diversion Pipeline project.

BACKGROUND:

At the May 10, 2014 Town Council meeting, the Town Council approved the designation of the Town of Loomis to act as Lead Agency pursuant to CEQA for the SPMUD Sewer Diversion Line **Environmental Document.**

A public hearing was held at the July 14, 2015 Town Council meeting to receive comments during the public circulation period for the document (June 18 – July 20, 2015). The Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the SPMUD Diversion Pipeline project is now complete and ready for certification by the Town Council. Copies of the document have been distributed to the Town Council under separate cover.

A total of five written comments were received regarding the IS/MND. Two comments were received during the circulation period by the State Clearinghouse. One comment was received from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and one comment was received from CalTrans, District 3. In addition, Kim Fettke, Loomis resident, submitted one comment directly to Town Hall making suggestions regarding the potential impacts to bats, Tim Denham of Wood Rogers submitted one comment on behalf of the Turtle Island property regarding alignment of the proposed line, and one comment from Betty Nakashoji Rivera regarding a potential conflict with a recently installed water line to 3946 Betty Lane (see attached

correspondence). In addition, 3 oral comments were received during the Town Council public hearing on July 14, 2015.

Responses to all comments received are presented in Appendix E of the Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the SPMUD Diversion Pipeline project. As required by CEQA, the Final IS/MND addresses the comments and includes both mitigation measures to reduce the impacts to less than significant and a Mitigation Monitoring Program.

Anders Hauge will be making a presentation on the Final IS/MND at the Council meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None at this time.

Attachments:

- Comments
- Exhibit A Findings of Fact
- Resolution+
- Public Notice

COMMENTS



STATE OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



July 20, 2015

Rick Angelocci City of Loomis 3665 Taylor Road Loomis, CA 95650

Subject: South Placer Municipal Utility District Diversion Pipeline Project

SCH#: 2015062050

Dear Rick Angelocci:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Mitigated Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on July 17, 2015, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely.

Scott Morgan

Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures

cc: Resources Agency

RECEIVED

JUL 23 2015

Document Details Report State Clearinghouse Data Base

SCH# 2015062050

Project Title South Placer Municipal Utility District Diversion Pipeline Project

Lead Agency Loomis, City of

> MND Mitigated Negative Declaration Туре

The Town of Loomis and SPMUD are proposing to construct, operate and maintain a diversion pipeline Description

to address existing and forecasted pipeline capacity deficiencies. The Project will be located on privately owned property and public easement located near I-80, Horseshoe Bar Road, Betty Lane. Brace Road, and Dias Lane. The Project will include the installation of 7,233 linear feet of 15- to 24-inch sanitary sewer pipeline installed using open cut trenching and bore and jack trenchless

methods.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Rick Angelocci

Agency City of Loomis

Phone 916 652 1840 email

Address 3665 Taylor Road

> City Loomis

State CA Zip 95650

Fax

Project Location

County Placer

City Loomis, Rocklin

Region

Lat / Long 38° 49' 7" N / 121° 11' 17" W

Cross Streets Near I-80 between Horseshoe Bar Road through Dias Lane

Parcel No. 043-100-038, 043-080-045, and 13+

Township Range Section Base

Proximity to:

Highways I-80

Airports

Railways UPRR

Waterways Secret Ravine Creek Schools Loomis, Del Oro, Rocklin

Land Use Undeveloped land and roadway ROW/CG, CT, RE, RR, UN, R1/Commercial and Residential

Project Issues Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Geologic/Seismic; Sewer Capacity; Soil

Erosion/Compaction/Grading, Vegetation, Water Quality, Wetland/Riparian, Landuse

Reviewing Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2; Office of Historic Preservation; Agencies

Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol;

Caltrans, District 3 N; Air Resources Board; Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5

(Sacramento); Native American Heritage Commission; Public Utilities Commission

Date Received 06/17/2015 Start of Review 06/18/2015 End of Review 07/17/2015





Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

13 July 2015

Rick Angelocci Town of Loomis 3665 Taylor Road Loomis, CA 95650 RECEIVED

JUL 1 6 2015

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

Mear 15

CERTIFIED MAIL 7014 2870 0000 7535 4319

COMMENTS TO REQUEST FOR REVIEW FOR THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, SOUTH PLACER MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT DIVERSION PIPELINE PROJECT, SCH# 2015062050, PLACER COUNTY

Pursuant to the State Clearinghouse's 18 June 2015 request, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed the *Request for Review for the Mitigated Negative Declaration* for the South Placer Municipal Utility District Diversion Pipeline Project, located in Placer County.

Our agency is delegated with the responsibility of protecting the quality of surface and groundwaters of the state; therefore our comments will address concerns surrounding those issues.

Construction Storm Water General Permit

Dischargers whose project disturb one or more acres of soil or where projects disturb less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs one or more acres, are required to obtain coverage under the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities (Construction General Permit), Construction General Permit Order No. 2009-009-DWQ. Construction activity subject to this permit includes clearing, grading, grubbing, disturbances to the ground, such as stockpiling, or excavation, but does not include regular maintenance activities performed to restore the original line, grade, or capacity of the facility. The Construction General Permit requires the development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

For more information on the Construction General Permit, visit the State Water Resources Control Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/constpermits.shtml.

Clean Water Act Section 401 Permit - Water Quality Certification

If an USACOE permit (e.g., Non-Reporting Nationwide Permit, Nationwide Permit, Letter of Permission, Individual Permit, Regional General Permit, Programmatic General Permit), or any other federal permit (e.g., Section 9 from the United States Coast Guard), is required for this project due to the disturbance of waters of the United States (such as streams and wetlands), then a Water Quality Certification must be obtained from the Central Valley Water Board prior to initiation of project activities. There are no waivers for 401 Water Quality Certifications.

Waste Discharge Requirements

If USACOE determines that only non-jurisdictional waters of the State (i.e., "non-federal" waters of the State) are present in the proposed project area, the proposed project will require a Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) permit to be issued by Central Valley Water Board. Under the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, discharges to all waters of the State, including all wetlands and other waters of the State including, but not limited to, isolated wetlands, are subject to State regulation.

For more information on the Water Quality Certification and WDR processes, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/help/business_help/permit2.shtml.

Regulatory Compliance for Commercially Irrigated Agriculture

If the property will be used for commercial irrigated agricultural, the discharger will be required to obtain regulatory coverage under the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.

There are two options to comply:

- 1. Obtain Coverage Under a Coalition Group. Join the local Coalition Group that supports land owners with the implementation of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. The Coalition Group conducts water quality monitoring and reporting to the Central Valley Water Board on behalf of its growers. The Coalition Groups charge an annual membership fee, which varies by Coalition Group. To find the Coalition Group in your area, visit the Central Valley Water Board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/app_approval/index.shtml; or contact water board staff at (916) 464-4611 or via email at IrrLands@waterboards.ca.gov.
- 2. Obtain Coverage Under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Individual Growers, General Order R5-2013-0100. Dischargers not participating in a third-party group (Coalition) are regulated individually. Depending on the specific site conditions, growers may be required to monitor runoff from their property, install monitoring wells, and submit a notice of intent, farm plan, and other action plans regarding their actions to comply with their General Order. Yearly costs would include State administrative fees (for example, annual fees for farm sizes from 10-100 acres are currently \$1,084 + \$6.70/Acre); the cost to prepare annual monitoring reports; and water quality monitoring costs. To enroll as an Individual Discharger under the Irrigated Lands Regulatory

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 3 703 B STREET MARYSVILLE, CA 95901 PHONE (530) 741-4199 FAX (530) 741-5346

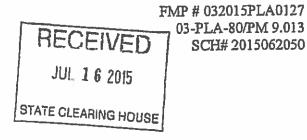


Be energy efficient!

SCH# 2015062050

July 16, 2015

Mr. Rick Angelocci Town of Loomis 3665 Taylor Road Loomis, CA 95650



South Placer Municipal Utility District Diversion Pipeline Project

Dear Mr. Rick Andelocci:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the South Placer Municipal Utility District (SPMUD) Diversion Pipeline Project. The Town of Loomis and SPMUD are proposing to construct, operate and maintain a diversion pipeline to address existing and forecasted pipeline capacity deficiencies. The project will be located on private property and public easements located near I-80, Horseshoe Bar Road, Betty Lane, Brace Road and Dias Lane. The project is located within the Town of Loomis and the City of Rocklin. These comments are based on the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Traffic Operations

An Encroachment Permit will be required for any work conducted in the State's right of way. A cost estimate for the work within the State's right of way will be reviewed to determine whether it triggers the need for a 'project funded by others' designation.

Hydraulics

The location of the proposed jack and bore pipe is in very close proximity to an existing 66" corrugated metal pipe arch (CMPA) drainage cross culvert located at Pla-80 PM 8.92. The 66" CMPA storm drain pipeline is located approximately 1050 ft east of the centerline of the Horseshoe Bar Over Crossing.

Please insure that the location and installation of the proposed new sewer pipeline does not damage the existing storm drain pipeline or interfere with existing drainage patterns in the vicinity of the existing 66" CMPA pipeline.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any work or traffic control that would encroach onto the State right of way (ROW) requires an encroachment permit issued by Caltrans. All required Encroachment Permit policies with regards to depth, method of installation, encasement will need to be followed. Caltrans Mr. Rick Angelocci/Town of Loomis July 16, 2015 Page 2

is currently finishing up the Raise Interstate 80 projects and may need to coordinate activities depending on when this job begins. To apply, a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, and five sets of plans indicating State ROW must be submitted to the address below:

Office of Permits Caltrans - District 3 703 B Street Marysville, CA 95901

Traffic-related mitigation measures should be incorporated into the construction plans prior to the encroachment permit process. Please visit the following URL for more information: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/.

Please provide our office with copies of any further actions regarding this project. We would appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on any changes related to this development.

If you have any questions regarding these comments or require additional information, please contact Kevin Yount, Intergovernmental Review Coordinator for Placer County at (530) 741-4286 or by email at kevin.yount@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

SUSAN ZANCHI, Chief

Office of Transportation Planning - North

c: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse

Rick Angelocci

From:

Kimi Fettke <kimi@fettke.com>

Sent:

Monday, July 20, 2015 4:51 PM

To:

townhall@loomis.ca.gov; Rick Angelocci

Subject:

RE: SPMUD Diversion Pipeline

Hello,

I apologize for not getting these CEQA comments to you sooner. While I'm happy to see that the MND at least addresses potential impacts to bats, following are some suggestions for improvements.

- 1. Oddly, while the biological resources report and MND include discussion of other special status bats, the table in the report and MND only list pallid bat and Townsend's big-eared bat (a State Candidate species). The table should include the other special status bats- see below.
- 2. Because CDFW's list of SSC bats is not current, analysis should also include the ranking status of bat species according to the Western Bat Working Group and USFS. These and other ranking statuses can be viewed below and via on CDFW's Special Animals List via https://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/spanimals.pdf.
- 3. Most importantly, the analysis does not describe potential significant impacts that could occur if tree removal were to occur during the maternity season, causing the loss of non-volant FOLIAGE bats, such as red bat and hoary bat. Likewise, if potentially suitable roost trees were removed during the hibernation season, significant impacts could be caused to non-volant hibernating bat species (e.g., Townsend's big-eared bat). Preconstruction surveys for foliage species would take an inordinate amount of time (e.g., weeks), so a better and more efficient mitigation approach would be to remove potential roosting trees outside of the pupping season, generally mid-May through mid-August depending on the weather. Likewise, trees could be removed outside of the hibernating season, generally December to February depending on the weather.
- 4. The analysis indicates that undefined mitigation (i.e., "deferred mitigation"- suggest providing an example of what this mitigation might include) would only be implemented if a maternity colony of special-status bat species were found. However, because many bat species roost together in large colonies, especially during maternity and hibernation seasons, per the mandatory findings of significance a potential impact could occur if a significant colony of ANY bat species were found and removed. Such an impact could significantly affect the regional population of such a species.

Thank you for considering my suggestions. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Kim Fettke

Loomis resident (and biologist)

Ranking definitions:

U. S. Forest Service - Sensitive USFS_S

Calif Dept of Fish & Wildlife - Species of Special Concern CDFW SSC

Western Bat Working Group - High Priority WBWG H

Western Bat Working Group - Medium-High Priority WBWG MH

Western Bat Working Group - Medium Priority WBWG M

Western Bat Working Group - Low-Medium Priority WBWG LM

Myyu- Yuma myotis (Myotis yumanensis) WBWG:LM

Epfu- big brown bat (Eptesicus fuscus)

Pahe- canyon bat (Parastrellus hesperus)

Tabr- Mexican free-tailed (Tadarida brasiliensis)

Lano- silver-haired bat (Lasionycteris noctivagans) WBWG:M

Anpa - pallid bat (Antrozous pallidus) CDFW:SSC, WBWG:H, USFS:S

Laci- hoary bat (Lasiurus cinereus) WBWG:M

Labl- western red bat (Lasiurus blossevillii) CDFW:SSC, WBWG:H

Myca- CA myotis (Myotis californicus)

Myev- long-eared myotis (Myotis evotis) WBWG:M

Mylu- little brown bat (Myotis lucifugus)

Myme- dark-nosed small-footed myotis (Myotis melanorhinus)

Myvo- long-legged myotis (Myotis volans) WBWG:H

Myth-fringed myotis (Myotis thysanodes) USFS:S, WBWG:H

Euma- spotted bat (Euderma maculatum) CDFW:SSC, WBWG:H

Coto-Townsend's (Corynorhinus townsendii) CDFW:SSC, USFS:S, WBWG:H

Eupe- western mastiff bat (Eumops perotis) CDFW:SSC, WBWG:H

U.S. Forest Service Sensitive: USDA Forest Service defines sensitive species as plant and animal species identified by a regional forester that are not listed or proposed for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act for which population viability is a concern, as evidenced by significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers or density, or significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution. Regional Foresters shall identify sensitive species occurring within the region. California is the Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5). More information is available at: http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/plants-animals and at: http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5435266.xlsx Western Bat Working Group (WBWG): The WBWG is comprised of agencies, organizations and individuals interested in bat research, management and conservation from the 13 western states and provinces. The goals are (1) to facilitate communication among interested parties and reduce risks of species decline or extinction; (2) to provide a mechanism by which current information on bat ecology, distribution and research techniques can be readily accessed; and (3) to develop a forum to discuss conservation strategies, provide technical assistance and encourage education programs. Species are ranked as High, Medium, or Low Priority in each of 10 regions in western North America. Because California includes multiple regions where a species may have different WBWG Priority ranks, the CNNDB includes categories for Medium-High, and Low-Medium Priority. The CNDDB tracks bat species that are at least Low-Medium Priority in California. More information is available at: http://www.wbwg.org.

From: Town of Loomis [mailto:townhall@loomis.ca.gov]

Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 2:25 PM

To: kimi@fettke.com

Subject: SPMUD Diversion Pipeline



July 15, 2015

Mr. Rick Angelocci, Town Manager Town of Loomis 3665 Taylor Road Loomis, CA 95650

RE: SPMUD Sewer Diversion Pipeline Project

Comments on Mitigated Negative Declaration

Dear Mr. Angelocci,

On behalf of Tulip Asset, LLC and the Turtle Island property, the following are comments regarding the Town of Loomis SPMUD Diversion Pipeline Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) dated June 18, 2015. Turtle Island is a 63± acre property located southeast of Interstate 80 (I-80) on both sides of Horseshoe Bar Road. The Turtle Island site is designated in the Town of Loomis (Town) General Plan for urban uses and several urban land use concepts have been explored for the property and discussed with Town staff and decision-makers.

In general we are supportive of the Sewer Diversion Pipeline (Pipeline) because it will provide sewer capacity for a number of properties in the Town, including the Turtle Island property.

Preferred Project (Alternative 1) of the MND

As proposed, Segment 2A of the Preferred Project/Alignment 1 extends through the Turtle Bay property in a southwest direction from Horseshoe Bar Road to Betty Lane, and does not reflect a likely roadway scenario for the Turtle Island property. If the Pipeline is constructed as proposed in the Preferred Project/Alternative 1, future development on Turtle Island will be required to remove and relocate significant segments of the Pipeline, incurring significant costs in addition to future sewer connection fees. Segments 1A and 1B also encroach into future development area on the east side of Horseshoe Bar Road.

Alternative Alignment for Consideration

We request that the MND consider an alternative Pipeline alignment, shown as Alternative X on Exhibit A, which would be compatible with anticipated development of the Turtle Island property.

The circulation plan for any type of development on the Turtle Island site will feature a major roadway extending from Horseshoe Bar Road directly opposite the on-/off-ramp on the south side of I-80 and extending through the site parallel to and approximately 275 feet from I-80, as shown in Exhibit A. This will provide a reasonable parcel depth to allow commercial development between the roadway and I-80. Proposed Alternative X is consistent with the likely circulation layout for the Turtle Island site.

The southern portion of Segment 2A of the Preferred Project (Alignment 1) extends from the corner of Betty Lane and Turtle Island property south to Brace Road. Locating this segment of

www.woodrodgers.com

Rick Angelocci – Comments on SPMUD Sewer Diversion Pipeline Project MND July 15, 2015
Page 2 of 3

the Pipeline on the west side of the Turtle Bay property would require removal of a significant number of mature oak trees and it appears to be very close to an existing elderberry bush.

As shown on Exhibit A, we propose the Pipeline be located beneath the existing gravel road on Betty Lane, immediately west of the Turtle Island property. Betty Lane was included within the Project Corridor evaluated on the Biological Features and Preferred Alignment exhibit (Appendix B of the MND) and alignment of the Pipeline in Betty Lane would result in fewer oak tree removals than the Preferred Project/Alignment 1. Betty Lane could also be paved to provide manhole to manhole access. As part of the study area, parcels along Betty Lane (APNs 044-150-026, 044-150-027, 044-150-032, and 044-150-033) should be added to the listing in Section 1.8 of MND.

We also request a minor revision to Segments 1A and 1B so that the Pipeline follows the property line and existing dirt road more closely in this location. This will reduce impacts to oak trees, and would lessen impacts to the future development of this site.

Defining Alignment 2A

The discussion of Alignment 2A of the Preferred Project/Alignment (page 17 of the MND) states, "The location of Alignment 2A will be defined through the environmental analysis of the IS/MND." We request that, with these comments, the Town and SPMUD define Alignment 2A consistent with Alternative X in Exhibit A attached to this letter.

Minor Additions to Project Corridor

The Biological Features and Preferred Alignment exhibit (Appendix B of the MND) identifies a Project Corridor in which the Pipeline may be located. As illustrated on Exhibit B, three areas should be added to the Project Corridor to allow flexibility in locating the Pipeline consistent with Alternative X:

Area A: Area A is a small triangular area adjacent to the eastbound I-80 on-ramp, north of Horseshoe Bar Road. Adding this area allows the future Pipeline to more closely follow the property line, and would avoid a large oak tree which would lessen the environmental impacts. It will require an additional manhole and line segment.

Area B: Area B is a long strip on the north side of the existing Project Corridor. A future roadway in this location will align opposite the on-ramp/off-ramp at Horseshoe Bar Road, and will parallel the freeway at a reasonable parcel depth to allow future development adjacent to the freeway. This addition to the Project Corridor will allow flexibility for the alignment to be located farther away from sensitive environmental features to the south, and it appears to have fewer tree impacts.

Area C: Area C is a small triangular area that would allow the Alternative X alignment to connect to the end of Betty Lane. This does not appear to cause any additional environmental impacts beyond what has already been considered.

Rick Angelocci – Comments on SPMUD Sewer Diversion Pipeline Project MND July 15, 2015
Page 3 of 3

Area D: Area D is a small trapezoid on Betty Lane on the west side of the property line that would capture all of Betty Lane and should be included in the Project Corridor. It appears that this segment was inadvertently omitted on the graphic in the MND.

We are available to meet with Town and SPMUD staff to discuss our comments and proposed alignment alternative (Alternative X) in more detail. We are hopeful the Town and SPMUD will work with us on defining an alignment for the Pipeline that coincides with the likely circulation network of Turtle Island and reduces environmental impacts.

Sincerely,

Wood-Rodgers, Inc.

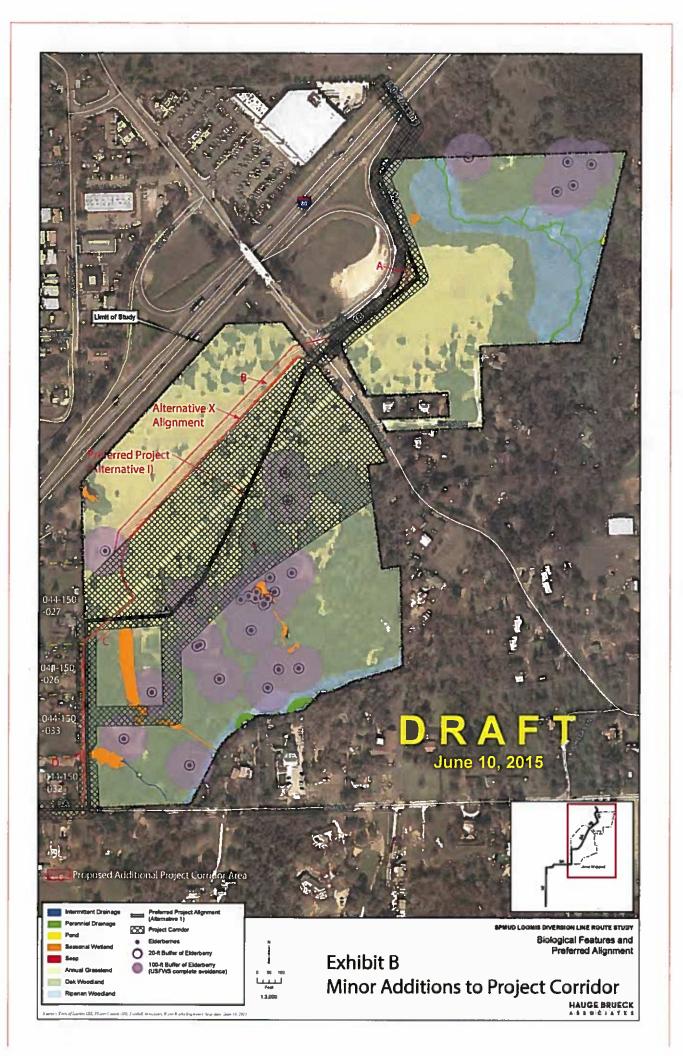
Timothy D. Denham Director, Land Planning

Attachments:

Exhibit A: Proposed Alignment of Alternative X Exhibit B: Minor Additions to Project Corridor

C: Steve McCullagh, Tulip Asset, LLC
Anders Hauge, Hauge Brueck Associates
Jeff Carpenter, Wood Rodgers, Inc.
Loomis Town Council





FINDINGS

FOR THE

SPMUD DIVERSION PIPELINE PROJECT IS/MND

CEQA FINDINGS OF FACT

OF THE

TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOOMIS

FOR THE

SPMUD DIVERSION PIPELINE

Adopted August 11, 2015

TOWN OF LOOMIS FINDINGS OF FACT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

These Findings have been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and the CEQA Guidelines (14 California Code Regulation [CCR] Section [Sec.] 15074 et seq.). The Town of Loomis is the lead agency for the environmental review of the Project and has the principal responsibility for its approval, in addition to the SPMUD Board who will provide subsequent approval of the Project. The Project covered by these findings and relevant CEQA documents is the SPMUD Diversion Pipeline. The IS/MND was prepared and presented to the Town of Loomis, and the Town of Loomis has reviewed and considered the information contained in the IS/MND and all comments and responses to comments received during the public review process prior to approving the Project. The Town hereby finds that the IS/MND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Project and certifies the IS/MND.

1.1 THE PROJECT

The SPMUD Diversion Pipeline Project (Project) has been evaluated in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND). A description of the Project is provided in Chapter 2 of the IS/MND. An analysis of potential environmental impacts of the Project and alternatives is provided in IS/MND Chapter 3. Amendments to the impact discussion and analysis are provided in the Final IS/MND. As discussed in the IS/MND, significant impacts from implementation of the Project can be reduced to a less than significant level with implementation of mitigation measures.

SPMUD is proposing to construct, operate and maintain a diversion pipeline to address existing and forecasted pipeline capacity deficiencies and maintain adequate levels of service. The Project will be located on approximately 6.7 acres of privately owned property and public easement located near I-80, Horseshoe Bar Road, Betty Lane, Brace Road, and Dias Lane (APN #043-100-038, 043-080-045, 043-120-003, 043-120-004, 043-120-013, 043-120-014, 043-130-001, 045-044-001, 045-044-053, 045-044-038, 045-044-042, 045-044-033, 045-044-030, 045-044-055, 045-044-024, 044-150-027, 044-150-026, 044-150-033, and 044-150-032). The Project will include the installation of 7,233 linear feet of 15- to 24-inch sanitary sewer pipeline installed using open cut trenching and bore and jack trenchless methods.

1.2 CEQA REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to CEQA, discretionary decisions by public agencies regarding public projects are subject to environmental review. The purpose of an IS/MND is to identify significant environmental effects of a project, and to indicate the manner in which those significant effects can be mitigated or avoided (Sec. 21002.1(a)). When feasible, public agencies are required to mitigate or avoid the significant environmental impacts of projects they approve.

The Town of Loomis prepared the IS/MND as the lead agency for the Project site pursuant to CEQA and CEQA Guidelines (California Administrative Code Sec. 1500 et seq.). Environmental effects that must be addressed include the significant adverse effects of the project, growth-inducing effects of the project, and significant cumulative effects of past, present, and reasonably anticipated future projects. The Final IS/MND for the Project was published on July 31, 2015. The Town Council has found that the Final IS/MND:

Has been completed in compliance with CEOA:

- Was presented to the Town Council, the decision-making body;
- Was reviewed and considered, including the information in the Final IS/MND and written comments; and
- Reflects the lead agency's independent judgment and analysis.

The Town of Loomis has eliminated or substantially lessened significant effects on the environment as shown in the findings provided in this document, and has determined there are no remaining significant effects on the environment found to be unavoidable.

The Town of Loomis finds that the IS/MND has been prepared in accordance with CEQA, and that the IS/MND meets the requirements of an IS/MND.

Other agencies have discretionary authority to approve the Project or portions of the Project and will rely on the Town of Loomis to produce an IS/MND adequate for their needs. These agencies must use the IS/MND as the basis for their permit approvals. The Town of Loomis must confer with other interested public agencies that do not have approval authority over the Project, but which have specific expertise with regard to the Project or have responsibility for resources affected by the Project.

The following agencies may be Responsible Agencies under CEQA and may need to issue approvals for the Project that will rely upon the IS/MND.

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) (Trustee Agency) Fill or excavation in jurisdictional wetlands or waters of the U.S. require a Sec. 404 permit under the Clean Water Act from the Corps.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (Trustee Agency) The Project site includes suitable
 habitat for the valley elderberry longhorn beetle, federally listed as Threatened under the
 Endangered Species Act (ESA). Other federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate
 species may also be present in the Project area. Project actions that result in incidental take of
 federally-listed species require consultation and permitting with the USFWS under Sec. 7 or 10 of
 the Endangered Species Act.
- Caltrans (Responsible Agency) The Project includes tunneling under I-80 and an encroachment permit is needed prior to construction.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (Trustee Agency) Project-related impacts
 to state listed plant and animal species, nesting sites, and habitat, may require consultation and
 implementation of CDFW required mitigation.
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Responsible Agency) A Certification or Waiver under Sec. 401 of the Clean Water Act is required for activities that affect wetland habitat subject to the jurisdiction of the Corps and other wetlands in the jurisdiction. The Project is covered under the State Water Resources Control Board's General Permit for Construction.
- Town of Loomis (Lead Agency) Project-related impacts to cultural and historical resources require compliance under federal National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) §106.
- City of Rocklin (Responsible Agency) The Project includes encroachment within the City of Rocklin along Dias Lane. The City would have discretionary approval over the improvements where encroachment occurs.

Record Of Proceedings

Various documents and other materials constitute the record of proceedings upon which the Town Council bases its findings and decisions contained herein. The record of proceedings is located at the Town of Loomis Town Offices, 3665 Taylor Road, Loomis, CA 95650. Electronic copies of the record of proceedings are available online at http://www.loomis.ca.gov/loomis_projects.html0. The custodian for the record of proceedings is the Town of Loomis Planning Department. This information is provided in compliance with California Public Resources Code (PRC) Sec. 21081.6(a)(2). For purposes of CEQA and these findings, the record before the Town includes, without limitation, the following:

- A. The Draft IS/MND and appendices;
- B. The Final IS/MND and appendices;
- C. Notices required by CEQA, staff reports, and presentation materials related to the Project;
- D. Studies conducted for the Project and contained in, or referenced by, staff reports, the Draft IS/MND, or the Final IS/MND;
- E. Public reports and documents related to the Project;
- F. Documentary and oral evidence received and reviewed at public hearings and workshops and transcripts and minutes of those hearings related to the Project that were forwarded to the Town Council.
- G. Additional items not included above, if required by law.

2.0 CEQA FINDINGS

The following Findings are hereby adopted by the Town of Loomis pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15074, in conjunction with the approval of the Project, which is set forth in Section III, below. To the extent the Findings presented here summarize the IS/MND, the summary is not intended to change any aspect of the complete text of the analysis and mitigation measures discussed in the IS/MND.

As more fully described in Chapter 2 of the IS/MND, the SPMUD is proposing to construct, operate and maintain a diversion pipeline to address existing and forecasted pipeline capacity deficiencies and maintain adequate levels of service. The Project will be located on approximately 6.7 acres of privately owned property and public easement located near I-80, Horseshoe Bar Road, Betty Lane, Brace Road, and Dias Lane (APN #043-100-038, 043-080-045, 043-120-003, 043-120-004, 043-120-013, 043-120-014, 043-130-001, 045-044-001, 045-044-053, 045-044-038, 045-044-042, 045-044-033, 045-044-030, 045-044-055, 045-044-024, 044-150-027, 044-150-026, 044-150-033, and 044-150-032). The Project will include the installation of 7,233 linear feet of 15- to 24-inch sanitary sewer pipeline installed using open cut trenching and bore and jack trenchless methods.

2.1 Environmental Review Process

The IS/MND was prepared for the Project in accordance with CEQA. The IS/MND analyzes the potential Project impacts in the following topic areas: 1) aesthetics; 2) agricultural and forestry resources; 3) air quality; 4) biological resources; 5) cultural resources; 6) geology and soils; 7) greenhouse gas emissions; 8) hazards and hazardous materials; 9) hydrology and water quality; 10) land use and planning; 11) mineral resources; 12) noise; 13) population and housing; 14) public services; 15) recreation; 16) transportation and traffic; and 17) utilities and service systems.

The Draft IS/MND was submitted to the Office of Planning and Research's State Clearinghouse and circulated for a 30-day public review period beginning on June 18, 2015 and ending on July 19, 2015 (SCH# 2015062050). During the comment period, the document was reviewed by various state and local agencies, as well as by interested individuals and organizations. Five comment letters were received during the public review period from Wood-Rogers Inc. representing the Turtle Island property, Caltrans, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, a resident on Betty Lane concerned with construction in the roadway, and a local resident concerned with impacts to bat species. The Wood Rogers letter resulted in changes to the potential alignment area in the vicinity of and on the Turtle Island property in order to include areas of low biological resource impact and allow flexibility in locating the final alignment within the property. The Caltrans letter addressed permit requirements listed in the IS/MND and identified a culvert in the project area that should be avoided. A reiteration of encroachment permit requirements was added to the document, but did not disclose any new information not already included in the draft. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board letter listed various permits that may be required by the Project. Applicable permits were included in the IS/MND and the letter included no comment on the content of the IS/MND. The letter from Betty Rivera, a resident on Betty Lane disclosed the location of a water line in the roadway. The document already included actions for SPMUD to avoid, repair, or replace infrastructure affected by construction and to continue to negotiate with affected residents through the construction process. Text was added to include Betty Lane as an area potentially affected by construction. The letter from Kim Fettke addressed impacts to bat species, and text was added to include the bat species addressed in the letter within the impact analysis and Mitigation Measure BIO-6.

The Town released the Final IS/MND on July 31, 2015, for review. The Town has reviewed the comment letters received during the public review period and the responses to comments received are included in the Final IS/MND, which is incorporated herein by reference. The Town concludes that no new significant environmental concerns regarding the Project were raised in the comments and that no new significant information has been added to the IS/MND that would require recirculation under Section 15088.5 of the CEQA Guidelines. The Town Council considered the adequacy of the IS/MND prior to certification and directing the Town Manager to work with SPMUD in moving forward on the Project on August 11, 2015.

Environmental issue areas for which mitigation measures are proposed include: Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, and Noise. The potentially significant environmental impacts that may result from the proposed Project that were identified by the IS/MND, along with the proposed mitigation measures, are summarized below.

2.2 Significant Impacts Mitigated to Less-Than-Significant Levels

1. Biological Resources (See IS/MND pages 37 through 57)

Several species of raptors and other protected birds may forage and nest on the site including Cooper's hawk, osprey, white-tailed kite, Swainson's hawk, purple martin, song sparrow, and grasshopper sparrow. Active raptor nests are protected by the California Fish and Game code Section 3503.5 and the Migratory Bird Treat Act of 1918 (MTBA). If construction is expected to occur during the nesting season (typically February 1 through August 31), impacts to these species may result from disturbance to nesting activity. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 (Active Raptor and Migratory Bird Nest Site and Wildlife Nursery Site Protection Program) will avoid impacts to nesting birds.

Although burrowing owls were not observed during the site visits performed for the biological assessment and reconnaissance efforts for the project site, the site contains annual grassland habitat that is suitable foraging and nesting habitat for burrowing owl. Although no suitable burrows were observed onsite, the grassland habitat is still considered potential foraging habitat for this species and the opportunity exists for western burrowing owls to occupy the site prior to project implementation. As there have not been any western burrowing owl present within the project area and no know occurrences are within five miles of the project area, impacts to potentially suitable habitat are considered less than significant. Mitigation Measure BIO-2 (Western Burrowing Owl) should be implemented to avoid potential impacts to confirm lack of presence or implement passive relocation and habitat preservation if burrowing owls are identified.

Based on the presence of numerous elderberries with evidence of past beetle occupation and suitable elderberry habitat, the valley elderberry longhorn beetle has a high potential to occur on the site. Construction of the Project would not result in the direct removal of individual elderberry shrubs that provide potentially suitable habitat for VELB, but construction-related disturbance will occur within the USFWS-designated 100-foot protection buffer of 18 shrubs. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-3 (Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle) is required to reduce impacts to VELB to a less than significant level.

Following review of site survey data from November 2013 and March 2015 and an evaluation of the suitability of habitats, it was determined that the project area contains marginally suitable habitat for the following six (6) species: Adobe navarretia (*Navarretia nigelliformis* ssp. *nigelliformis*), Brandegee's clarkia (*Clarkia biloba* ssp. *brandegeae*), oval-leaved viburnum (*Viburnum ellipticum*), El Dorado bedstraw (*Galium californicum* ssp. *sierrae*), Layne's ragwort (*Packera layneae*), and Stebbins' morning

glory (*Calystegia stebbinsii*). Due to disturbed site conditions, prevalence of non-native annual grasses and forbs, and limited suitability of the habitats onsite for these species (e.g., soil type, vegetation structure, and commonly associated species), there is a low potential that these species are present on the Project site. To avoid impacts to special-status plants, Mitigation BIO-4 (Special-Status Plant Species) will be implemented.

There is also potential for wetlands and waters of the U.S. on the Project site. If wetlands and waters regulated by CWA Section 404/401 are present and cannot be avoided by Project construction, this would be a potentially significant impact. However, with implementation of BIO-5 (Section 404/401 Wetlands and Waters), the impact would be mitigated to a less than significant level.

Construction activities may result in direct removal of active roosting or breeding sites within oak woodland habitat. Special status bat species (pallid bat and foliage bat species) may be present within the oak woodland habitat proposed for removal and roosting sites present within the project area may be disturbed due to construction activities. While no surveys have been performed for sensitive bat species, the potential exists for hibernacula/roosting sites to be present before pipeline construction commences. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-6 (Wildlife Hibernacula/Roosting/Nursery Site Protection Program) provides for identification of native wildlife hibernacula/roosting sites and nurseries and protection to the identified sites.

Approximately 7.21 acres of oak woodland habitat within the Project corridor will be indirectly impacted by installation of the diversion line and 0.29 acre would be directly impacted, resulting in the removal of approximately seven (7) oak trees, pending final design of the pipeline alignment. Impacts to protected trees will be mitigated to a less than significant level by implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-7 (Preservation and Mitigation of Protected Trees).

2. Cultural Resources (See IS/MND pages 58 to 63)

There are no known significant cultural resources that will be impacted by the project. The record search and Native American communication both indicate that this is a sensitive region for cultural resources, both historic and prehistoric. Mitigation Measures CR-1 (Pre-construction Native American Consultation), CR-2 (Staging Area, Storage, and Spoil Disposal Site Review) and CR-3 (Trench Monitoring) are, therefore preventative measures to ensure resources are protected if an inadvertent discovery should occur during construction.

3. Noise (See IS/MND pages 83 to 91)

It is not expected that vibration impacts would occur that would cause any structural damage; however, homes within 20 feet of the construction area have the potential to experience strong vibration at the threshold level where the risk of damage to structures can occur per Caltrans criteria. Therefore, Mitigation Measure NOISE-1 (Pre-construction Structural Documentation and Post-construction Inspection) will be implemented to ensure potential impacts are addressed. If rock is encountered that cannot be removed through regular excavation methods (backhoe), small levels of blasting or newer scraping methods may be necessary. While blasting can result in larger levels of vibration and noise, SPMUD typically employs other methods of scraping rock fragments that results in less noise production and will employ this method prior to blasting. If blasting is necessary, SPMUD's standard practice is to notify affected property owners.

2.3 Less than Significant and No Impacts

The IS/MND found that impacts to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Population and Housing, Public Services, Utilities, Recreation, and Transportation and Traffic will be less than significant and no mitigation was required. Likewise, no mitigation was required for those impacts determined to be less than significant within the Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, and Noise analyses.

The IS/MND found that there would be no impacts to Agricultural and Forestry Resources or Mineral Resources. No impacts and no mitigation measures are required.

2.4 Changes To The Draft IS/MND

In the course of responding to comments received during the public review and comment period on the Draft IS/MND, certain portions of the Draft IS/MND have been modified and some new information has been added. The changes made to the Draft IS/MND do not result in the existence of:

- 1. A substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact that is not reduced to a level less than significant by adopted Mitigation Measures;
- 2. A feasible Mitigation Measure not adopted that is considerably different from others analyzed in the Draft IS/MD that would clearly lessen the significant environmental impacts of the Project; or
- 3. Information that indicates that the public was deprived of a meaningful opportunity to review and comment on the Draft IS/MND.

The Town of Loomis finds that the amplifications and clarifications made to the Draft IS/MND do not collectively or individually constitute significant new information within the meaning of PRC §21092.1 and CEQA Guidelines §15088.5.

2.5 Findings Regarding Mitigation Measures and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) has been prepared for the Project, and is being approved by the Town Council by the Resolution adopting these findings (see PRC Sec. 21081.6, subdivision (a)(1); CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15097). The MMRP is located in Appendix F of the Final IS/MND. The Town will use the MMRP to track compliance with Project mitigation measures. The MMRP will remain available for public review at the Town Offices (3665 Taylor Road, Loomis, CA 95650), and via the internet on the Town's website (http://www.loomis.ca.gov/loomis_projects.html) during the compliance period. The Town of Loomis finds that the Mitigation Measures incorporated into and imposed upon the Project are feasible and fully capable of implementation.

As required in PRC §21081.6 the Town of Loomis adopts a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) regarding changes in the Project or Mitigation Measures imposed to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment. The MMRP, in the form presented to the Town of Loomis as Appendix F of the Final IS/MND, is adopted because it effectively fulfills the CEQA mitigation monitoring and reporting requirement.

2.6 Additional Findings

1. These Findings incorporate by reference in their entirety the text of the Final IS/MND. Without limitation, this incorporation is intended to elaborate on the scope and nature of Project and cumulative development impacts, related mitigation measures, and the basis for determining the significance of such impacts.

2. Various documents and other materials constitute the record of proceedings upon which the Town bases its findings and decisions contained herein. These documents are located at the Town of Loomis Offices, 3665 Taylor Road, Loomis, CA 95650 (916) 652-1840.

2.7 Evidentiary Basis For Findings

These findings are based upon substantial evidence in the entire record before the Town of Loomis as described in Section 1.0. The references to the Draft IS/MND and to the Final IS/MND set forth in the findings are for ease of reference and are not to provide an exhaustive list of the evidence relied upon for these findings.

2.8 Summary

Based on the foregoing Findings and the information contained in the record, the Town finds with respect to the Project:

- 1. Changes or alterations have been incorporated in the Project and required as a condition of approval that will mitigate to a less than significant level or avoid the potentially significant environmental effects of the Project as identified in the Final IS/MND.
- 2. There is no substantial evidence in the record that the Project may have a potentially significant effect on the environment.
- 3. The Final IS/MND reflects the Town's independent judgment and analysis.

3.0 APPROVALS

The Town of Loomis hereby takes the following actions:

- A. Certify the Final IS/MND for the Project as described in Section I, above.
- B. Incorporate into the Project the Project elements and the mitigation measures identified in the Final IS/MND.
- C. Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan accompanying the Final IS/MND (Appendix F) and discussed in the Findings, Section II, above.
- D. Direct the Town Manager to work with SPMUD to implement the SPMUD pipeline Project.

Town of Loomis

TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOOMIS CERTIFYING THE SPMUD Diversion Pipeline Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

WHEREAS, an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH#2015062050) was prepared pursuant to the California Government Code, Town of Loomis Municipal Code, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and local administrative procedures, and reflects independent judgment and analysis of the Town of Loomis; and

WHEREAS, the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact (SCH#2015062050), was made available to agencies and the public on the 18th day of June 2015 and was posted on the Town's website for the public's review; and

WHEREAS, the agencies and public were allowed to review the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact during the circulation period which ended on the 20th day of July 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Loomis did on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, hold a public hearing on the proposed SPMUD Diversion Pipeline Project Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration after properly noticing said hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council did at the public hearing, receive a report from staff, receive input from the Applicant, and receive testimony from the public, and at the closing of said public hearing did deliberate and consider the same; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council found that changes or alterations have been incorporated in the Project and required as a condition of approval that will mitigate to a less than significant level or avoid the potentially significant environmental effects of the Project as identified in the Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration and there is no substantial evidence in the record that the Project may have a potentially significant effect on the environment; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Loomis hereby certifies the Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the SPMUD Diversion Pipeline Project as complying in full with the requirements of CEQA and California law, and as being adequate to support approval of the SPMUD Diversion Pipeline Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Town Council adopts the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan accompanying the Final IS/MND; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Town Council directs the Town Manager to continue to work with SPMUD in moving forward to implement the Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Town Council directs the Town Manager to prepare and file the

PASSED AND CERTIFIED by the Town Coul 11th day of August, 2015 by the following vote:	
AYES:	
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	
ATTEST:	Mayor Rhonda Morillas
Town Clark	

appropriate State and County offices a Notice of Determination.



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION & PUBLIC HEARING FOR SPMUD DIVERSION PIPELINE

AUGUST 11, 2015 AT 7:30 PM

The South Placer Municipal Utility District proposes to construct, operate and maintain a diversion pipeline to address existing and forecasted pipeline capacity deficiencies and maintain adequate levels of service. The Project will be located on approximately 6.7 acres of privately owned property and public easement located near I-80, Horseshoe Bar Road, Betty Lane, Brace Road, and Dias Lane (APN #043-100-038, 043-080-045, 043-120-003, 043-120-004, 043-120-013, 043-120-014, 043-130-001, 045-044-001, 045-044-053, 045-044-038, 045-044-042, 045-044-033, 045-044-030, 045-044-055, & 045-044-024). The Project includes the installation of 7,233 linear feet of 15- to 24-inch sanitary sewer pipeline installed by open cut trenching and bore and jack trenchless methods.

The Town of Loomis served as the lead agency for the preparation of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) that studied the potential effects of the Project (e.g., biological resources, air quality, cultural resources). A public meeting will be held to adopt the Final IS/MND on:

Tuesday, August 11, 2015 at 7:30 PM Loomis Depot 5775 Horseshoe Bar Road Loomis, CA 95650

A copy of the Final IS/MND is available at the Loomis Town Hall (3665 Taylor Road) above for review.