

The SNWA has requested authorization to construct, operate, and maintain water treatment and conveyance facilities on public lands administered by Reclamation, BLM, and NPS. Reclamation is the lead federal agency for the NEPA process preparing an EIS for the SVFE project as proposed by the SNWA, with BLM and NPS as cooperating agencies for the EIS preparation and decision-making process.

#### What is the SVFE Project?

The SNWA is responsible for acquiring and managing water resources to meet the water supply needs of its purveyor member agencies, and for constructing and managing regional water treatment and supply facilities. The SVFE is a proposed expansion to the existing regional water facilities in the Las Vegas Valley. The SVFE would treat and redistribute existing water supplies to meet the projected water demands of the LVVWD and COH. The LVVWD and COH have requested the SNWA to supply water at specific distribution locations (turnouts) in the southern Valley where evolving demand patterns are projected to exceed available system capacity. The SVFE includes expanding raw water transmission facilities, increasing raw water treatment capacity, and constructing a new pipeline (lateral) to convey treated water to the southern Valley.

Project alternatives will be considered in the EIS. Alternatives include different pipeline alignments, pipeline construction methods (trench excavation and tunneling), locations for pumping stations, storage reservoirs, and associated facilities. Some possible combinations of alternative

alignments that will be assessed in the EIS are shown on the following map. A preferred alignment for construction will be identified later during the NEPA process.

#### EIS Scoping Completed

Scoping is the process to obtain information from the public on potential alternatives and significant issues to be addressed in the EIS. The scoping process started with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on April 18, 2008. Reclamation hosted three public scoping meetings in May 2008 to receive public input on the SVFE and pending EIS. The official scoping period was completed on May 23, 2008.

During the scoping period Reclamation received written comments from federal, state, and local agencies; from businesses, special interest organizations, and homeowners associations; and

#### Acronyms

<b>BLM</b>	Bureau of Land Management
<b>COH</b>	City of Henderson
<b>EIS</b>	Environmental Impact Statement
<b>LVVWD</b>	Las Vegas Valley Water District
<b>NEPA</b>	National Environmental Policy Act
<b>NPS</b>	National Park Service
<b>SNWA</b>	Southern Nevada Water Authority
<b>SVFE</b>	South Valley Facilities Expansion

Bureau of Reclamation  
Lower Colorado Region  
SVFE EIS, Attn: LC-2631  
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### SOUTH VALLEY FACILITIES EXPANSION - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

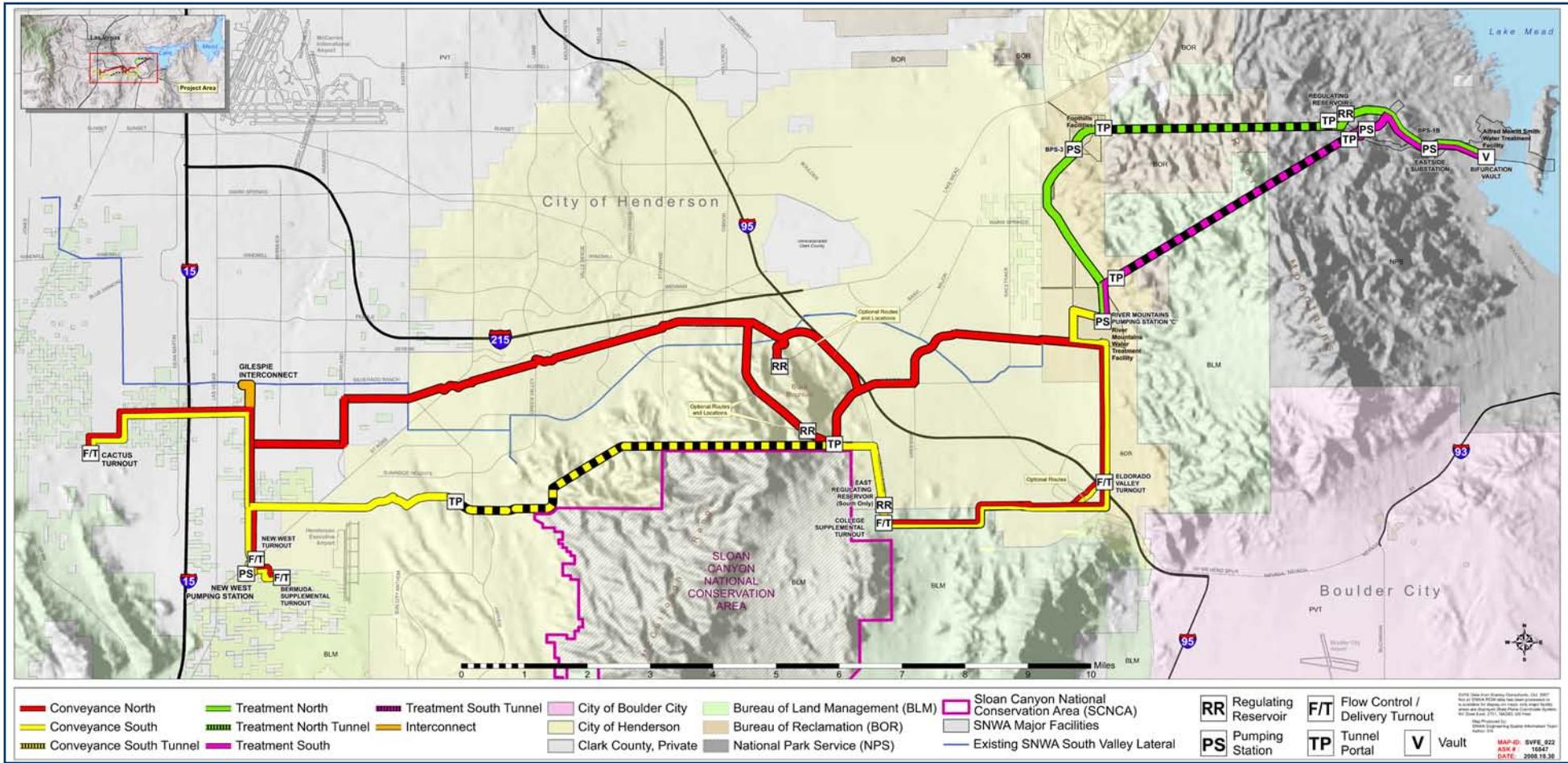
#### Contact Information

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The City of Henderson, South Las Vegas Valley





from individuals. These comments can be summarized into the following EIS categories:

- Purpose and need for the project
- Air quality
- Plants, wildlife, and habitat
- Cultural and Native American values
- Land uses
- Construction and operational noise and vibration
- Recreational amenities and access
- Social and economic issues
- Visual and scenic qualities
- Water resources
- Utilities
- Traffic patterns and transportation services

Reclamation prepared a Scoping Report that describes in more detail the scoping activities, suggested project alternatives, and summarizes the issues and concerns identified during scoping and how the comments will be incorporated into the Draft EIS. The written comments received during the scoping period are included in the Scoping Report. With the completion of Scoping a number of alternatives are being developed for analysis in the EIS.

### Scoping Report Available

The Scoping Report is available to the public on Reclamation's web site or a CD version can be requested from Reclamation (see Contact Information). Copies of the

Scoping Report are available for review at libraries in Henderson, Las Vegas, Clark County, and Boulder City.

### Get Involved and Stay Informed

The public is encouraged to learn about the SVFE and get involved in the NEPA process. An informed public is better able to provide meaningful contributions to assist Reclamation in determining the environmental, social, and economic effects of the SVFE on public land.

Join the mailing list (see Contact Information) to receive notices of meetings, project updates, and notification when the Draft EIS and Final EIS are available. Visit Reclamation's website (see Contact Information) to access NEPA documents for the project and visit the SNWA

website ([www.snwa.com/html/system\\_svfe\\_about.html](http://www.snwa.com/html/system_svfe_about.html)) for more information about the SVFE.

### What's Next?

The NEPA process involves a series of procedural steps with opportunities for the public to learn about the SVFE and to provide comments on the results of the environmental impact analysis.

Reclamation is currently in the process of developing alternatives (see chart) that meet the purpose and need for the SVFE. The impacts of the alternatives will be presented in the Draft EIS. The next opportunity for public review will be the Draft EIS available in late 2009 or early 2010.

