Section 1 Introduction and Background to the Final SEIR/EIS

The Riverside-Corona Feeder Project Supplemental Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement ("SEIR/EIS") is a joint document prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA" (State *CEQA Guidelines* Article 14, Section 15220)) and National Environmental Protection Act ("NEPA") prepared by Western Municipal Water District (hereinafter, "WMWD," Lead Agency under CEQA) and the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (hereinafter, the "BOR," Lead Agency under NEPA).

The Final SEIR, as required pursuant to State *CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15089 and 15132, includes the Draft SEIR or a revision thereof, comments, and recommendations received on the Draft SEIR, a list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft SEIR, and the responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program ("MMRP") is also included to ensure compliance during project implementation (Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, State *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15097).

The Final EIS is required by NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality ("CEQ") was established as a part of the Act to regulate its implementation as specified in Code of Federal Regulations 40 (40 CFR) Parts 1500–1508. Final environmental impact statements must respond to comments received regarding the draft EIS and discuss at appropriate points in the final statement, any responsible opposing view which was not adequately discussed in the draft EIS and shall indicate the agency's response to the issues raised. (Section 1502.9 (b)) The Riverside-Corona Feeder Project Final EIS has been prepared pursuant to Section 1503.4 of the CEQ Regulations for Implementing NEPA.

The information added in the Final SEIR/EIS following distribution of the Draft SEIR/EIS does not constitute "significant new information" pursuant to Section 15088.5 of the State *CEQA Guidelines* because this information does not change the project impacts and/or mitigation measures such that new or more severe environmental impacts result from the Project. The information is added as a result of comments received from responsible agencies, changes in the existing conditions at the site, revised public policies since the Draft SEIR/EIS was written, and minor corrections or clarifications. This additional information merely "clarifies or amplifies or makes insignificant modifications" in the already adequate Supplemental EIR, as is permitted by State *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15088.5(b); and supplements Draft EIS analyses and makes factual corrections, as permitted by CEQ Regulations Section 1503.4(a).

Relationship to the SEIR

Minor changes that clarify or correct minor inaccuracies in the Draft SEIR/EIS appear as revised pages in the *Corrections, Errata, and Changes from Draft to Final* section which follows herein. The Draft SEIR/EIS considered by the Lead Agency has been edited to reflect corrections and responses to comments raised and is included as the "Annotated Draft SEIR/EIS" as part of the final document.

Corrections, Errata, and Changes from Draft to Final

During the preparation and distribution of the Draft SEIR/EIS, two cities were incorporated within Riverside County. The City of Eastvale was incorporated October 1, 2010 and the City of Jurupa Valley was incorporated on July 1, 2011 (see Figures 1-1, Regional Location and 1-2, Realignment Alternative with Additional Connections Preferred Alternative). The portions of this Project identified to transverse unincorporated Riverside County north of the Santa Ana River will now be located within the city boundaries of Jurupa Valley. The analysis and information presented in this SEIR/EIS with respect to this

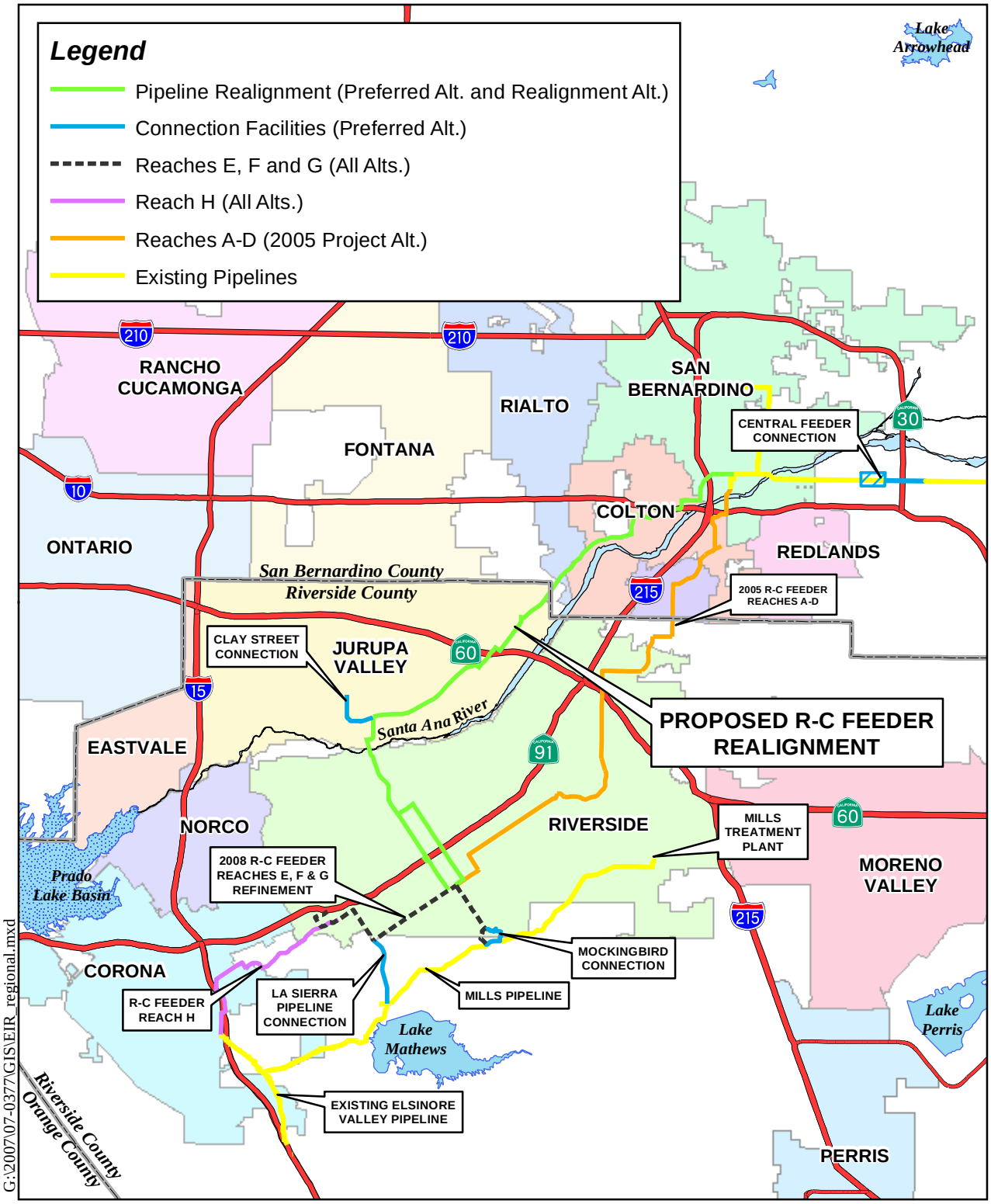
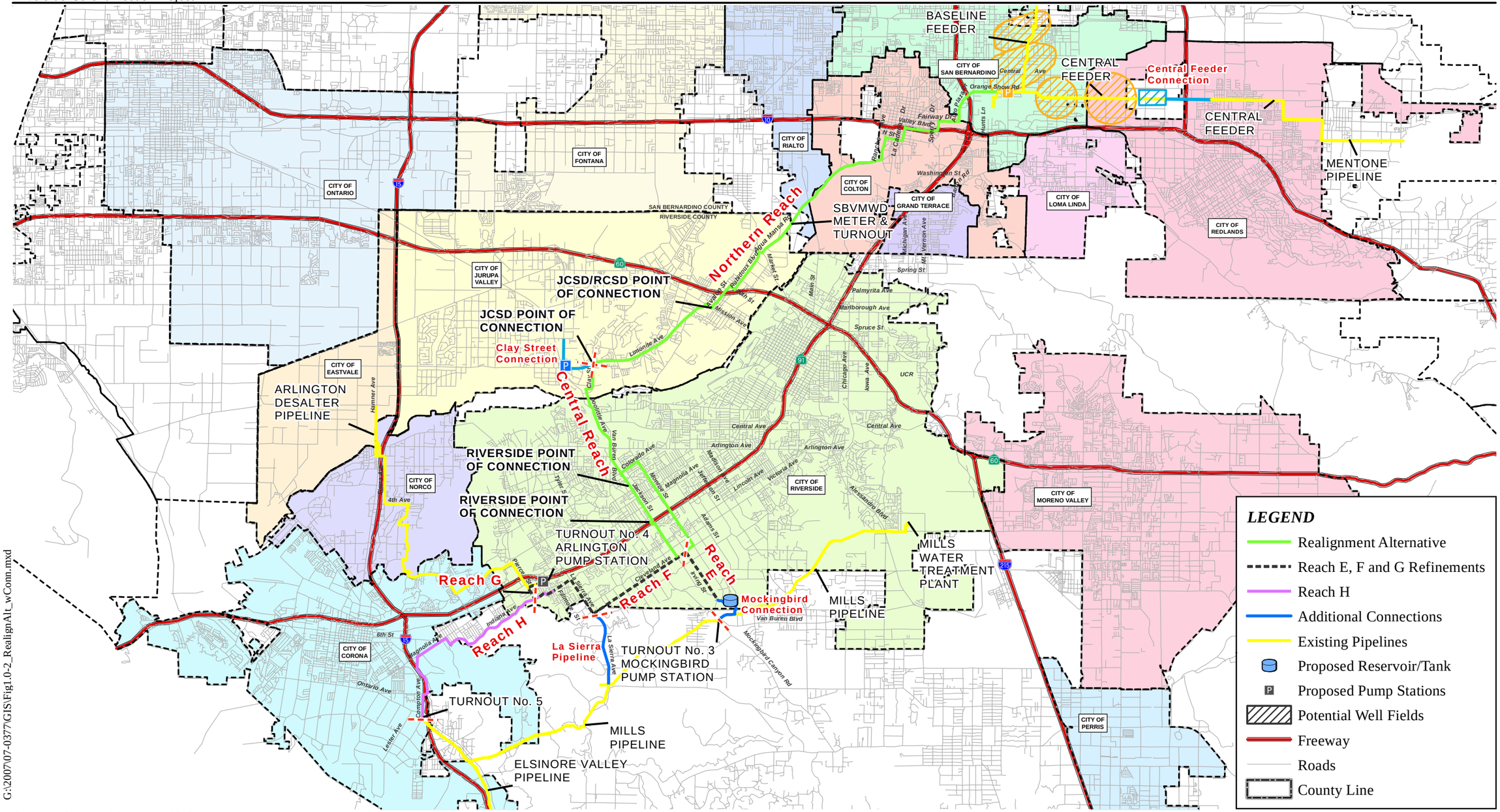


Figure 1-1
Regional Location



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Sources: County of Riverside, 2009; County of San Bernardino, 2009.

Figure 1-2
Realignment Alternative with Additional Connections
Preferred Alternative

geographic area is still valid and accurate because the new City adopted all County plans, policies, and regulations.

The following Errata summary, which is organized by commenting agency, will present the location and types of additions and changes or corrections made within each section of the Final SEIR/EIS since the Draft was published.

Figures 1 of the Abstract and Figure 1.0-1, Regional Location, were corrected to include the city limit for Redlands and correctly label the city of Loma Linda.

In response to information and clarifications requested in the Environmental Protection Agency letter dated April 5, 2011, the Annotated Draft SEIR/EIS, which is bound with the Responses to Comments to form the Final SEIR/EIS, will be edited as follows:

Various paragraphs on pages 1.0-1 and 1.0-2:
The project is proposed to store excess imported water, when it is available, to increase firm water supplies, to improve water quality, and to reduce water costs. The project proposes to manage the groundwater levels through the construction of groundwater wells in the San Bernardino Basin Area and pumps to deliver the treated groundwater supply to water users. The project will also include a new potable water pipeline system to connect to existing water facilities in ~~serve~~ portions of San Bernardino and Riverside counties. This system of storage, extraction, treatment, and distribution will improve the reliability of WMWD's water supply through the managed storage and distribution of excess imported water and reduce possible water shortages during dry years through reduced dependence on imported water during dry year conditions. To achieve this purpose, the RCF project replenishes excess State Water Project (SWP) water supplied by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) into the San Bernardino Groundwater Basin, and extracts, treats, and moves water throughout the region by way of interconnections between local groundwater basins . . .

The realignment evaluated by this SEIR also allows WMWD to address the reduced potential for California State Water Project water availability for groundwater replenishment purposes and includes connections to the Jurupa Community Services District's pipeline facilities, the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District's Inland and Central Feeders, and other existing WMWD facilities. These connections will facilitate the transportation of potable water from one water agency to another and one groundwater basin to another through the development of multiple interconnected pipelines within the project area. The facilities may also be used to convey local water supplies, once treated, pursuant to rights held by . . .

Various paragraphs on pages 2.0-3, 2.0-4, and 2.0-5:
The purpose of the RCF is to store excess imported water, when it is available, to increase firm water supplies, to improve water quality, and to reduce water costs. The project proposes to manage the groundwater levels through the construction of groundwater wells and pumps to deliver the treated groundwater supply to water users. The project will also include a new potable water pipeline system to connect to existing water facilities in ~~serve~~ portions of San Bernardino and Riverside counties . . .

RCF infrastructure will allow WMWD to purchase State Water Project water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and store that water in the San Bernardino Groundwater Basin Area, and to extract, treat and distribute the water from the Basin Area when it is needed. . . .

The facilities may also be used to convey local potable water supplies pursuant to rights held by the City of Riverside and the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District and to deliver treated imported water to wholesale customers. If appropriate agreements can be reached, additional native water may at times also be available. The facilities may also be used to obtain and convey native water, once treated, pursuant to rights held by other agencies, such as the City of Riverside, Jurupa Community Services District, Rubidoux Community Services District, the Chino Basin Desalter Authority, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, and Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District. This project will make WMWD less dependent on the direct delivery of water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD).

Page 3.0-23

The Central Feeder Connection consists of approximately 6,350 linear feet of an up to 54-inch diameter pipeline located in the San Bernardino Avenue right-of-way between Alabama Street in unincorporated San Bernardino County and Webster Street in the city of Redlands. (Figure 3.0-8, Central Feeder Connection) Adjacent to the Central Feeder Pipeline are up to five new proposed 350-HP x 2,200-gallons-per-minute (GPM) groundwater production wells, including treatment facilities to meet drinking water standards, within the well field identified on Figure 1.0-1 (exact locations not determined) which will be connected into the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District's Central Feeder Pipeline; thereby providing additional means for transporting San Bernardino Groundwater Basin water through regional pipeline facilities that are connected to the Riverside-Corona Feeder project. These five wells are included within the 20 total wells associated with the RCF.

Based on EPA's **Comment 2**, page 4.7-33, MM GWQ 2 shall be revised as follows:

MM GWQ 2 (Revised): To assure that ongoing management of the RCF is coordinated with management of the Basin Area as a whole, monitoring and adaptive management shall be employed.

a) The RCF operations management plan will be developed and tested using the groundwater modeling employed by the Basin Area TAC (or its successor or assignee) on an annual basis. Existing groundwater flow and groundwater quality model(s) shall be used to predict the effects of project operations on groundwater quality. The results of the modeling shall be presented to the BTAC. If the results indicate that the location of pollution plumes will be shifted by project operations such that additional existing 'clean' wells could become contaminated, WMWD shall modify planned operations to avoid the result or otherwise address the modeled situation to the satisfaction of the BTAC. Examples of operational modifications that could be used, are provided in the following table.

b) When a new well is drilled, indicator wells in the vicinity that could be affected by Project operation will be selected to become part of the annual operations management plan. If water quality testing at any indicator wells (which are already tested regularly) suggests that the replenishment and pumping regime of the proposed project operation is causing drinking water quality in a given well to become newly contaminated or to worsen due to the RCF Project~~, exceed state drinking water standards~~, production and/or spreading in the area(s) contributing to the contamination shall cease until a remedy is identified and implemented. ~~adverse affects associated with the project no longer occur.~~ Such remedies may include but not be limited to the following:

Contamination Remedy Examples and Method Priorities

New Wells Drilled for Project Operations		
Treatment Option	First Priority Methods	Secondary Priority Methods
Avoidance	• Move or Avoid Production in a Contaminated Location	• Wellhead treatment
Wellhead Treatment[1]	• Chlorination or ozonation for disinfecting (required for all wells) • Ion Exchange for nitrates and other contaminants • Activated Carbon	• Reverse osmosis
Blending	• If multiple wells in proximity have varying levels of constituents, blending could occur to dilute contaminants to legal levels prior to distribution	
Existing Wells at Risk of Contamination by Project Operations		
Treatment Option	First Priority Method	Secondary Priority Method
Careful Management	• Participate in ongoing conjunctive use management of the Basin so Project is a benefit to Basin health for a safe drinking water supply and for the ecological health of the watershed	• choose alternative production and/or spreading location(s) • produce or spread at a different time of year • install barrier wells
Blending	• If multiple wells in proximity have varying levels of constituents, blending could occur to dilute contaminants to legal levels prior to distribution	
Alternative use of contaminated water	• Could be effective in areas where non-potable system or other non-potable use exists if affected well operator is provided with drinking water quality replacement water from another source	

[1] Other than disinfecting, all other treatment approaches are dependent on the contaminants that need to be removed.

~~*Appropriate Use*. Contaminated water could be utilized for purposes that would allow or require lower water quality standards.~~

- ~~*Blend*. Water that has poor quality can be blended and diluted until water quality standards are achieved.~~
- ~~*Move (Avoid)*. Choose another production and/or spreading area.~~
- ~~*Careful Management*. Operate wells in a manner that will prevent or delay contamination. This may include installation of barrier wells or avoidance of strategies that would result in acceleration of the movement of contaminated water towards existing wells.~~
- ~~*Wellhead Treatment*. Wellhead treatment can be utilized to bring water to acceptable water quality levels.~~

In response to **Comment 4** of the EPA letter page 4.7-4 will be changed in the Final SEIR/EIS, as follows:

> Newmark Plume and Muscoy Plume: The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified and designated two plumes within the identified "Newmark Groundwater Contamination" site, which consists of area-wide groundwater contamination underlying portions of the city of San Bernardino. The two groundwater plumes border Shandin Hills. On the east side of the site, a contaminated groundwater plume extends for 5 miles and is referred to as the Newmark Plume area. On the west side of Shandin Hills is a 4-mile long contaminated groundwater plume known as the Muscoy Plume area. Although the suspected disposal may have occurred as early as the 1940s, the problem was not discovered until a water supply monitoring program was instituted in 1980. The contaminated groundwater contains volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including TCE and PCE. (EPA) Treatment plants are operating to remove VOC contamination. A total of thirteen extraction wells produce on average approximately 26,000 AFY, which is treated at the four treatment plants. (SAWPA, pp. 179–180) At the present time, the performance of the remedies in place results in 100% capture of the contaminants from all three contaminated plumes. The Newmark Groundwater Site has an Institutional control in place to require that all new wells or new operating conditions go through a permitting process to prove that the existing EPA remedies would not be affected.[1]

Page 4.7-25 will be changed in the Final SEIR/EIS:

> . . . The Newmark and Muscoy Operable Units Statement of Work specifies a minimum particle recovery of 85% for the Newmark Plume Front extraction well network and the Muscoy Plume Front extraction well network when these extraction wells are set equivalent to or above the design extraction rates. Results of the particle tracking from the Newmark and Muscoy Plumes show that the RCF Conjunctive Use project would not impact the contamination plumes. At the present time, the performance of the remedies in place results in 100% capture of the contaminants from all three contaminated plumes. The Newmark Groundwater Site has an Institutional control in place to require that all new wells or new operating conditions go through a permitting process to prove that the existing EPA remedies would not be affected.[2]

The City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department ("Department") letter dated March 1, 2011, requests an additional mitigation measure to provide for relocation or modification of existing Department facilities and for coordination of Project design with the Department where conflicts are identified. The following text shall be added to the Final SEIR/EIS, on pages 2.0-10–11, to clarify that coordination with the City Water Department is also required. It will read:

- **Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, and Cities of San Bernardino, Colton, Corona, and Rialto**

  a) Encroachment permits will be required to construct the pipeline in roads/rights-of-way. Public Works, Municipal Water Departments and other agencies or departments within the above-listed local governments will require coordination and may require

[1] United States Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, comment letter regarding Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Riverside-Corona Feeder Project, Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California (CEQ #20110017), April 5, 2011.

[2] United States Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, comment letter regarding Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Riverside-Corona Feeder Project, Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California (CEQ #20110017), April 5, 2011.

encroachment permits for any Project facilities encroaching upon facilities or facilities easements owned by the agency.

b) Grading permits will be required by the local jurisdictions wherever construction occurs outside of the road right-of-way.

c) Compliance with all local policies related to cultural resources and tree preservation policies.

The Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District ("RCFC&WCD") letter dated January 26, 2011, requests a correction to a reference from MWD (Metropolitan Water District) to RCFC&WCD in Section 2.0, Introduction, page 2.0-11. Section 2.0, page 2.0-11, will be corrected to read:

- **Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC&WCD)**

  a) RCFC&WCD will require coordination and may require encroachment permits for any facilities encroaching upon facilities or facilities easements owned by RCFC&WCD ~~MWD.~~

The State Department of Water Resources ("DWR") letter dated February 28, 2011, states that DWR requires an Encroachment Permit be obtained prior to the start of construction. Section 2.0, page 2.0-12 will be modified to include the following:

- **California Department of Water Resources (DWR)**

  a) DWR will require coordination and an encroachment permit for the crossing of its California Aqueduct, Santa Ana Pipeline near Fairway Drive in the city of Colton.

The Orange County Water District letter dated March 8, 2011, requests clarification on SEIR/EIS statements regarding "future use of recycled water for groundwater basin recharge." To avoid confusion, this language will be removed from Section 3.3, page 3.0-1, and read as follows:

- ...tie into the Chino Desalter Phase 3 expansions to facilitate the connection of WMWD facilities to those that are a part of the Chino Basin Dry-Year Yield Program;
- ~~leave available the opportunity for future use of recycled water for groundwater basin recharge;~~
- Improve groundwater quality;…

The California Fish and Game letter, dated March 3, 2011, results in the following clarifications made in Section 4.3 Biological Resources discussion (p. 4.3-38) and the mitigation measure applicable to least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher (**MM Bio 3a**) in San Bernardino County. Recommended changes to **MM Bio 3a** that are acceptable to WMWD and the USBOR are reflected below and will be incorporated into Section 4.3 of the Final SEIR/EIS:

> The least Bell's vireo is a federally-listed and state endangered species that is known to occur within the Santa Ana River (Central Reach) and has some potential to occur in association with southern willow scrub scattered throughout the proposed RCF realignment (Northern Reach). The majority of potentially suitable habitat is associated with the Santa Ana River crossing. The Central Reach traverses federally-designated critical habitat at the Santa Ana River. Potential impacts to least Bell's vireo will be avoided through design considerations. Jack and bore construction will be used for pipeline installation across the Santa Ana River. The temporary or permanent loss of occupied habitat within the Northern Reach would constitute a take of least

Bell's vireo, and would require authorization from USFWS and CDFG. Any take of least Bell's vireo would be expected to be a significant impact prior to mitigation. Compliance with **MM Bio 3a and 3b,** and **MM Bio 5** would reduce potential impacts from the project construction on least Bell's vireo to **less than significant** levels.

The southwestern willow flycatcher is a federally and state-listed endangered species and has some potential to occur in association with riparian forest scattered throughout the proposed RCF realignment (Northern Reach). The majority of potentially suitable habitat is associated with the Santa Ana River crossing (Central Reach). Potential impacts to southwestern willow flycatcher will be avoided through design considerations. Jack and bore construction will be used for pipeline installation across the Santa Ana River. The temporary or permanent loss of occupied habitat within the Northern Reach would constitute a take of southwestern willow flycatcher, and would require authorization from USFWS and CDFG. Any take of southwestern willow flycatcher would be expected to be a significant impact prior to mitigation. With compliance with **MM Bio 3a and 3b** and **MM Bio 5**, impacts would be considered **less than significant**.

MM Bio 3a: Should construction occur during the breeding season for the least Bell's vireo (LBV) or southwestern willow flycatcher (SWWF) (March 15 through September 15), protocol-level surveys shall be conducted prior to construction at the following locations: the Santa Ana River (Reach A or Central Reach), Spring Brook Wash (Reach B), the riparian vegetation along the Mockingbird Canyon alignment (Reach E), potentially suitable habitat in the Northern Reach (as identified in the Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc. 2008 report), and the drainage located south of the Corona Landfill (Reach H); or presence can be assumed. If surveys document the presence of LBV and SWWF, impacts to LBV and SWWF would be mitigated below the level of significance when occupied riparian forest/woodland/scrub is fenced and direct impacts are avoided and construction within 500 feet of occupied habitat occurs only between September 15th and March 15th to avoid indirect impacts to nesting LBV. If avoidance is not feasible, a temporary noise barrier shall be used during construction, at the appropriate location(s), in coordination with CDFG and the USFWS. The noise barrier shall attenuate noise levels to 60 dBA or less, at the edge of breeding habitat. If surveys indicate that these species are not present, this measure will not be required. Additional or alternative measures to avoid or minimize adverse project effects to LBV and SWWF, as identified by the USFWS in Section 7 Consultation and CDFG, shall be implemented. However, if all avoidance measures cannot be implemented such that "take" of LBV and SWWF is avoided, Take Authorization from USFWS through Final Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Statement and from CDFG through issuance of a CESA ITP or compliance with Fish and Game Code Section 2080.1, will be obtained.

MM Bio 4a: Should construction occur during the breeding season for the coastal California gnatcatcher (March 15 through September 15), a protocol-level survey shall be conducted prior to construction at Spring Brook wash (Reach B) and the Northern Reach (within Riverside County as identified in the Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc. 2008 report), in the vicinity of the proposed project; or presence can be assumed. Focused presence/absence surveys consist of either 1) six surveys conducted no less than one week apart between March 15 and June 30 or 2) nine surveys conducted no less than two weeks apart during the remainder of the year. Surveys must be conducted by a biologist who holds the appropriate Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit. Surveys in which the species is not detected are considered valid for one year and should be repeated within one year of work commencing.

If surveys document absence of CAGN no additional avoidance or minimization measures are required. If surveys document the presence of CAGN impacts to CAGN would be mitigated below the level of significance when occupied coastal sage scrub is fenced and direct impacts are avoided

and construction within 500 feet of occupied habitat occurs only between September 1 and February 15 to avoid indirect impacts to nesting CAGN. If avoidance is not feasible, a temporary noise barrier shall be used during construction, at the appropriate location(s), in coordination with CDFG and the USFWS. The noise barrier shall attenuate noise levels to 60 dBA or less at the edge of breeding habitat. Additional or alternative measures to avoid or minimize adverse project effects to CAGN, as identified by the USFWS in Section 7 Consultation, shall be implemented. However, if all avoidance measures cannot be implemented such that "take" of LBV and SWWF is avoided Take Authorization from USFWS through Final Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Statement and from CDFG through issuance of a CESA ITP or compliance with Fish and Game Code Section 2080.1 will be obtained.

In addition, mitigation measure **MM Bio 9**, as seen on page 4.3-45 of the SEIR/EIS, will be modified as follows:

MM Bio 9: A project-wide 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement prepared in accordance with CDFG requirements shall be secured by WMWD as the jurisdictional delineation warrants and shall include mitigation measures that are sufficient to reduce direct and indirect impacts to riparian habitat to a level below significant. The Agreement may include some or all of the following:

- Avoid impacts where possible by shifting the project location or construction timing.
- Minimize impacts.
- Remove invasive species.
- Purchase off-site habitat credits.
- Create and/or restore natural communities and prepare a monitoring and maintenance plan for these areas.
- Avoid sensitive habitats by placing construction staging areas as far away from them as is feasible.
- Limit construction activity to daylight hours to minimize potential impacts related to artificial lighting.
- Require the presence of a qualified biological monitor during all construction activities that are within or near sensitive habitats and areas that have been identified to host the arroyo toad, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, coastal California gnatcatcher, Stephens' kangaroo rat, or San Bernardino kangaroo rat.

In response to CDFG's **Comment 5**, mitigation measure **MM Bio 20a** (DEIR, p. 4.3-48) will be revised as follows:

MM Bio 20a: In San Bernardino County within potentially suitable habitat for Delhi sands flower-loving fly (DSF) in the Northern Reach of the project alignment (as identified in the Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc. 2008 report), focused surveys shall be conducted following USFWS protocol by a qualified biologist who holds the appropriate Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit. Presence/absence surveys consist of bi-weekly surveys from August 1 to September 20 for a two-year period within areas of suitable habitat. If surveys document the presence of DSF, impacts to DSF would be mitigated below the level of significance when occupied habitat is fenced, and direct impacts are avoided. If avoidance is not feasible, additional measures to avoid or minimize adverse project effects to DSF and their habitat, as identified by the USFWS in Section 7 Consultation, shall be implemented. The additional measures may include, but not be limited to, some or all of the following:

- Avoid impacts where possible by shifting the project location or construction timing.
- Maintain construction sites in sanitary conditions at all times.
- Avoid sensitive habitats by placing construction staging areas as far away from them as is feasible.
- Place extracted, surplus, suitable Delhi sands in current DSF conservation areas/banks.
- Harvest sands and provide to a habitat bank established for the DSF.

Regarding the CDFG comment on the location and number of new wells, page 3.0-23 of the SEIR/EIR shall be modified as follows:

Central Feeder Connection

The Central Feeder Connection consists of approximately 6,350 linear feet of an up to 54-inch diameter pipeline located in the San Bernardino Avenue right-of-way between Alabama Street in unincorporated San Bernardino County and Webster Street in the city of Redlands. (Figure 3.0-8, Central Feeder Connection) Adjacent to the Central Feeder Pipeline are up to five new proposed 350 HP x 2,200-gallons-per-minute (GPM) groundwater production wells within the well field identified on Figure 1.0-1 (exact locations not determined) into the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District's Central Feeder Pipeline; thereby providing additional means for transporting San Bernardino Groundwater Basin water through regional pipeline facilities that are connected to the Riverside-Corona Feeder project. These five wells are included within the 20 total wells associated with the RCF.

In response to CDFG Comment 8, mitigation measure **MM Bio 25** will be added to the SEIR/EIS Biological Resources section, page 4.3-50:

MM Bio 25: Should jack and bore (also known as horizontal directional drilling) techniques be utilized to install the pipeline under CDFG or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers jurisdictional waterways (such as the Santa Ana River), a Frac-Out Contingency Plan (included in Appendix D – Biological Resources of the SEIR/EIS) shall be implemented by the contractor for the duration of drilling activities.

The Pechanga Cultural Resources, Temecula Band of Luiseño Mission Indians (Tribe) letter dated March 8, 2011, requests modifications to various cultural resources mitigations measures. Recommended changes to mitigation measures that are acceptable to WMWD and the USBOR are reflected below and will be incorporated into Section 4.4, page 4.4-10 of the Final SEIR/EIS:

MM Cult 1: (CULT-3) In order to reduce potential significant impacts to historic and non-Native American archaeological and historic resources, full-time archaeological monitoring during excavations shall be conducted in sensitive areas (e.g., near the Santa Ana River crossing, Mockingbird Canyon and La Sierra), within undeveloped areas along the project alignment, near Riverside Highland Water facility site thought to be in the vicinity of Barton Road (north of Palm Avenue), at the Gage Canal crossing in the cities of Riverside and Grand Terrace, at the Railroad crossings (AT&SF Railroad Alignment and Southern Pacific Railroad), the Riverside Canal, at Victoria Avenue and Irving Street. The extent and duration of the archaeological monitoring shall be determined by a Secretary of the Interior qualified archaeologist who is also qualified by Riverside County or the San Bernardino Archaeological Information Center (SBAIC) located at the San Bernardino County Museum, as appropriate to the location of the portion of the Project to be under construction, once the construction

schedule is defined for each reach of project construction. In the event of an accidental discovery, the archaeological monitor will comply with State *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5.

MM Cult 2: (CULT-3) In response to comments from local tribes and to be sensitive to the cultural heritage of the tribes that have claimed an interest in the project area, the archaeological monitoring program shall be executed in conjunction with the tribes. As part of the preparation of the archaeological monitoring program, the interested tribes shall ~~to~~ assist in determining which areas of the project alignment where undisturbed soils will be excavated should be considered to be Sensitive Areas requiring monitoring. For the purposes of this mitigation measure, "undisturbed soils" shall mean: soil which has never been previously excavated or disturbed for construction or other purposes, and soil that was previously excavated but for which no archaeological or Native American monitoring was performed. "Sensitive Areas" include, at a minimum: the Santa Ana River (San Bernardino County) ~~and~~ Springbrook Wash (Riverside County and City) crossings, ~~and~~ a natural area near Irving and Firethorn Streets (Mockingbird Canyon area) in the City of Riverside, and the La Sierra area. Prior to grading, WMWD shall enter into a Treatment and Monitoring Agreement for one paid monitor for each reach of project construction with the culturally affiliated tribe, as determined by WMWD.

WMWD may seek the assistance of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in making the determination of cultural affiliation. ~~Prior to grading, WMWD shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to determine the Most Likely Descendent (MLD) within any given Reach where the pipeline is to be constructed. WMWD shall enter into a pre-excavation agreement for one paid monitor with the Native American tribe identified by the NAHC as the MLD for each Reach of project construction where undisturbed native soils will be affected and sensitive resources are likely. In the event of an accidental discovery, the archaeological monitor will comply with State CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5.~~ To respond to the expressed desire of each tribe to monitor construction in sensitive areas and in the spirit of interagency cooperation, the Pechanga, Ramona, and San Manuel shall be notified by WMWD, prior to excavation activities.

MM Cult 3: (CULT-1) To ensure the proper disposition of cultural resources of interest to the tribes uncovered during excavation for the installation of the RCF Project, WMWD shall seek input from the tribes to develop a Discovery P~~p~~lan for such dispersal that encompasses the tribes' desired treatment and disposition of Native American cultural resources, including human remains. After considering the tribes' input and recommendations, WMWD shall approve and finalize such a plan prior to grading. In the alternative, WMWD may choose to negotiate treatment and disposition within the Treatment Agreements entered into with the ~~MLD~~ culturally affiliated appropriate tribe for each reach of construction. WMWD shall follow either the Discovery Plan or the Treatment Agreement for resources found on WMWD lands. Further, WMWD shall agree to present the plan and encourage land owners to follow the plan if cultural resources of interest to the tribes are found on land not owned by WMWD. In all cases, the actions of WMWD in its treatment of accidentally-discovered cultural resources shall be consistent with the requirements of CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5, the provisions of the Public Resources Code, and any other applicable state or federal law.

MM Cult 5: (CULT-2) If human remains are uncovered at any time, all activities in the area of the find shall be halted by WMWD or its contractor and the County Coroner shall be notified immediately pursuant to CA Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 and CA PRC Section 5097.98. If the Coroner determines that the remains are of Native American origin, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) shall be notified by the Coroner. The NAHC will determine and notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The MLD shall be allowed to inspect the site of the

discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection and make recommendations for treatment within ~~24~~48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

The State Department of Toxic Substances Control ("DTSC") letter dated March 3, 2011, states that DTSC can provide cleanup oversight for government agencies and private parties. **MM Haz 5** and **5a**, on page 4.8-26, will be modified to read:

MM Haz 5: All environmental investigation and/or remediation shall be conducted under a work plan approved by jurisdictional regulatory agencies overseeing hazardous waste cleanups. For the cities of Corona and Riverside, the local agencies are City of Corona Fire Department and City of Riverside Fire Department. For the cities of San Bernardino, Colton, and Grand Terrace, the enforcement agency is the County of San Bernardino Department of Environmental Health Services. In the unincorporated Riverside County, the Department of Environmental Health administers a program for the purpose of monitoring establishments where hazardous waste is generated, stored, handled, disposed, treated, or recycled, and to regulate by the issuance of permits, the activities of establishments where hazardous waste is generated. For any jurisdiction that may not be or have access to a responsible party for this purpose, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control shall be used to provide oversight. (Draft SEIR/EIS, p. 4.8-25)

MM Haz 5a: All environmental investigation and/or remediation shall be conducted under a Work Plan approved by jurisdictional regulatory agencies overseeing hazardous waste cleanups. For the city of Redlands, the local agency is City of Redlands Fire Department. For the city of Rialto and County of San Bernardino, the enforcement agency is the County of San Bernardino Fire Department, Hazardous Materials Division. For any jurisdiction that may not be or have access to a responsible party for this purpose, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control shall be used to provide oversight.

The Airport Land Use Commission, Riverside County ("ALUC") letter dated March 3, 2011, states that the Project will include facilities within various Airport Influence Areas. To assure that the Project will be in compliance with airport restrictions, **MM HAZ 11** will be added to page 4.8-27 and read as:

MM Haz 11: To avoid potential impacts resulting from temporary flight hazards within the Flabob Airport Influence Area, no construction equipment shall exceed 70 feet in height within the Northern Reach where it is located in Avalon Street south of the 60 Freeway, Mission Boulevard, and Limonite Street.

Also, **MM Haz 10** will be modified to read:

MM Haz 10: A minimum of 45 days prior to commencement of the Central Reach construction projects and a minimum of 45 days prior to commencement of the Clay Street Connection construction projects, the manager of the Riverside Municipal Airport shall be consulted in order to determine whether construction activities and construction equipment will encroach into the 100-to-1 imaginary surface surrounding the Riverside Municipal Airport. If it is determined that there will be an encroachment into the 100-to-1 imaginary surface, a minimum of 30 days before the date of the proposed construction, Western Municipal Water District shall file a FAA Form 7460-1, *Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration*, for the construction activity. If FAA determines that the Project would potentially be an obstruction unless reduced to a specified height, WMWD will work with FAA to resolve any adverse effects on aeronautical operations. These could include things as, but not limited to:

- The use of construction equipment that is short enough to avoid encroachment into the imaginary surface;
- Alternative construction methods to avoid the use of cranes or other tall equipment; or
- Construction at night when the airport is closed.

The County of Orange Public Works letter dated February 28, 2011, requests a correction to a reference from the outdated 2003 Santa Ana Region de minimus permit to Order R8-2009-0003, on page 4.11-10. It will be corrected to read:

> Installation of the pipelines may result in the discharge of water resulting from dewatering activities associated with jack and bore construction techniques and with pipeline flushing. Should these flows occur, discharges will be performed in accordance with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region Order R8-2009-0003, ~~No. 03-06~~ which established waste discharge requirements for discharges to surface waters that pose an insignificant (De minimus) threat to water quality, and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit…

In addition, **MM Trans 3**, on page 4.12-38, which requires coordination with affected local jurisdictions prior to each individual phase of construction within the Project, will be modified to clarify that jurisdictions and/or agencies within jurisdictions which own underground facilities must also be consulted:

> **MM Trans 3:** Prior to the commencement of each individual construction project, WMWD and its contractor shall consult with the affected local jurisdiction(s) in order to coordinate project construction with applicable Capital Improvement Projects, underground facilities, and/or other known potential items needing to be taken into account during final design, plan specifications, and/or construction.

Likewise, the City of Riverside Community Development Department, Planning Division letter dated March 8, 2011, requests the provision of language in the Project specification to ensure the red light enforcement system at Van Buren at Arlington, is not impacted. To address this concern, **MM Tran 3**, on page 4.12-38, will be revised as follows:

> **MM Trans 3:** Prior to commencement of each individual construction project, WMWD and its contractor shall consult with the affected local jurisdiction(s) in order to coordinate project construction with applicable Capital Improvement Projects, underground facilities and/or other known potential items needing to be taken into account during final design, plan specifications, and/or construction so that issues can be avoided and/or remedies included in the specifications that meet with each jurisdiction's requirements.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District ("AQMD") letter dated March 8, 2011, suggests additional mitigation measures to further reduce air quality impacts from the Project. The following items shall be added to **MM Trans 2a**, on pages 4.12-37–38, to read as follows:

> **MM Trans 2a:** (TRAF-1 through TRAF-3, and TRAF-6): Based on the Traffic Impact Study Report and Traffic Impact Study Report Addendum prepared for the project, it is concluded that the traffic impacts generated from the installation of the pipeline will require implementation of mitigation which may include non-peak hour construction (AM peak hours are 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., PM peak hours are 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.), temporary lane closures, temporary lane shifts using channelizing devices, *temporary signal phasing modifications*, and detours to divert traffic through nearby streets. A Traffic Control and Safety Plan shall be prepared for each reach of

project construction. To maintain traffic flow and reduce air quality impacts, Traffic Control and Safety Plans shall implement recommendations . . . , and shall ensure that all vehicular/pedestrian/bike connections are maintained throughout the construction period and may include, but not be limited to, such things as:

- identification of all roadway locations where special construction techniques (e.g., directional drilling or night construction) would be used to minimize impacts to traffic flow;
- circulation and detour plans to minimize impacts to local street circulation. This may include the use of signing and flagging to guide vehicles through and/or around the construction zone;
- procedures to limit lane closures during peak hours to the extent possible;
- haul routes that would minimize truck traffic on local roadways to the extent possible;
- detours for bicycles and pedestrians in all areas potentially affected by project construction;
- procedures ensuring that open trenches subject to vehicular or pedestrian traffic would be covered at the end of each workday with metal plates capable of accommodating traffic;
- the installation of traffic control devices as specified in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices;
- the installation of safety fencing, where needed, to protect pedestrians from construction areas;
- applicable railroad safety and engineering guidelines that would be adhered to when installing pipeline within a railroad right-of-way, and by which all construction crews and project personnel would be trained on applicable railroad safety guidelines prior to commencing work within the railroad right-of-way;
- procedures by which construction vehicles and equipment would not cross the tracks except at established public crossings or as specified by the applicable railroad company;
- developed access plans to be implemented for highly sensitive land uses such as police and fire stations, transit stations, hospitals, and schools. The access plans would be developed with the facility owner or administrator. To minimize disruption of emergency vehicle access, affected jurisdictions shall be asked to identify detours for emergency vehicles, which will then be posted by the contractor. The facility owner or operator shall be notified in advance of the timing, location, and duration of construction activities and the locations of detours and lane closures;
- procedures to store construction materials only in designated areas;
- coordination with local transit agencies for temporary relocation of routes or bus stops in work zones, as necessary; ~~and~~
- plans to restore all roads disturbed during project construction to their preconstruction condition, pursuant to franchise agreements with an applicable jurisdiction;~~.~~
- provide dedicated turn lanes for movement of construction trucks and equipment on and off site; and
- reroute construction trucks away from sensitive receptor areas.

In addition, **MM Trans 7**, on page 4.12-39, shall be modified as follows:

MM Trans 7: WMWD shall submit the location of proposed staging area(s) to appropriate local jurisdictions for review and approval. WMWD shall state the size of the area, the purpose (e.g., storage of construction equipment and employee parking), the number of vehicles and pieces of equipment to be stored, and the duration (in number of days and number of hours per day) that each staging area will be used. Such areas shall be configured to minimize traffic interference.

The AQMD letter also mentions the need for Project consistency with regionally enacted measures requiring all on-site construction equipment meet EPA Tier 2 or higher emissions standards. To further reduce construction equipment emissions, especially NOx and PM, **MM Air 7** will be added to the Final SEIR/EIS, on page 4.2-66, and will read as follows:

> **MM Air 7:** To reduce construction vehicle emissions, the bid specification packages for individual Project construction phases shall require the bidding company's fleet of off-road diesel-powered construction equipment greater than 25 hp to meet Tier 3 off-road emissions standards or better. Any emissions control device used by the contractor shall achieve Level 3 emissions reductions of no less than 85 percent for particulate matter, as specified by CARB regulations. The bidding company shall also provide certification that their fleet is in compliance with CARB's In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation in effect at that time, or proof that the bidding company has applied to the SCAQMD SOON Program (and/or other applicable grant programs) to acquire funding assistance to bring it into compliance. During the bid process, proof of compliance shall be provided to WMWD, which shall include but is not limited to, CARB and/or SCAQMD operating permit(s), and other documentation such as a copy of each unit's certified tier specification, BACT documentation, and/or other compliance documentation.

The AQMD letter also provides a website with additional mitigation measure suggestions. To better match some of the recommended mitigation measures, **MM Air 4a**, on page 4.2-66, shall be updated to include:

- install gravel bed trackout apron (3 inches deep, 25 feet long, 12 feet wide per lane and edged by rock berm or row of stakes) to reduce mud/dirt trackout from unpaved truck exit routes where appropriate (i.e., Mockingbird reservoir and booster station, Clay Street booster station).

MM Water Qual 1 (HYD-1), on pages 4.11-11–12, will also be amended as follows to specifically identify wind erosion of stockpiled areas.

> **MM Water Qual 1** (HYD-1)**:** WMWD shall require contractors to implement a program of best management practices (BMPs) and best available technologies to reduce potential impacts to water quality that may result from construction activities. To reduce or eliminate construction-related water quality impacts before the onset of construction activities, the construction agent(s) shall obtain coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General construction permit. Construction activities shall comply with the conditions of this permit that include preparation of a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP), implementation of BMPs, and monitoring to ensure impacts to water quality are minimized. As part of this process, multiple BMPs shall be implemented to provide effective erosion and sediment control. These BMPs shall be selected to achieve maximum sediment removal and represent the best available technology that is economically achievable. BMPs to be implemented as part of this mitigation measure shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
>
> a. Temporary erosion control measures such as silt fences, staked straw bales/wattles, silt/sediment basins and traps, check dams, geofabric, sandbag dikes, and temporary revegetation or other groundcover would be employed for disturbed areas to avoid water erosion. Stockpiled dirt could be covered, misted continuously, protected with three-sided temporary wind breaks or other means to avoid wind erosion.
>
> b. Storm drain inlets on the site and in downstream off site areas shall be protected from sediment with the use of BMPs acceptable to the construction agent(s), local

jurisdictions, and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region.

c. Dirt and debris shall be swept from paved streets in the construction zone on a regular basis, particularly before predicted rainfall events.

d. No disturbed surfaces shall be left without wind and water erosion control measures in place between October 15 and April 15, and when winds exceed 25 MPH. The construction agent(s) shall file a Notice of Intent with the Regional Board and require the preparation of a SWPPP prior to commencement of construction. The construction agent(s) shall routinely inspect the construction site to verify that the BMPs specified in the SWPPP are properly installed and maintained. The construction agent shall immediately notify the contractor if there were a noncompliance issue and require immediate compliance.

The AQMD letter also recommends modifications to **MM Air 2**, on page 4.2-65. It will read as follows:

MM Air 2: ~~During construction of the proposed improvements one of the following options must be used to supply the power needs for boring/tunneling operations:~~ Prior to construction of the proposed improvements, arrangements will be made with Southern California Edison to facilitate the use of electricity from power poles as a primary source or power for stationary construction equipment, unless construction is occurring at locations where power poles are not available. If access to power poles is not available, the following options must be used to supply the power needs for construction: 1) use natural gas-fueled generator sets; 2) use low-emission, duel-fueled generator sets; or 3) other low-emission power sources/supplies, as appropriate and feasible. ~~prior to construction of the proposed improvements, arrangements will be made with Southern California Edison to provide temporary construction power at the boring/tunneling sites (67 percent reduction)~~

The Department of Public Works, County of San Bernardino letter dated March 29, 2011, advises against altering direction, elevation, or capacity of any existing drainage facility, and that the proposed pipeline be placed below any drainage course scour depths.

MM Trans 3, on page 4.12-38–39, will be modified to include coordination for underground facilities, as follows:

MM Trans 3: Prior to the commencement of each individual construction project, WMWD and its contractor shall consult with the affected local jurisdiction(s) in order to coordinate project construction with applicable Capital Improvement Projects, underground facilities and/or other known potential items needing to be taken into account during final design, plan specifications, and/or construction.

In addition, in response to **Comment 2** of the Department of Public Works, County of San Bernardino letter, the SEIR/EIS, Section 4.12 Traffic and Transportation, page 4.12-11 will be modified to include the following:

However, LOS D is acceptable in unincorporated portions of the county of San Bernardino pursuant to its regulations.

In response to the Orange County Water District's comment and to clarify the project's objectives, Section 3.0, page 3.0-1 of the SEIR/EIS shall be modified as follows:

- . . . tie into the Chino Desalter Phase 3 expansion to facilitate the connection of WMWD facilities to those that are a part of the Chino Basin Dry-Year Yield Program;
- ~~leave available the opportunity for future use of recycled water for groundwater basin recharge;~~
- improve groundwater quality; . . .

Public Review Summary

The WMWD distributed a Notice of Preparation ("NOP") on July 31, 2008 to August 29, 2008, to federal, state, and local agencies; other public agencies; and interested private organizations and individuals, and held a public scoping meeting on August 11, 2008. Pursuant to Section 15082 of the State *CEQA Guidelines*, recipients of the NOP were requested to provide responses within 30 days after their receipt of the NOP. Copies of both the NOP and comments received on the NOP, are presented in Appendix A of the Supplemental EIR ("SEIR").

The federal Notice of Intent ("NOI") was published in the Federal Register on February 24, 2010. The NOI, the NOP, a summary of Scoping Information, and a location map were also posted on the BOR website.

The WMWD provided a Draft SEIR for the Riverside-Corona Feeder Project ("Project") for review from January 20, 2011 to March 7, 2011. Notices of Availability ("NOA") of the Draft SEIR were circulated to the State Clearinghouse, responsible agencies, and other interested parties on January 20, 2011. General public Notice of Availability of the Draft SEIR was also given by publication in The Press-Enterprise and the San Bernardino County Sun on January 20, 2011. As required by Public Resources Code Section 21092.3, a copy of the public notice was posted with the Riverside County Clerk on January 19, 2011.

The BOR published its NOA for the Draft EIS in the Federal Register on January 20, 2011 and circulated to responsible and trustee agencies. Comments were received for 60 days following posting.

During the public review periods for the Project, Lead Agencies received 22 comment letters from public agencies, water agencies, and one sovereign nation. Subsequent to the close of the public review periods, 3 comment letters were received from: Metropolitan Water District, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works. EPA had been granted an extension by BOR to submit its comment letter by April 5, 2011, which it did.

All comments and Responses to Comments are included in Section 2.0 of this Final SEIR/EIS. In accordance with the provisions of Public Resources Code Section 21092.5, WMWD has provided a written response to each commenting public agency no less than 10 days prior to the proposed SEIR certification date.

List of Persons, Organizations, and Public Agencies that Commented on the Draft SEIR/EIS

Federal Agencies
- U.S. EPA, 4/5/11
- National Park Service, Partnerships Program, PWR, 3/17/11 (no comment)

State Agencies
- Caltrans, 1/26/11
- Department of Water Resources, 2/28/11
- Department of Fish & Game, 3/3/11/
- Department of Toxic Substance Control, 3/3/11
- State Clearinghouse, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, 3/8/11

Regional and Local Agencies
- Riverside County Fire Department, 1/26/11
- Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, 1/26/11
- City of Fontana, 2/15/11 (no comment)
- City of San Bernardino, 2/16/11
- Orange County Public Works Department, 2/28/11
- City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department, 3/1/11
- City of Redlands, 3/7/11
- Orange County Water District, 3/8/11
- City of Riverside, 3/8/11
- Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission, 3/8/11
- Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Department, 3/8/11
- Southern California Air Quality Management District, 3/8/11
- Metropolitan Water District of southern California, 3/22/11
- County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Works, 3/29/11

Other Interested Parties
- Pechanga, Temecula Band of Luiseno Indians, 3/8/11