



Joint Operations Center Relocation Project

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service (NWS) are currently co-located in a joint operations center (JOC) near Watt Avenue and El Camino Avenue (Figure 1) in Sacramento, California (Existing JOC) that includes the following:

- DWR's Division of Operations and Maintenance, Operations Control Office, State Water Project (SWP) Power and Risk Office, and Division of Flood Management's Offices of Operations and Maintenance and Hydrology and Flood Operations including the State-Federal Flood Operations Center;
- Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP) Operations Office; and
- NWS Sacramento Weather Forecast Office (WFO) and California-Nevada River Forecast Center (RFC).

The existing lease expires in June 2015. The existing JOC no longer meets critical requirements of the agencies, including:

- essential service requirements;
- safety and physical security requirements; and
- space for future expansion.

The cost to retrofit the existing JOC and requirements to temporarily vacate the building during remodel make such actions impractical and cost-prohibitive. As a result, the agencies are proposing to construct and operate a new JOC.

Project Description

The proposed new JOC would provide the special needs, essential services, and requisite office space for the combined occupancy of Reclamation, DWR, and NWS. Special needs are defined as two control centers, flood operations center, backup power supplies, primary and backup communication systems, intense computer infrastructure, physical and cyber security systems, and meeting state essential service criteria. The screening

criteria used by Reclamation, DWR, NWS, and the California Department of Government Services (DGS) to establish a new JOC site include the following:

- must be along or adjacent to a major traffic thoroughfare and within a 20-minute commute from downtown Sacramento (DWR headquarters);
- must be outside of the 200-year floodplain;
- must allow line of sight for specialized communications systems and equipment, redundant communication systems, and excellent availability, reliability, and redundancy of power service;
- must be large enough to provide clear space building set-back allowances (100 feet from all off-site vehicle approaches) for physical security;
- must be able to maintain a secure perimeter;
- must have a lower risk of incompatible adjacent development; and
- must have access to alternative transportation, bus service, and/or light rail.

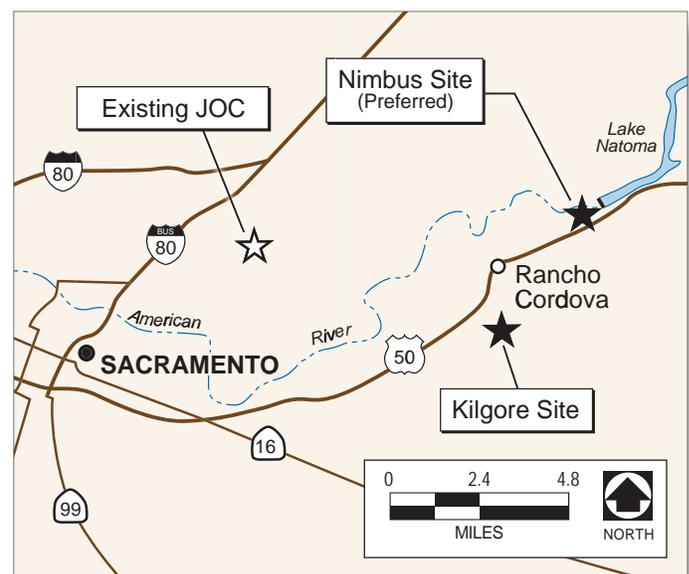
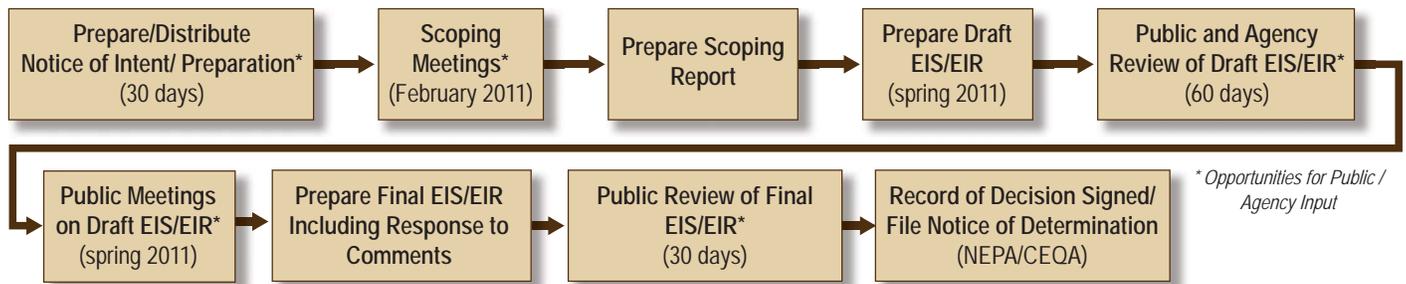


Figure 1: Alternative JOC Sites



Project Characteristics

DGS would be responsible for the design and construction of the new JOC, which needs to accommodate about 600 employees and be about 200,000 square feet. The design and footprint of the new JOC would be completed under contract to DGS. The preliminary design concepts being considered in the EIS/EIR are (1) one three-story building and two one-story buildings or (2) two one-story buildings and two two-story buildings. The new JOC would occupy approximately 16 acres of land, including access roads and parking lots.

Project Alternatives

Following a multiple-year process of identifying and ranking possible sites, two sites have been selected for further review and analysis. These sites—the Nimbus site and a commercial site on Kilgore Road—are shown on Figure 1.

The Nimbus site (preferred)

- 19-acre parcel
- Owned by Reclamation, would be leased to other agencies
- Two JOC configurations for analysis

The Kilgore site

- 18-acre parcel
- Privately owned
- Representative commercial site, would require future competitive procurement process
- One JOC configuration for analysis

Environmental Review

The agencies are preparing an environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR) that will describe the potentially significant and significant environmental impacts of the proposed project. The full range of environmental issues will be addressed. Mitigation measures will be recommended wherever feasible to reduce potentially significant impacts.

Public Meetings

Two scoping meetings are being held on February 3, 2011, at the Sacramento State Aquatic Center, Meeting Room 201-204, 1901 Hazel Avenue, to provide input on the scope and content of the EIS/EIR.

Additional public meetings will be held following publication of the draft EIS/EIR in spring 2011.

Public Comments

For more information or to provide your comments on the NOI/NOP (by February 17, 2011) please contact:

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