

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## Delta Diablo Proposed Title XVI Program - Recycled Water System Expansion Project

### FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Recommended: *Douglas Kleinsmith*  
Douglas Kleinsmith  
Natural Resources Specialist, MP-152  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: 2/1/16

Concurrence: *Nicole Johnson*  
Nicole Johnson  
Program Manager, Title XVI Program  
Division of Planning  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: 2/2/16

Approved: *Michelle H. Denning*  
Michelle H. Denning  
Chief, Division of Planning  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: 2/4/2016

FONSI No. 16-03-MP



U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Mid-Pacific Region  
Sacramento, California

February 2016

## Introduction

The Bureau of Reclamation may provide the lesser of 25% or \$20 million of construction costs to Delta Diablo if and when authorized by Congress, for the Near-Term proposed Title XVI Program that includes the Recycled Water System Expansion Project and the High Purity Water Treatment Facility (HPWTF) Project (Proposed Action). Delta Diablo proposes to install new pipelines, rehabilitate existing pipelines, construct a new storage tank, conduct other improvements, and install a HPWTF at the existing Recycled Water Facility in northern Contra Costa County to meet the demands of existing and potential new customers. The Proposed Action will reduce dependence on Delta supplies, improve water supply reliability, preserve potable water supplies, and better utilize existing recycled water facilities.

## Proposed Action

The Proposed Action will consist of the following components:

- 6,600 linear feet (LF) of new recycled water pipeline;
- 0.9 million gallon storage tank;
- Tank flow control valve, tank pad, and other tank-related appurtenances;
- Testing and rehabilitation of 45,100 linear feet of parallel 8-inch existing pipelines;
- 15 new customer meters;
- Isolation valves and
- 1.0 million gallon per day HPWTF, and other related piping and appurtenances.

Reclamation has provided partial funding for planning the near-term component through Section 1604 of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act of 1992 (Title XVI of Public Law 102-575, as amended). Section 1604 authorizes federal cost-sharing in water reuse projects up to 50 percent of the total eligible pre-construction planning costs. If Congress authorizes the Proposed Project, Reclamation may provide a portion of the funds needed to design and construct the Proposed Project. As the agency with discretionary approval over the provision of Federal funding, Reclamation is acting as the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Reclamation and Delta Diablo prepared a joint draft Initial Study/ Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) in June 2013 to evaluate the effects of the Proposed Action. Public comments on the draft IS/EA are included in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Recycled Water System Expansion Project. There were no substantive comments.

Delta Diablo adopted the IS and MND on November 13, 2013. Reclamation made some revisions to the original IS after Delta Diablo adopted it. These revisions have not changed the conclusions to the impact analysis but necessitated preparation of a revised EA separate from the IS.

# Findings

Based on the attached revised EA and MND, Reclamation finds that funding the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The attached revised EA describes the existing environmental resources in the Proposed Action area and evaluates the effects of the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives on the resources. The revised EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46). This analysis is provided in the attached revised EA. The revised EA and the MND are incorporated by reference.

Following are the reasons why the impacts of the Proposed Action are not significant:

1. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3))
2. The Proposed Action will not significantly impact natural resources and unique geographical characteristics such as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order (EO) 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3) and 43 CFR 46.215(b)).
3. The Proposed Action will not have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
4. The Proposed Action will neither establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).
5. There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).
6. The Proposed Action will not have significant cumulative impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
7. The Proposed Action will not affect historic properties (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)).
8. The Proposed Action will not affect listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)).
9. The Proposed Action will not violate federal, state, tribal or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)).
10. The Proposed Action will not affect any Indian Trust Assets (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993).
11. Implementing the Proposed Action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898).

12. The Proposed Action will not limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007 and 512 DM 3).