

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist Contra Costa Water District Orbit Line Abandonment

CEC-18-020

Prepared by:

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Date: 9/4/18

Concurred by:

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Date: 9/7/2018

Concurred by:

See Attachment A
Archaeologist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: See Attachment A

Approved by:

Michael P. Jackson
Michael P. Jackson
Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 9/7/2018



Background

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Contra Costa Water District (Contra Costa) and the Orbit Line Owner have proposed the Orbit Line Abandonment Project (hereafter referred to as the Project), to properly abandon the Orbit Line at its two connections to Lateral 14, which is a privately-owned pipeline that tees off the Contra Costa Canal to provide untreated water to industries within the City of Pittsburg, California at milepost 14 of the Contra Costa Canal. The upstream portion of the Orbit Line was experiencing leaks, so in 2017, a new connection between Lateral 14 and the Orbit Line was constructed downstream of the portion of the pipeline that was leaking. Water deliveries from the Canal turnout to the Orbit pipeline were discontinued to avoid water flowing into the section of the pipeline that was leaking. The owner has now requested abandonment of the Orbit pipeline. Water use along Lateral 14 has diminished since its original construction around 1952 and, therefore, the Lateral has sufficient capacity to supply its existing customers as well as other customers on the Orbit pipeline. Abandoning Orbit's line will require disconnection from Lateral 14 at two locations (see Figure 1). Project construction is anticipated to take approximately 1-2 weeks and will be completed between October 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019.

Project Location

The first abandonment location is the Lateral 14 turnout in Pittsburgh (see Figure 2) and the second abandonment location is at Mike's Autobody Shop (3001 N Park Blvd, Pittsburg, CA 94565, see Figure 3). The abandonment associated with Location #1 is on fee owned Reclamation property, while the abandonment for Location #2 is within a Reclamation easement for Lateral 14.

Nature of the Action

Contra Costa, pursuant to their operating agreement with Reclamation (Contract No. 14-06-200-6072A), proposes to abandon the Orbit Line at two locations from Lateral 14. Proper abandonment of the line will minimize any future liability of the pipeline leaking within the Reclamation Right of Way (ROW) or accidental back-flowing through the pipeline. Reclamation will approve the abandonment of the two tie-in connections from Lateral 14 to the privately-owned Orbit Line. This will be done via a MP 620 permit submitted to Reclamation's Engineers for approval. The project will be constructed by the owner of the Orbit Line and will consist of capping the lines and filling the abandoned pipes with cement slurry. This Proposed Action will ensure that degradation of the pipeline over time does not lead to subsidence.

Pipeline Abandonment at Location #1

The Canal at Location #1 is underground in a pipe (siphon), and the Lateral 14 pipe connects to this siphon (see Photo 1). Prior to cutting the pipe and installing the cap as part of the abandonment process, it is anticipated that a diver will enter the Canal siphon and install a caisson within the culvert where the Lateral 14 turnout is located. This would provide double isolation. Alternative methods might include installation of a plug or similar method to provide double isolation.

Abandonment at Location #1 will include exploratory excavation to identify the exact location of the existing tee. The approximate location of the tee is known, but the pipelines are transite and reinforced concrete and are thus untraceable. Once the tee is located, a pit that is approximately 15-20 feet deep and 10 feet x 10 feet wide will be dug to access the tee. This pit will be shored per OSHA standards. The Orbit owner may alternatively choose to bench back the excavation in addition to shoring to minimize the pit depth. Total excavated area is expected to be up to 370 cubic yards. The owner will utilize an excavator or a backhoe for this work, and construction-related vehicles will park on Contra Costa ROW (see Photo 1). Excavation spoils will remain within the Contra Costa ROW and these spoils will be utilized for backfill after completion of the cap. If the District's paved operational access road is impacted during construction, the road will be replaced in-kind. The owner will stage materials within the canal ROW adjacent to the excavation site. The owner will also slurry the portion of the pipeline to be abandoned within the Reclamation ROW.

Pipeline Abandonment at Location #2

Abandonment at Location #2 will include excavation of a valve, removal of a 90-degree bend and valve and installation of a blind flange. This valve is approximately 6 feet below existing grade; therefore, total excavated volume is anticipated to be up to 10 cubic yards. The owner will also slurry the portion of the pipeline to be abandoned within the Reclamation easement.

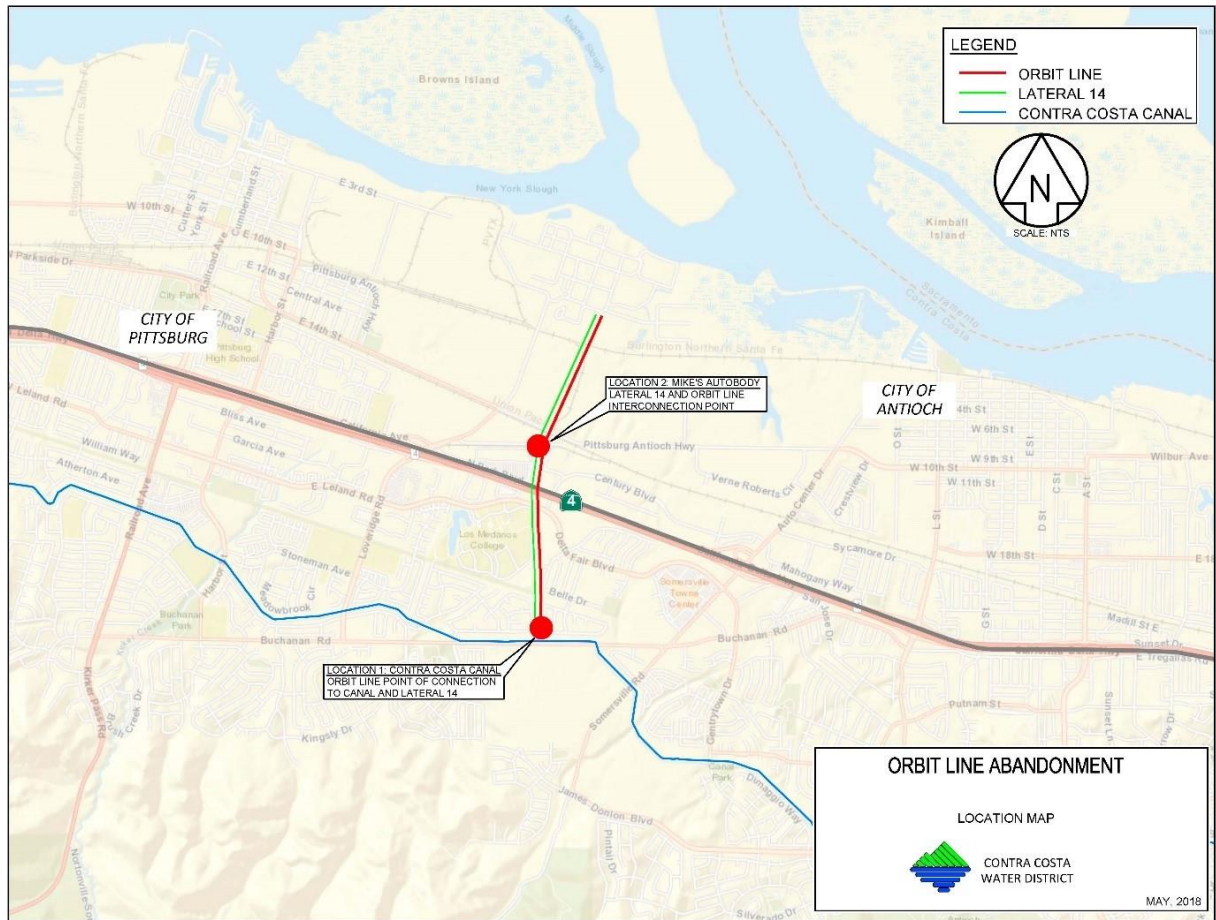


Figure 1. Vicinity Map



Photo 1 Pipeline Abandonment Location #1. The photo point is at the southern edge of the Canal ROW (looking north). The Lateral 14 valve and connection to the Canal is located at the orange cone in this photo. The Location #1 work area is just north of the Lateral 14 valve, within the Canal ROW, between the valve and the fence (See Figure 2 for the photo point location and aerial showing this location).



Photo 2 Location #1. The project will be completely within the Canal ROW (within the fence).

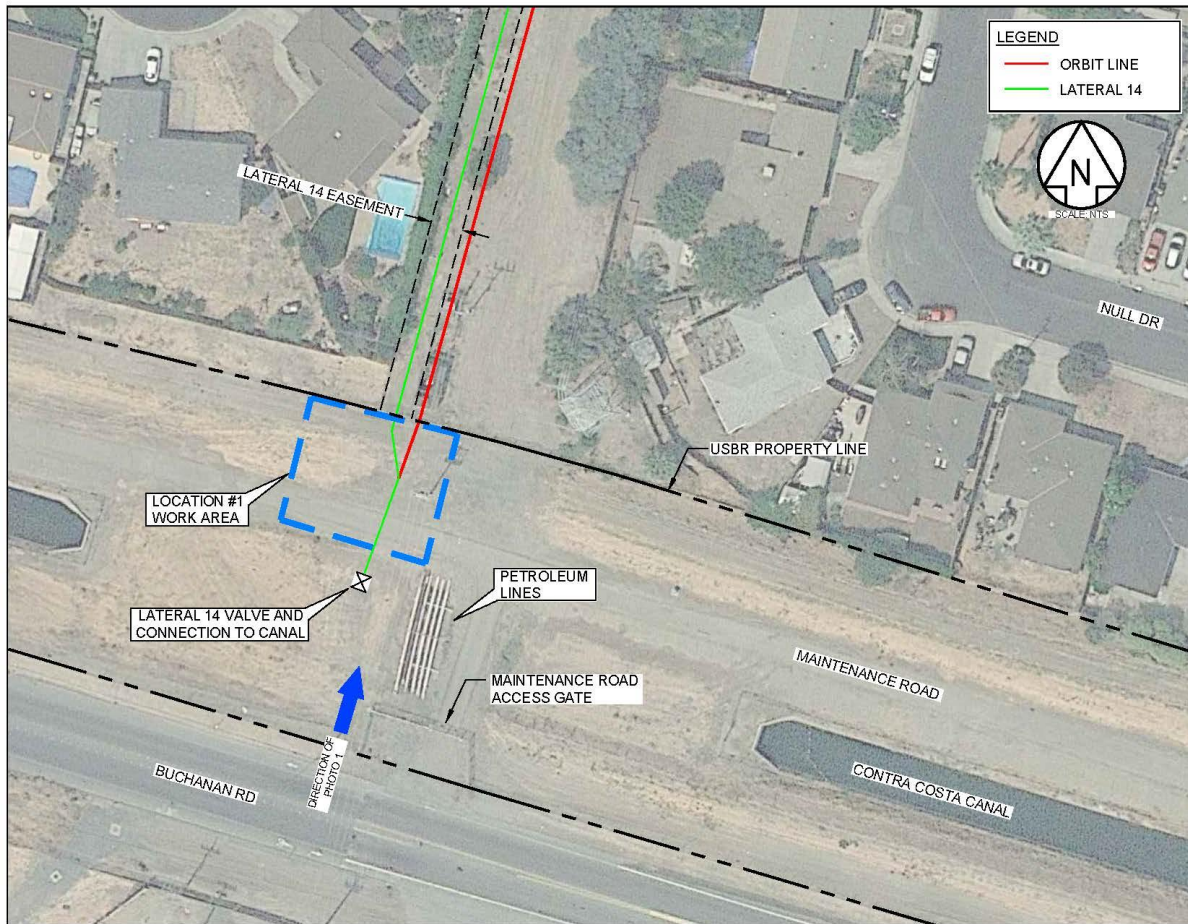


Figure 2. Abandonment Location #1--Turnout within Reclamation ROW



Figure 3. Abandonment Location #2 at Mike's Autobody

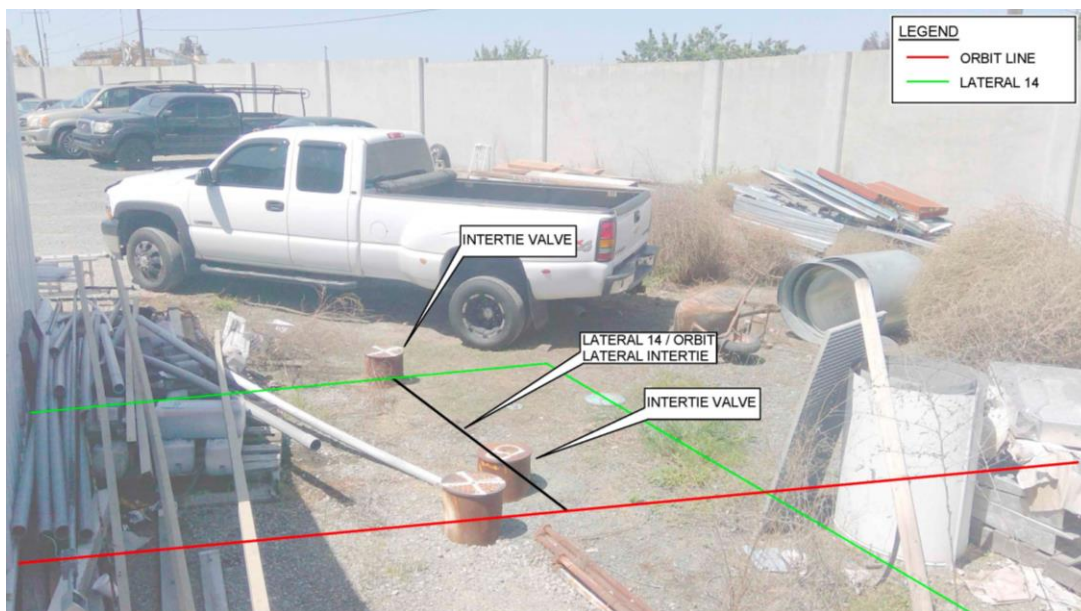


Photo 3 Looking west at Mike's Autobody. See Figure 3 for orientation.

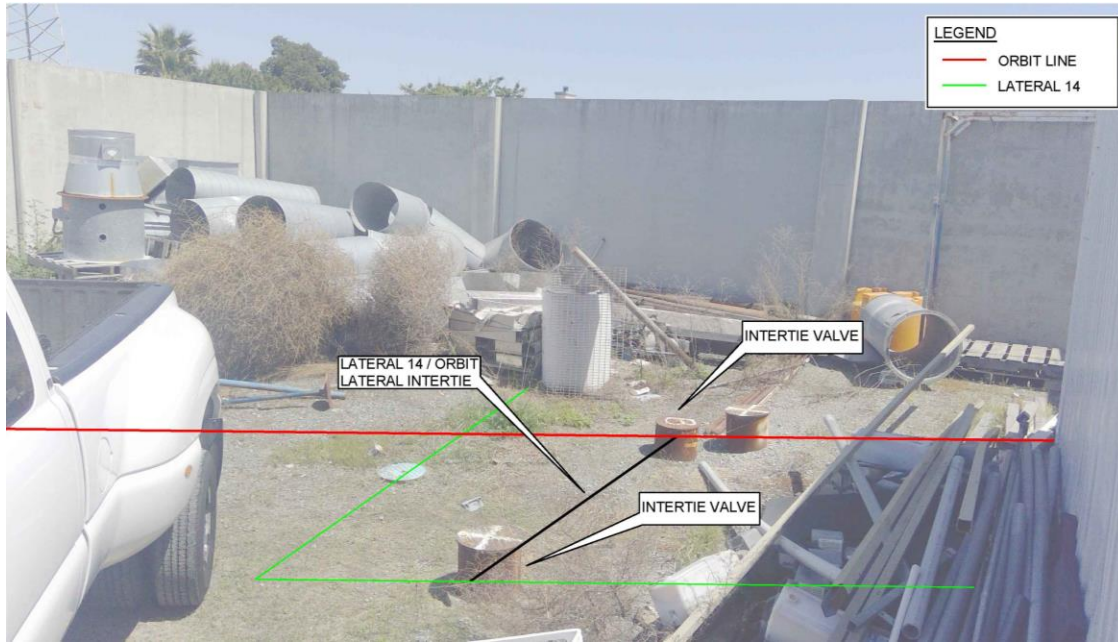


Photo 4 Looking west at Mike's Autobody. See Figure 3 for orientation.

Environmental Commitments

Contra Costa will implement the following environmental commitments to avoid any environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action. Environmental consequence analysis assumes the measures specified below would be fully implemented.

Biological Resources

Contra Costa's habitat and species plans shows the two areas where Lateral 14 will be abandoned are classified as "urbanized areas". A site visit on May 15, 2018 was conducted by Mark Seedall, Christine Schneider, and Sara La Vallee from Contra Costa to determine if the site contained either special-status species or suitable habitat. The site does not, and consists of bare dirt with small ruderal forbs. Therefore, no preconstruction surveys are necessary in these locations.

Cultural Resources

The two abandonment locations are within heavily disturbed areas and will result in no impact to cultural resources. Reclamation received concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Office that there will be no adverse effects of the project to cultural resources.

Hydrology/Groundwater

The combined project footprint of the two pipeline abandonment sites does not exceed one acre in size, therefore a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, pursuant to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), is not required. Contra Costa will ensure that contractors employ industry standard Best Management Practices which include silt fences, coir

wattles, small impoundment basins, seeding soil stockpiles or covering stockpiles with tarps. These actions will ensure that no sediment-laden stormwater flows offsite.

Given the depth of the pipeline tee at Location 1, it may be necessary to dewater the pit before the work can be completed. Any groundwater encountered at this location will be tested before discharging or will be hauled off site using trucks and disposed of per state and federal regulations. Contra Costa will follow municipal permit requirements should groundwater be discharged to the local storm or sewer system.

Exclusion Category

516 DM 14.5 C (3). *Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.*

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

- | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E) and 43 CFR 46.215(c)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics 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 (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. This action would violate a Federal, tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. This action would 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, 43 CFR 46.215 (k), and 512 DM 3)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, EO 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |

NEPA Action: Categorical Exclusion

The Proposed Action is covered by the exclusion category and no extraordinary circumstances exist. The Action is excluded from further documentation in an EA or EIS.

Attachment A: Cultural Resources Determination

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153)

MP-153 Tracking Number: 18-SCAO-021

Project Name: Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) Orbit Line Abandonment, Contra Costa County, California

NEPA Document: CEC-18-020

NEPA Contact: Kathleen Linder

MP-153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Lex Palmer, Architectural Historian

Date: August 27, 2018

Reclamation proposes to authorize the abandonment of the Orbit Line within Reclamation's CCC right-of-way. Reclamation determined that the issuance of a Federal authorization requires compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800, and is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties under 36 CFR § 800.3(a).

The CCWD proposes to abandon the privately-owned Orbit Line pipeline at its two connections to Lateral 14. This pipeline tees off the CCC Lateral 14 and provides untreated water to industries within the City of Pittsburg.

Reclamation initiated consultation with the California State Preservation Office (SHPO) by letter dated July 25, 2018 requesting concurrence with a finding of no adverse effect for the proposed project. SHPO responded on August 22, 2018, (refer to attached SHPO letter) and concurred with Reclamation's finding of no adverse effect, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(b).

This document conveys the completion of the cultural resources review and Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy with the administrative record for this action. Should the proposed action change, additional review under Section 106, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be required.

Enclosures (2): Reclamation to SHPO letter July 25, 2018
SHPO to Reclamation letter August 22, 2018

MP-153
ENV-3.00

SPECIAL DELIVERY – HAND DELIVERED

Ms. Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

Subject: National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 Consultation for the
Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) Orbit Line Abandonment, Contra Costa
County, California (Project #18-SCAO-121)

Dear Ms. Polanco:

The Bureau of Reclamation is initiating consultation under Title 54 USC § 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the NHPA and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800 to authorize the abandonment of the Orbit Line within Reclamation's Contra Costa Canal (CCC) right-of-way (ROW) (Enclosure 1, Figure 1). Reclamation determined that the issuance of a Federal authorization requires compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800, and is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties under 36 CFR § 800.3(a). We are entering into consultation with you regarding this undertaking and requesting concurrence on our finding of no adverse effect to historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(b).

The CCWD proposes to abandon the privately-owned Orbit Line pipeline at its two connections to Lateral 14. This pipeline tees off the CCC Lateral 14 and provides untreated water to industries within the city of Pittsburg (Enclosure 1, Figures 2-3). The upstream portion of the Orbit Line has been experiencing leaks; and therefore, water deliveries from the CCC turnout to the Orbit pipeline were discontinued. The Orbit Line is a 12-inch diameter 1.13 mile-long asbestos-cement pipeline constructed in 1942 that historically fed from a tee off Lateral 14 located downstream of a canal turnout at milepost 14. The owner has requested abandonment of the Orbit pipeline. Work location number 1 on the CCC would take place in an underground siphon where the Lateral 14 pipe connects to the siphon (refer to Enclosure 2, Photos 1-2). The tee would be located using an excavator or backhoe, and workers would cut the pipe, pump slurry into it, and install a pipe cap at this location.

Abandonment at work location number 2 would involve the excavation of a valve, removal of a 90-degree bend and valve, and the installation of a blind flange (refer to Enclosure 2, Photos 3-4). Both work locations would be restored to pre-project contours using the excavated soil. Water use along Lateral 14 has diminished since its original construction around 1952 and, therefore, the lateral has sufficient capacity to supply its existing customers as well as customers on the Orbit Line. Abandonment of the line would minimize any future liability of the pipeline leaking within the Reclamation's ROW or accidental back-flowing through the pipeline.

The construction and staging activities would occur in an area totaling 0.002 acres. The area of potential effects (APE) for location number 1 would include a horizontal area 10 feet wide and 10 feet long, and a vertical APE of 15 to 20 feet deep. Location number 2 would have a horizontal APE of 10 feet wide and 10 feet long, with a vertical APE of 6 feet deep. Equipment and materials would be staged within the canal ROW. The APE is located in unsectioned land, T. 2 N., R. 1 E., Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, as depicted on the Antioch North, California, 7.5 minute U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle map.

In an effort to identify historic properties within the APE, Reclamation used the results of an intensive inventory of the CCC by JRP Historical Consulting, LLC, performed in 2005. Reclamation also obtained background information on the Orbit Line from the CCWD. The only historic property resource identified within the APE is the CCC (site P-07-002695). The CCC was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) under Criterion A through a consensus determination between Reclamation and the California State Historic Preservation Officer on March 9, 2005, due to its association with the Central Valley Project and the development of agriculture and irrigation in California and is a historic property. Reclamation evaluated the National Register eligibility of the Orbit Line. The pipeline is a minor feature of the CCWD and is not eligible under any National Register criteria, nor is it eligible on an individual basis, or as a contributing element to the CCC.

The construction of the CCC and development of fields within and adjacent to the APE has disturbed between 6 and 30 feet or more of the vertical context. The work would occur within the prism and ROW. Given the depositional characteristics of the landform and soils in the APE, ongoing impacts of light industrial and residential development, and previous canal construction activity, there is low potential for encountering intact subsurface cultural resources in the APE. Since the APE is within the built environment of the previously disturbed canal prism and access road, Reclamation determined that no Native American consultation would be needed.

Reclamation applied the criteria of adverse effect to the historic properties in the APE in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.5(a). The CCC would not be visually or directly affected by the proposed undertaking due to the buried nature of the Orbit Line. The proposed undertaking would result in no adverse effect to any of the characteristics that make the CCC eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Reclamation has reached a finding of no adverse effect to historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(b).

Based on the information presented above and in the enclosed documentation, Reclamation finds that the undertaking will result in no adverse effect to historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.5(b). We invite your comments on the delineation of the APE and the appropriateness of the historic properties identification efforts. Reclamation also requests your concurrence with our finding of no adverse effect to historic properties and our determination of National Register eligibility for the Orbit Line. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please contact Mr. Lex Palmer, Architectural Historian, at 916-978-5213 or kpalmer@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Anastasia T. Leigh
Regional Environmental Officer

Enclosures – 2

WBR:KPalmer:mjames:2018-07-17:916-978-5213
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**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Lisa Ann L. Mangat, Director

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer

1725 23rd Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Telephone: (916) 445-7000

FAX: (916) 445-7053

calshpo.ohp@parks.ca.gov

www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

August 22, 2018

In reply refer to: BUR_2018_0726_001

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Anastasia T. Leigh, Regional Environmental Officer
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

Subject: Section 106 Consultation: Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) Orbit Line
Abandonment, Contra Costa County, California (Project #18-SCAO-121)

Dear Ms. Leigh:

The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) received on July 26, 2018 your letter initiating consultation on the above referenced undertaking to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as currently amended) and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to authorize the abandonment of the Orbit Line water pipeline located within Reclamation's Contra Costa Canal (CCC) right-of-way (ROW). Reclamation has reached a finding of *no adverse effects to historic properties* and seeks concurrence. Along with the consultation letter, the following documentation was provided:

- *Enclosure 1: 18-SCAO-121 – Figure 1: Project Location Map (overlaid Contra Cost Water District Map); Figure 2: Work Location Number 1 APE Map (overlaid aerial photo map); Figure 3: Work Location Number 2 APE Map (overlaid aerial photo map).*
- *Enclosure 2: 18-SCAO-121: Orbit Line Project Area Images – Color Photos 1-4 (overlaid).*

The CCWD proposes to abandon the privately-owned Orbit Line pipeline at its two connections to CCC Lateral 14. The Orbit Line is a 12-inch-diameter, 1.13-mile-long asbestos-cement pipeline, constructed in 1942, that historically fed from a tee off Lateral 14 located downstream of a canal turnout at milepost 14. This pipeline provides untreated water to industries within the city of Pittsburg. The upstream portion of the Orbit Line has been experiencing leaks so water deliveries from the CCC turnout were discontinued.

Work location number 1 on the CCC is at an underground siphon where the Lateral 14 pipe connects to the siphon. The tee would be located using an excavator or backhoe; workers would cut the pipe, pump slurry into it, and install a pipe cap at this location. Abandonment at work location number 2 involves excavation of a valve, removal of a 90-degree bend and valve, and installation of a blind flange. Water use along Lateral 14 has diminished since its original construction around 1952 and, therefore, the lateral has sufficient capacity to supply its existing customers well as customers on the Orbit Line. Abandonment of the line is intended to minimize any future liability of the pipeline leaking within Reclamation's ROW or for accidental back-flowing through the pipeline. At completion, both work locations will be restored to pre-project contours using the excavated soil.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the area where all construction and staging activities will occur, totaling 0.002 acres. The APE for location number 1 includes a horizontal area 10 feet wide and 10 feet long, and a vertical APE of 15 to 20 feet deep. Location number 2 is a horizontal area also 10 feet wide and 10 feet long, with a vertical APE of 6 feet deep.

All access, equipment and materials storage will be staged within the existing canal maintenance roads and ROW.

Efforts to identify historic properties included use of the results of an intensive 2005 inventory of the CCC by JRP Historical Consulting, LLC. Reclamation also obtained background information on the Orbit Line from the CCWD. The only historic property resource identified is the CCC, which was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A through a consensus determination (March 9, 2005), because of its association with the Central Valley Project and the development of agriculture and irrigation in California and therefore is a historic property. Reclamation evaluated the National Register eligibility of the Orbit Line and determined that the pipeline is a minor tertiary feature of the CCWD and is not eligible under any of the criteria as a contributing element to the CCC, nor is it eligible on an individual basis.

Reclamation determined that consultation with Indian tribes was not necessary for this undertaking because of the limited APE and minimal visual effects. No sites of religious or cultural significance are expected to be present because ground disturbance is limited to the previously constructed canal prism and ROW, where 6-to-30 feet of the vertical context has been previously excavated and modified.

Reclamation finds that the proposed project will result in *no adverse effect to historic properties* because the CCC would not be visually or directly affected by the proposed undertaking due to the buried nature of the Orbit Line. Reclamation invites comments on its evaluation of the Orbit Line and seeks concurrence with its finding of effects.

After OHP review of the documentation, the following comments are offered.

- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1), there are no objections to the delineation of the APE, which includes two work loci as defined and illustrated;
- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(b), Reclamation has documented a reasonable and good faith effort to appropriately identify historic properties;
- Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(c)(2), **I do not object** that Reclamation has determined that the minor and tertiary buried Orbit Line, a locally built structure lacking historic context, is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under any criterion, either individually or as a contributor to the Contra Costa Canal.
- Reclamation finds that the proposed undertaking will result in no adverse effect to historic properties. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(b), **I do not object**.

Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, Reclamation may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800 (as currently amended). Should you require further information, please contact Jeanette Schulz at Jeanette.Schulz@parks.ca.gov or her desk phone is: (916) 445-7031.

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer