

The proposed recycled water users are consistent with those described in the 1992 EIR and 1996 EIS. Operation of the pipelines will be the same as described in previous environmental documents and will be similar to operation of the existing potable water distribution system, with the addition of safeguards for use of recycled water. Signs will be posted to notify the public of areas where recycled water is being used. Pipelines and taps supplying recycled water at user sites will be identified.

Construction is anticipated to occur in early 2010.

## Findings

Reclamation has adopted the addendum to the EIR and Supplemental EA that was prepared by the City on October 20, 2009. Based on the addendum, the Division of Planning of the Mid-Pacific Region of Reclamation, has found that the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required for carrying out the Proposed Action.

The following are the reasons why the impacts of the Proposed Action are not significant:

1. *Geology and seismicity.* The project area does not cross a fault line, and is in a level area not subject to landslides. The Proposed Action will comply with measures identified in the Design Guidance Manual for the project. The measures include: seismic design features, protection measures for areas with high liquefaction potential, and measures to protect the pipeline against corrosive and expansive soils. With the implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on geology and seismicity.
2. *Surface water hydrology and water quality.* No aboveground facilities are proposed in flood prone areas. The project area is not subject to standing waves, tsunamis or mudflows, and does not involve the construction of levees or dams. The use of recycled water was analyzed in previous environmental documentation and is approved for use in landscape irrigation. The Proposed Action includes the following measures: monitoring and management of recycled water quality, control of irrigation to avoid runoff from excessive irrigation, and preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on surface water hydrology and water quality.
3. *Groundwater hydrology and water quality.* The Proposed Action does not involve the extraction or use of groundwater and will not cause land subsidence. The Proposed Action will convey recycled water and will not affect groundwater levels or gradients. The project will include the following measures: protect groundwater during construction, and implementation of a Groundwater Monitoring and Mitigation Plan.



With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on groundwater hydrology and water quality.

4. *Land use.* The land use in the project area consists primarily of residential and public facilities such as schools, a park, and commercial services. The project area is fully developed. Construction impacts will be temporary and will not alter or change land use patterns. The Proposed Action will have no effect on land use.
5. *Air quality.* The project area is made up of residential and commercial uses. Sensitive receptors along the pipeline corridors include residential areas, a park, and several schools. Construction of the pipelines will be of short duration. During construction, there will be a minor increase in emissions from vehicles and equipment, and dust during excavation. Project operations will not generate new emissions. No significant odors are anticipated with the project. The Proposed Action will comply with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's basic control measures for construction-related air quality impacts. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on air quality.
6. *Traffic.* Prior to construction, a Traffic Management Plan will be submitted to the City of Santa Clara. The Proposed Action will include the following measures: time of day restrictions on construction, temporary detours for areas requiring lane closures, bike lane and pedestrian alternative routes outside the construction zone. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on traffic.
7. *Biological resources.* The project area is highly developed and urbanized. Construction will remain within existing public rights of way and previously disturbed areas. To avoid the physical disturbance of Saratoga Creek, the pipeline for this portion will be attached to the existing pedestrian bridge. The California Natural Diversity Database was reviewed and there were no records for special-status plant or animal species within the project area. The Proposed Action will have no effect on biological resources.
8. *Hazardous materials.* Prior to construction, a Phase I Site Assessment will be prepared for the pipeline corridors. During construction, there is potential for release of fuels or motor oil. The Proposed Action will comply with previously described mitigation measures. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on hazardous materials.
9. *Public health.* Previous environmental documentation determined that the use of recycled water for industrial and irrigation uses does not pose significant public health risks. The Proposed Action will comply with previously identified measures, including Regional Water Quality Control Board general requirements and Title 22 requirements for water reclamation. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on public health.



10. *Noise.* The Proposed Action will cause a minor, temporary increase in noise in the project area. Sensitive receptors along the pipeline corridors include residential areas, public facilities including a park and several schools, and commercial services. The Proposed Action will be of short duration, have limited hours of construction, and implement noise control measures. There will be no noise impact from operations. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on noise.
11. *Public services and utilities.* The Proposed Action could cause a minor increase in the need for police and fire services due to construction along public areas. Prior to construction, notification to appropriate public emergency services and utilities will be provided. Furthermore, measures will be implemented to ensure that no disruption occurs to utility lines in the project area. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on public services and utilities.
12. *Visual resources.* During construction, there will be a minor, temporary change in the visual character along the pipeline corridors. Construction equipment and personnel will be present during installation of the pipeline. The pipelines will be buried, and any road surfaces or walkways disturbed will be returned to pre-construction condition. At the Saratoga Creek crossing, the pipeline will be attached to the existing pedestrian bridge and will be painted a neutral color. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the Proposed Action will have no significant impact on visual resources.
13. *Historic and archeological resources.* Construction of the recycled water pipeline will include excavation to a depth of up to 13 feet. To avoid potential impacts to historic and archeological resources, an Area of Potential Effect was identified, a records search was performed, and a field survey was conducted by Basin Research Associates. On December 7, 2009, the Bureau of Reclamation submitted a report titled, *Historic Property Survey/Finding of Effect South Bay Water Recycling*, to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for concurrence on the finding "No Historic Properties Affected" under 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1). On December 22, 2009, SHPO responded and concurred with the finding. The Proposed Action includes commitments that address any unanticipated discoveries of cultural resources or human remains during construction. The Proposed Action will have no significant impact on historic and archeological resources.
14. *Recreation.* Other than Central Park, there is no developed recreation within the project area. Central Park is a major 52-acre public facility operated by the City of Santa Clara. The facility includes tennis and basketball courts, a baseball field, swim center and other associated facilities. The Proposed Action will include construction of the pipeline through the Central Park baseball fields located between Kiely Boulevard and Las Palmas Road. The contractor will coordinate with the facility to ensure that disruption of the use of the baseball field is minimized. The Proposed Action will have less than a significant impact on recreation.

15. *Indian Trust Assets.* There are no Indian Trust Assets within the project area. The Proposed Action will have no effect on Indian Trust Assets.
16. *Socioeconomics.* The Proposed Action will supply recycled water to customers. The project will have a limited duration and its not anticipated to cause a change in housing or employment patterns. Temporary construction workers needed for the project will most likely come from nearby communities. The Proposed Action will have no effect on socioeconomics.
17. *Environmental justice.* The pipeline corridors are located primarily in commercial, light and heavy industrial areas. Implementation of the Proposed Action will not disproportionately affect any minority or low-income populations. The Proposed Action will have no effect on environmental justice.
18. *Cumulative effects.* The Proposed Action is short term in duration and will have no cumulative effects.