

Bureau of Reclamation

Mid-Pacific Region
Sacramento, California

Finding of No Significant Impact

Santa Clara Industrial 2 (Phase 1-C1)
Pipeline Extension
South Bay Water Recycling Program

Recommended by:

B2 [Signature]
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date: 1-8-10

Concurrence by:

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date: 01/12/2010

Approved by:

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Chief, Division of Planning

date: 2/11/10

FONSI No.

LD-04-MP

Background

The City of San Jose (City) has planned and implemented the San Jose Nonpotable Reclamation Project, now known as the South Bay Water Recycling Program (Program), to provide recycled water from the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant for industrial and a variety of irrigation uses, including agriculture and landscaping in institutional, commercial, and residential areas. The Program includes installing pipelines, pump stations, storage tanks, and appurtenant facilities. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), pursuant to funding provided through Title XVI of Public Law 102-575, has been providing up to 25 percent of the total cost to the City to help fund the Program.

The City certified a final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Program in November 1992. Reclamation released a final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Program in May 1996 and issued a Record of Decision in July 1996. The EIR and EIS included both project-level analysis for those facilities and users that had been identified at that time, and programmatic-level analysis for the remainder of the Program.

Since then, the City has expanded the service area and slightly revised the distribution facilities. Reclamation prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and signed a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on December 3, 1996 for these changes.

The City has continued to design additional pipelines and associated facilities within the Program area. For these additional projects, the City has adopted addenda to the Program EIR, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. Reclamation has continued to provide funding for these projects under Title XVI, and has prepared EAs and categorical exclusion checklists as appropriate, tiering off of the original EIS, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Project Description

The Santa Clara Industrial 2 (Phase 1C-1) Pipeline Extension (Proposed Action) is located within the City of Santa Clara and will provide recycled water for landscaping irrigation in the project vicinity. The project includes an extension of about 7,150 feet of 12-inch pipe along Walsh Avenue and Martin Avenue (Figure 1) as follows:

- The Walsh Avenue extension is 5,450 feet in length and will terminate on the west side of the San Tomas Avenue bridge. The extension will be connected to an existing 24-inch recycled water main located on Lafayette Street.
- The Martin Avenue spur is 1,700 feet in length will be connected to an existing recycled water system located along Lafayette Street.



Figure 1, Project Map

Construction of the pipelines follows the “cut and cover” method. This method involves excavating an open trench to accommodate the size of the pipe, laying the pipeline, and replacing and compacting soil to refill the trench. The trench is then restored to original or better condition. The crossing of San Tomas Expressway would use the bore and jack method. The method involves excavating a pit on either side of the area to be crossed. The pipeline is then installed by tunneling between the two pits.

The additional users will help fulfill the Program’s goal of diverting an additional 20 million gallons per day of effluent from discharge into the South San Francisco Bay to beneficial uses in the Program area.