

Addendum to Initial Study/Negative Declaration (SCH# 2015112048)

North Davis Meadows Water Consolidation Project February 2018

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This environmental document is an Addendum to the North Davis Meadows (NDM) Water Consolidation Project Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND), State Clearinghouse No. 2015112048, adopted on January 7, 2016 by the Yolo County Planning, Public Works, and Environmental Service Department Director. Minor changes to the project description have necessitated further environmental review. As demonstrated in this Addendum, the IS/ND continues to serve as the appropriate document addressing the environmental impacts of these improvements pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

1.1 BACKGROUND

The IS/ND evaluated the preferred design solution for water consolidation as described in a Technical Memorandum prepared by West Yost Associates, consulting engineers for the City of Davis (City), in May 2013. The preferred design solution would connect NDM's indoor water uses to the City's system while maintaining irrigation and fire flow uses on NDM's well system. Proposition 218 proceedings were conducted in May of 2016, and rates were ultimately raised to pay for design of the project. The engineering work for the preferred design solution described in the aforementioned Technical Memorandum commenced in December of 2016.

In July 2017, Yolo County (County) received new information that compelled staff to re-evaluate the preferred design solution and consider alternatives. Most notably, the City's Fire Chief strongly recommended that water for fire protection come from the City's water system. In addition, the County received new information related to costs to maintain/upgrade the wells. Finally, the City's usage rate structure had been revised to reduce rates below those considered in the past.

With this new information, three alternatives were developed for the NDM community's consideration: 1) staying the course – indoor water use connected to the City of Davis's system while maintaining irrigation and fire flow uses to the community's well system; 2) connecting all three water uses to the City; or 3) connecting indoor and fire protection uses to the City's system. In late September-early October 2017, the community was surveyed on their new desired path. The survey was completed by a majority of households in the community with the majority of respondents favoring Scenario 2 – connecting to the City for all water uses. In December 2017, the consulting engineer designed the NDM community's water system connection to City's system to serve all domestic, landscape irrigation, and fire suppression water demands.

The County is the lead agency under CEQA.

1.2 PURPOSE OF ADDENDUM TO THE IS/MND

When a proposed project is changed, there are changes in environmental setting, or additional analysis is required, a determination must be made by the Lead Agency as to whether an Addendum or Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or ND is prepared. CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 and 15164 set forth criteria to assess which environmental document is appropriate. The criteria for determining whether an Addendum or Subsequent ND is prepared are outlined below. If the criteria below are true, then an Addendum is the appropriate document:

- No new significant impacts will result from the project or from new mitigation measures.
- No substantial increase in the severity of environmental impact will occur.
- No new feasible alternatives or mitigation measures that would reduce impacts previously found not to be feasible have, in fact, been found to be feasible.

Based upon the information provided in Section 3.0 of this document, the changes to the Approved Project will not result in new significant impacts or substantially increase the severity of impacts previously identified in the IS/ND, and there are no previously infeasible alternatives that are now feasible. None of the other factors set forth in Section 15162(a)(3) are present. Therefore, an Addendum to the NDM Water Consolidation Project IS/ND Addendum is appropriate, and this Addendum has been prepared to address the environmental effects of the refinements to the project.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 PROJECT LOCATION AND SETTING

The project area is located in the mid-southern portion of Yolo County, approximately one mile north of the City of Davis and includes the NDM County Service Area (CSA) No. 10. NDM CSA No. 10 is comprised of two single family residential subdivisions, North Davis Meadows 1 and 2 (NDM1 and NDM2). The NDM community consists of 94 single family residences situated around the Davis Municipal Golf Course. The approximately 240-acre community is located west of State Route 113 and south of County Road 29. The surrounding land, with the exception of County Road 29 and State Route 113, is open farmland.

The existing water system for the NDM CSA is a groundwater well and tank system with two active groundwater wells administered under the CSA No. 10. The CSA currently provides water services to a population of approximately 314 individuals through 94 service connections. The City is currently contracted to provide water system operation and maintenance services for the CSA.

2.2 PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE PROJECT

The intent of the proposed project is to meet the domestic potable water demands for the NDM community that would be served by the City's water system in order to satisfy the requirements of Compliance Order No. 12-09 and Compliance Order No. CC0001107. As described in Section 1.1, the project has been modified since the adoption of the IS/ND in order to meet increased residential and irrigation water demands and address water pressure requirements to provide enhanced fire protection to the community. In order to connect all three water uses to the City's system, the following project modifications are proposed:

- Increasing the diameter of the pipeline from 6 inches to 16 inches, extending from its tie-in at the City of Davis West Tank Area and extending north for approximately 1 mile along John Jones Road/CR99D where it turns west along the fence line south of the Davis Municipal Golf Course, and then north onto Fairway Drive.
- Installation of approximately 300 feet of 12-inch diameter pipe from the connection at Fairway Drive to tie into the south end of the existing water main on Fairway Drive.
- Construction of an additional 14-inch diameter pipeline towards the west, along the southerly portion of the Davis Community Golf Course, between the 16-inch diameter main at Fairway Drive and the existing 6-inch diameter pipeline that runs west from Primrose Place to Spanish Bay Place.
- Replacement of the portion of the existing 6-inch diameter pipe from that connection point to Spanish Bay Place with a new 12-inch pipe.
- Installation of an additional 12-inch diameter water main, paralleling the west side of the Davis Community Golf Course to connect the existing pipelines that cross the golf course in order to meet fire flow requirements
- Upsizing existing 6-inch diameter pipelines to new 8-inch diameter pipelines on Silverado Drive, between Granite Bay Place and Blackhawk Place, the east leg of Spyglass Place, Larkspur Place, Lupine Court, and Primrose Place.
- Relocation of two fire hydrants so they can be served by an existing 8-inch pipe.

As with the originally proposed project, site preparation to construct the project with the above-listed modifications would be limited to laying water pipeline underground at a depth of three to four feet. These activities would involve trenching, shoring, backfilling, compacting, and surface restoration within existing public rights-of-way. Ground disturbance from construction activity will be minimal and temporary in nature.

Figure 1 presents the original project site plan depicted in the IS/ND; **Figure 2** shows the proposed, modified site plan.

Figure 1



Figure 2



3.0 ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The IS/ND found that the project would result in no impacts or impacts that were less than significant. As described above, the Modified Project proposes upsizing the diameter of several pipelines and two (2) additional pipelines. Taking into account these changes, the Modified Project would have similar effects as the original project.

As described further below, the Modified Project would not result in new or different environmental impacts, substantially increase the severity of the previously identified environmental impacts, nor require new mitigation measures, and no new information has emerged that would materially change the analyses or conclusions set forth in the IS/ND. Therefore, the Modified Project would not change the analysis or conclusions reached in the IS/ND.

Air Quality – The IS/ND concluded that all potential air quality impacts were either less than significant or there were no air quality impacts resulting from the project. The Modified Project will not increase construction emissions above the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District’s (YSAQMD’s) significant thresholds. The Sacramento Air Quality Management District’s Road Construction Emissions Model, Version 8.1.0 was used to calculate the estimated construction emissions of pollutants of concern for the Modified Project.

Estimated Construction Emissions of Pollutants of Concern

| Pollutants of Concern | Modeled Emissions (lbs/day) | YSAQMD Thresholds (lbs/day) | Threshold exceeded? |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| ROG | 4.02 | 55 | NO |
| NOX | 37.79 | 55 | NO |
| PM10 | 2.12 | 80 | NO |
| CO | 24.06 | 9 ppm (8 hour) or 75 lbs/day | NO |

The Modified Project would not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of any air quality plan. Moreover, the Modified Project would not substantially change current operational emissions. ***No new or substantially more severe significant effects would occur and no mitigation measures are required.***

Biological Resources

Wetlands - The IS/ND found that the project’s impacts to wetlands were less than significant. Two of the five freshwater ponds on the Davis Community Golf Course were identified within the vicinity of the project using the Wetlands Mapper provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A wetlands delineation was not prepared for the IS/ND nor has one been prepared for this Addendum.

The Modified Project includes two new pipelines within the vicinity of the two freshwater ponds: 1) a 14-inch diameter pipeline towards the west, along the southerly portion of the Davis Community Golf Course, between the 16-inch diameter main at Fairway Drive and the existing 6-inch diameter pipeline that runs west from Primrose Place to Spanish Bay Place; and 2) a 12-inch diameter water main, paralleling the west side of the Davis Community Golf Course to connect the existing pipelines that cross the golf course in order to meet fire flow requirements. As described in the IS/ND, two of the five freshwater ponds on the golf course occur between NDM I and NDM II, one to the west

of Covey Court and approximately 460 feet northeast of the proposed 12-inch pipeline; and the other to the west of Lupine Court and east of Spyglass Place, which is approximately 117 feet east of the aforementioned pipeline and 440 feet northeast of the 14-inch pipeline. These freshwater ponds, which are roughly 115 to 500 feet away from the proposed new pipelines, will not be affected by construction activities that will traverse the golf course. Therefore, the proposed changes to the project would not result in any new or substantially more severe effects to wetlands.

Biological Species - The IS/ND found that the project's impacts to biological species were either less than significant or there were no impacts. Upon a cursory review of the IS/ND, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) indicated the need for additional biological resource information from the project area, particularly with regard to the potential for special-status wildlife species. On June 23, 2017, Estep Environmental Consulting conducted a survey of the project area. In addition, previous environmental documents, the California Natural Diversity Data Base, and other available data sources were referenced to investigate reported occurrences of special-status species from the project area.

The Biological Resources Evaluation prepared by Estep Environmental Consulting concludes that the project activities will occur primarily within the dense urban area within the NDM community. Specifically, new water pipelines will be installed within the existing infrastructure of the developed area. Based on the review of previous environmental documents and a pedestrian survey of the area, Estep Environmental Consulting determined that no sensitive or unique wildlife habitats or biological communities will be affected by project activities.

Swainson's hawk is the only special-status species confirmed to occur within the NDM project area. No Swainson's hawk nesting or foraging habitat will be affected by project activities. White-tailed kite, burrowing owl, loggerhead shrike, and special-status bats have potential to occur in the project area, but none were observed during the survey and none have been previously reported from the project area.

Because of the level of existing urban and recreational disturbances within the project area, project-related disturbances are unlikely to disturb nesting Swainson's hawks. However, if work is initiated between March 15 and August 15, a preconstruction survey for nesting Swainson's hawks and white-tailed kites should be conducted to identify active nests that may be immediately adjacent to the project route and restrictions implemented to minimize disturbances. This includes establishing staging areas, equipment storage areas, or other uses or activities associated with pipeline construction next to active nests. The installation of the pipeline itself, which is expected to move relatively rapidly along the project route, is not expected to affect nesting Swainson's hawks or white-tailed kites.

Overall, there are no substantial changes to the biological resources and impact analyses. No measures are needed to reduce potential impacts to biological resources, and no new or substantially more severe significant effects would occur.

Cultural Resources – The IS/ND concludes that all potential impacts to cultural resources are less than significant. Subsequent to the adoption of the IS/ND, the SWRCB determined that the project is an undertaking subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 USC 470(f), and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR Part 800 (Section 106). As a result of this determination, the County contracted with MIG to conduct a cultural resources assessment of the project subject to the above-mentioned regulations.

A cultural resources records search and a pedestrian survey of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) were conducted. No cultural resources were identified within the APE or in the immediate vicinity during the pedestrian survey or through the records search. The APE is located within a highly disturbed environment within a mixed use agricultural and residential area with associated infrastructure, whereby cultural resources that may have existed have likely since been displaced or deeply buried into the sediment by past human and ecological events. Further, ground disturbing activities are anticipated to be limited to the APE and are within previously disturbed and developed roadways and infrastructure. Therefore, it is unlikely that unknown historic properties or cultural resources would be discovered during the implementation of this undertaking. No new or substantially more severe significant effects would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

Geology and Soils – The IS/ND found that the project would have a less-than-significant effect on geology and soils within the project area. The Modified Project would install two new pipelines, which would not result in any new or substantially more severe effects.

Greenhouse Gases - The IS/ND found that the project would have a less-than-significant effect on greenhouse gas emissions. The proposed changes to the project would not result in any new or substantially more severe effects due to greenhouse gas emissions.

Hydrology and Water Quality – The IS/ND found that the project would have a less-than-significant impact on hydrology and water quality. The Modified Project would connect the community's water system to City's system to serve all domestic, landscape irrigation, and fire suppression water demands. The proposed changes to the project would not result in any new or substantially more severe effects on hydrology and water quality.

Noise - The IS/ND found that the project would have less-than-significant impacts related to noise. The Modified Project would extend only slightly the duration of temporary, noise-generating construction activities associated with the use of construction equipment and vehicles for the trenching, shoring, backfilling, compacting, and surface restoration activities. Construction noise would remain within the noise levels established in the Yolo County General Plan and the noise impacts of the Modified Project would be less than significant.

The Modified Project would have no change on the project's noise operations; therefore, it would not affect the IS/ND noise analysis of the original project.

Utilities and Service Systems - The IS/ND found that the project would have a less-than-significant effect or no effects on utilities and service systems. The proposed changes to the project would not result in any new or substantially more severe effects on utilities and service systems.

Other Environmental Topics - The Modified Project would have similar, no impacts or less-than-significant impacts related to Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forest Resources, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Change, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, and Transportation and Traffic. The Modified Project would neither increase the severity of these impacts associated with the project nor result in new or substantially different environmental effects. These topics do not warrant further discussion.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing, it is concluded that the analyses conducted and the conclusions reached in the Final IS/ND adopted on January 7, 2016 remain valid. The proposed revisions to the project would not cause new significant impacts not identified in the IS/ND. No changes have occurred with respect to circumstances surrounding the proposed project that would cause significant environmental impacts to which the project would contribute considerably, and no new information has become available that shows that the project would cause significant environmental impacts. Therefore, no supplemental environmental review is required beyond this addendum.