



State Water Resources Control Board

NOV 07 2013

Mr. Mark Murphy, Senior Management Assistant
City of Barstow
220 East Mountain View Street, Suite A
Barstow, CA 92311-2888

Dear Mr. Murphy:

ADDENDUM TO THE INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR CITY OF BARSTOW (CITY); SOAPMINE ROAD AREA NITRATE REMEDIATION PROJECT (PROJECT); SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2012081081

We understand that the City may be pursuing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) financing for this Project. As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is providing the following information and comments for the environmental document prepared for the Project.

Please provide us with the following documents applicable to the proposed Project if seeking CWSRF or other State Water Board funding: (1) one copy of the draft, final, and addendum IS/MND, (2) the resolution adopting the IS/MND and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) making California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) findings, (3) all comments received during the review period and the City's response to those comments, (4) the adopted MMRP, and (5) the Notice of Determination filed with the San Bernardino Clerk and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board.

The CWSRF Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and requires additional "CEQA-Plus" environmental documentation and review. Three enclosures are included that further explain the CWSRF Program environmental review process and the additional federal requirements. For the complete environmental application package please visit: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/docs/forms/financial_assist_application_instructions.pdf. The State Water Board is required to consult directly with agencies responsible for implementing federal environmental laws and regulations. Any environmental issues raised by federal agencies or their representatives will need to be resolved prior to State Water Board approval of a CWSRF financing commitment for the proposed Project. For further information on the CWSRF Program, please contact Mr. Ahmad Kashkoli, at (916) 341-5855.

It is important to note that prior to a CWSRF financing commitment, projects are subject to provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and must obtain Section 7 clearance from the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and/or United States Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for any potential effects to special status species.

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, Ca 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

- F. Compliance with the Flood Plain Management Act: Identify whether or not the Project is in a Flood Management Zone and include a copy of the Federal Emergency Management Agency flood zone maps for the area.
- G. Compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: Identify whether or not any Wild and Scenic Rivers would be potentially impacted by the Project and include conservation measures to minimize such impacts.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the City's Addendum. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (916) 341-5855, or by email at AKashkoli@waterboards.ca.gov, or contact Christopher Bruni at (916) 341-5879 or by email at Christopher.Bruni@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Ahmad Kashkoli
Senior Environmental Scientist

Enclosures (3)

1. SRF & CEQA-Plus
2. Quick Reference Guide to CEQA Requirements for State Revolving Fund Loans
3. Basic Criteria for Cultural Resources Reports

cc: State Clearinghouse
(Re: SCH# 2012081081)
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH # 2012081081

Project Title: Soapmine Road Area Nitrate Remediation Project - June 2012, Amendment September 2013

Lead Agency: City of Barstow Contact Person: Mark Murphy
 Mailing Address: 220 East Mountain View St., Ste. A Phone: (760) 255-5160
 City: Barstow Zip: 92311 County: San Bernardino

Project Location: County: San Bernardino City/Nearest Community: City of Barstow
 Cross Streets: Marks Road Zip Code: 92311

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): _____ " N / _____ " W Total Acres: _____
 Assessor's Parcel No.: _____ Section: 3 & 10 Twp.: 9 N Range: 1 W Base: SBBM
 Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: Interstate 40 Waterways: Mojave River
 Airports: None Railways: BNSF Schools: None

Document Type:
 CEQA: NOP Draft EIR Supplement/Subsequent EIR (Prior SCH No.) Mit Neg Dec
 NEPA: NOI EA Draft EIS FONSI
 Other: Joint Document Final Document Other: _____

Local Action Type:
 General Plan Update Specific Plan Rezone Annexation
 General Plan Amendment Master Plan Prezone Redevelopment
 General Plan Element Planned Unit Development Use Permit Coastal Permit
 Community Plan Site Plan Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) Other: Remediation

Development Type:
 Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD Other: Ground water contamination remediation project

Project Issues Discussed in Document:
 Aesthetic/Visual Fiscal Recreation/Parks Vegetation
 Agricultural Land Flood Plain/Flooding Schools/Universities Water Quality
 Air Quality Forest Land/Fire Hazard Septic Systems Water Supply/Groundwater
 Archeological/Historical Geologic/Seismic Sewer Capacity Wetland/Riparian
 Biological Resources Minerals Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading Growth Inducement
 Coastal Zone Noise Solid Waste Land Use
 Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous Cumulative Effects
 Economic/Jobs Public Services/Facilities Traffic/Circulation Other: _____

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:
 Vacant land, General Plan/Zoning: Recreational Opportunities

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

This is an amendment to an Initial Study and subsequently approved Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the implementation of a nitrate remediation project located on both sides of the Mojave River in the vicinity of the Barstow Wastewater Treatment Facility (California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region - Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R6V-201300045A1 - Requiring the City of Barstow to clean up and abate the discharge and threatened discharge of nitrate contaminants to ground waters of the Mojave River Hydrologic Unit - July 10, 2013).

The initial Pilot Project assessed the impact of one pump, a small treatment plant, and approximately 6,000 feet of 8 inch PVC Pipeline. 100,000 gallons of water per day were to be treated. This Pilot Project proved successful, leading to the Remediation project proposed and evaluated in 2012. That project called for the extension of a total of 2,617 feet of 8 inch PVC pipeline in the Webster and Clay River Road right-of-way, as well as a small extension of pipeline at the city sewage treatment plant. In addition, a total of six new wells and below ground pumps will be added to the current system (i.e., four wells/pumps assessed in 2012 and two wells/pumps evaluated in the 2013 current report), with the possibility of an above ground booster located near the point where existing pipelines cross the Mojave River. The project is designed to treat approximately 1,400,000 gallons per day; this is the same amount of water that was to be treated by the 2012 project, i.e. the addition of two wells does not add to the treatment capacity of the 2012 proposed treatment system.

State Clearinghouse Contact: (916) 445-0613
 State Review Began: 10-11 - 2013
 SCH COMPLIANCE 11-12 - 2013

Project Sent to the following State Agencies

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources | State/Consumer Svcs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways | General Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Comm | Cal EPA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado Rvr Bd | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARB: ALL Projects |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> ARB: Transportation Projects |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CDFW # <u>6</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> ARB: Major Industrial Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Comm | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Div. Financial Assist. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cal Fire | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Wtr Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Wtr Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Rec | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg. WQCB # <u>GV</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Prot. | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Sub Ctrl-CTC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bay Cons & Dev Comm. | Yth/Adlt Corrections |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DWR | Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cal EMA | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resources, Recycling and Recovery | |
| Bus Transp Hous | Independent Comm |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aeronautics | Energy Commission |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHP | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAHC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans # <u>6</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Comm |

Please note State Clearinghouse Number (SCH#) on all Comments

2012081081

SCH#: _____
 Please forward late comments directly to the Lead Agency

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH # 2012081081

Project Title: Soapmine Road Area Nitrate Remediation Project - June 2012, Amendment September 2013
 Lead Agency: City of Barstow Contact Person: Mark Murphy
 Mailing Address: 220 East Mountain View St., Ste. A Phone: (760) 255-5160
 City: Barstow Zip: 92311 County: San Bernardino

Project Location: County: San Bernardino City/Nearest Community: City of Barstow
 Cross Streets: Marks Road Zip Code: 92311

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): _____ " N / _____ " W Total Acres: _____
 Assessor's Parcel No.: _____ Section: 3 & 10 Twp.: 9 N Range: 1 W Base: SBBM
 Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: Interstate 40 Waterways: Mojave River
 Airports: None Railways: BNSF Schools: None

Document Type:
 CEQA: NOP Draft EIR NEPA: NOI Other: Joint Document
 Early Cons Supplement/Subsequent EIR EA Final Document
 Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) Draft EIS Other: _____
 Mit Neg Dec Other: _____

Local Action Type:
 General Plan Update Specific Plan Rezone Annexation
 General Plan Amendment Master Plan Prezone Redevelopment
 General Plan Element Planned Unit Development Use Permit Coastal Permit
 Community Plan Site Plan Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) Other: Remediation

Development Type:
 Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____ Other: Ground water contamination remediation project

Project Issues Discussed in Document:
 Aesthetic/Visual Fiscal Recreation/Parks Vegetation
 Agricultural Land Flood Plain/Flooding Schools/Universities Water Quality
 Air Quality Forest Land/Fire Hazard Septic Systems Water Supply/Groundwater
 Archeological/Historical Geologic/Seismic Sewer Capacity Wetland/Riparian
 Biological Resources Minerals Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading Growth Inducement
 Coastal Zone Noise Solid Waste Land Use
 Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous Cumulative Effects
 Economic/Jobs Public Services/Facilities Traffic/Circulation Other: _____

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:
 Vacant land, General Plan/Zoning: Recreational Opportunities

Project Description: *(please use a separate page if necessary)*
 This is an amendment to an Initial Study and subsequently approved Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the implementation of a nitrate remediation project located on both sides of the Mojave River in the vicinity of the Barstow Wastewater Treatment Facility (California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region - Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R6V-201300045A1 - Requiring the City of Barstow to clean up and abate the discharge and threatened discharge of nitrate contaminants to ground waters of the Mojave River Hydrologic Unit - July 10, 2013).
 The initial Pilot Project assessed the impact of one pump, a small treatment plant, and approximately 6,000 feet of 8 inch PVC Pipeline. 100,000 gallons of water per day were to be treated. This Pilot Project proved successful, leading to the Remediation project proposed and evaluated in 2012. That project called for the extension of a total of 2,617 feet of 8 inch PVC pipeline in the Webster and Clay River Road right-of-way, as well as a small extension of pipeline at the city sewage treatment plant. In addition, a total of six new wells and below ground pumps will be added to the current system (i.e., four wells/pumps assessed in 2012 and two wells/pumps evaluated in the 2013 current report), with the possibility of an above ground booster located near the point where existing pipelines cross the Mojave River. The project is designed to treat approximately 1,400,000 gallons per day; this is the same amount of water that was to be treated by the 2012 project, i.e. the addition of two wells does not add to the treatment capacity of the 2012 proposed treatment system.

State Clearinghouse Contact: (916) 445-0613

State Review Began: 10-11 - 2013

SCH COMPLIANCE 11-12 - 2013

Project Sent to the following State Agencies

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> State/Consumer Svcs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways | <input type="checkbox"/> General Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Comm | <input type="checkbox"/> Cal EPA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado Rvr Bd | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARB: ALL Projects |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> ARB: Transportation Projects |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CDFW # <u>6</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> ARB: Major Industrial Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Comm | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Div. Financial Assist. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cal Fire | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Wtr Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Wtr Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Rec | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg. WQCB # <u>6V</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Prot. | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Sub Ctrl-CTC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bay Cons & Dev Comm. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yth/Adlt Corrections |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DWR | <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cal EMA | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resources, Recycling and Recovery | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bus Transp Hous | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Comm |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aeronautics | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHP | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAHC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans # <u>6</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Comm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Comm |

Please note State Clearinghouse Number (SCH#) on all Comments

2012081081

SCH#: _____
 Please forward late comments directly to the Lead Agency

**CITY of BARSTOW
AMENDMENT – MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
SCH# 2012081081**

1. Project Title:

Soapmine Road Area Nitrate Remediation Project – June 2012, Amendment September 2013

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

City of Barstow
220 East Mountain View Street
Barstow, CA 92311-2888

3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

Mr. Mark Murphy, Senior Management Assistant
City of Barstow
(760) 255-5160

4. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

City of Barstow
220 East Mountain View Street
Barstow, CA 92311-2888

5. Description of Project:

This report is an Amendment to an Initial Study and subsequently approved Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) that addressed the implementation of a nitrate remediation project located on both sides of the Mojave River in the vicinity of the Barstow Wastewater Treatment Facility, see: *California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region - Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R6V-2013-0045A1 – Wastewater Treatment Plant, City of Barstow WDID No. 6B360101001 – Requiring the City of Barstow to clean up and abate the discharge and threatened discharge of nitrate contaminants to groundwaters of the Mojave River Hydrologic Unit – July 10, 2013.*

The current project is the follow-on to a Pilot Project covered by environmental documentation in 2009, as well as environmental documentation and review in 2012 for a subsequent remediation plan, see: *City of Barstow Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) (SCH Number 2012081081.)*

The initial Pilot Project assessed the impact of one pump, a small treatment plant, and approximately 6,000' of 8" PVC pipeline. 100,000 gallons of water per day were to be treated. This Pilot Project proved successful, leading to the Remediation project proposed and evaluated in 2012. That project called for the extension of a total of 2,617' of 8" PVC pipeline in the Webster and Clay River Road right-of-way, as well as a small extension of pipeline at the city sewage treatment plant. In addition, a total of six new wells and below ground pumps will be added to the current system (i.e. four wells/pumps assessed in 2012 and two wells/pumps evaluated in the 2013 current report,) with the possibility of an above ground booster located near the point where existing pipelines cross the Mojave River. The project is designed to treat approximately 1,400,000 gallons per day; this is the same amount of water that was to be treated by the 2012 project, i.e. the addition of two wells does not add to the treatment capacity of the 2012 proposed treatment system.

The 2012 project required preparation of an Initial Study (IS) and requisite processing, followed by certification of environmental documentation based on the IS findings by the City of Barstow. It was in effect an expansion/tiering of the documentation prepared for the Pilot Project, which was originally

designed with the expansion in mind; (MND, SCH Number 2012081081 submittal 8/31/2012, end review 10/1/12.)

Proposed Project

The project evaluated in this document is the expansion of the initial 2012 Remediation Project plan that came about following numerous discussions between the City of Barstow and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board staff. The result was a report titled *Third Supplement to the May 2010 Feasibility Study and Remedial Action Plan (Third SFSRAP)* that calls for two additional extraction wells, as well as approximately 1,575-feet of 8-inch PVC pipeline to be located within the south side of the public street right-of-way adjacent to Clay River Road from existing well MW-27 (termination of the 2012 project pipeline in Clay River Road, easterly to the intersection of Clay River Road and Marks Road.) All other aspects of the project are to remain exactly as described and evaluated in 2012 environmental documents (MND, SCH Number 2012081081.)

Construction Activities:

Additional construction activities associated with the proposed project, in addition to those assessed for the 2012 project will include: well boring, trenching, pipe laying, provision of electrical service, both overhead and below ground, backfilling, radio communication (telemetry) installation, and asphalt patching for street repair for two additional extraction wells as described above.

Well drilling involves a truck mounted drilling rig and typically two support vehicles. The soil (cuttings) removed from the well drilling is considered clean and are typically spread on the adjacent shoulder. However, if City inspectors determine that there will be excess soil spread on the roadside, cuttings can be transported to the WWTP facility and spread there at a convenient location. Approximately three days are needed for the construction of a single well.

Pipe-laying involves the use of a backhoe, fork-lift, front-end loader and a few support vehicles. About three weeks will be needed to lay the pipe for this project.

Electrical installation will entail standard field tools, without any heavy equipment being used other than a bucket-lift that the electric company might use. This activity will take one week.

The entire project is expected to take about one month to complete.

8. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

The properties adjacent to the project site for this Amendment along Clay River Road are vacant and undeveloped or undeveloped portions of single-family farmsteads, several showing indications of former agricultural use. Figure 2: *Project Detail/2013 Pipeline and Wells*, as well as Figure 4: *Soapmine Road Nitrate Remediation Project Site Photographs*, illustrates existing land use both within and surrounding the project area.

The project is located entirely within public right-of-way along the north side of Clay River Road. Parcels fronting on Clay River Road, as well as parcels within 500-feet of the project addressed by this Amendment include:

0424-051-06, 15, 20, 23, 34, 35, 40, 41, 44, 46, and

0424-061-03, 31, 48, 55, 56, 57, 60.

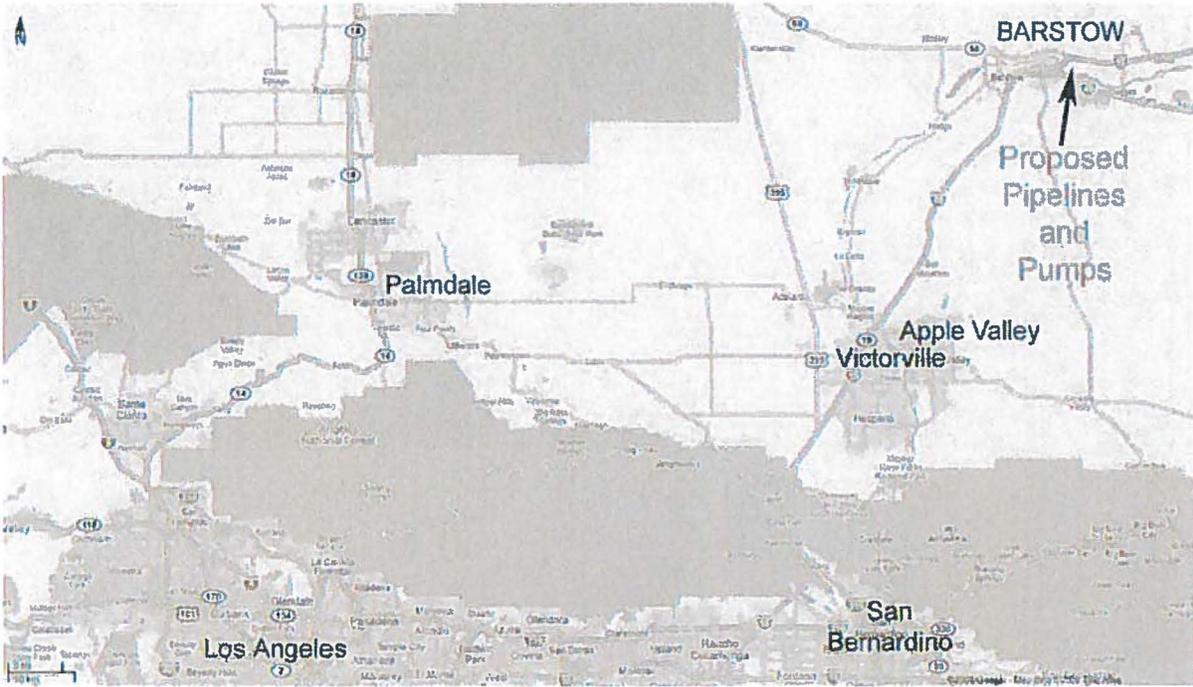
See Figure 3: *2013 Remediation Project Extension General Plan / Zoning, 500-Radius Map and SB Co. Parcelization*; this figure also shows parcels within 500-feet of the proposed pipeline and pumps, as well as a number of parcels in the surrounding area.

9. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required:

- San Bernardino County Flood Control District.
- Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.

10. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance:

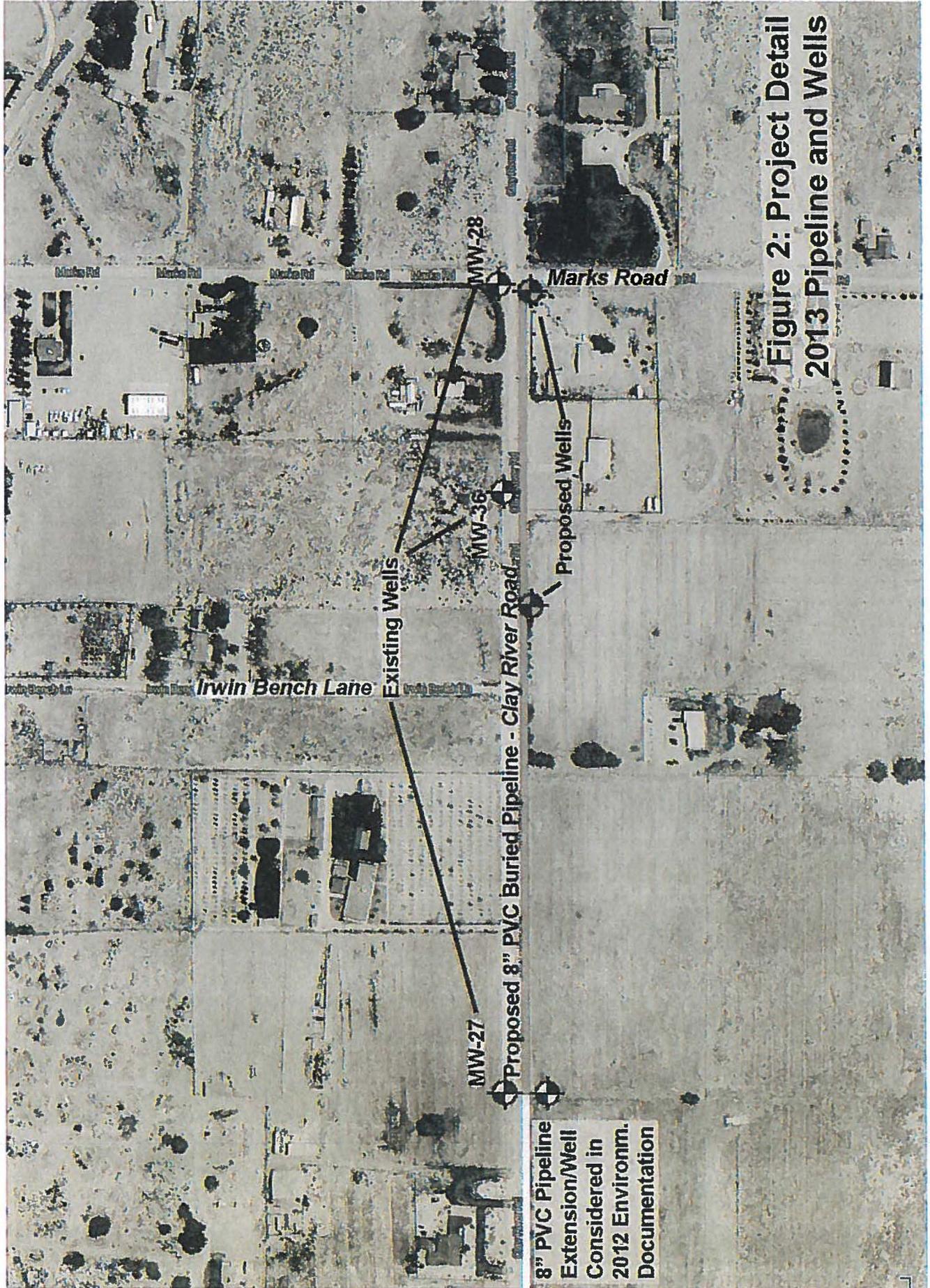
This report has been prepared in compliance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, Guidelines For Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, Article 10. Considerations in Preparing EIRs and Negative Declarations.



Source: Google Maps 2012

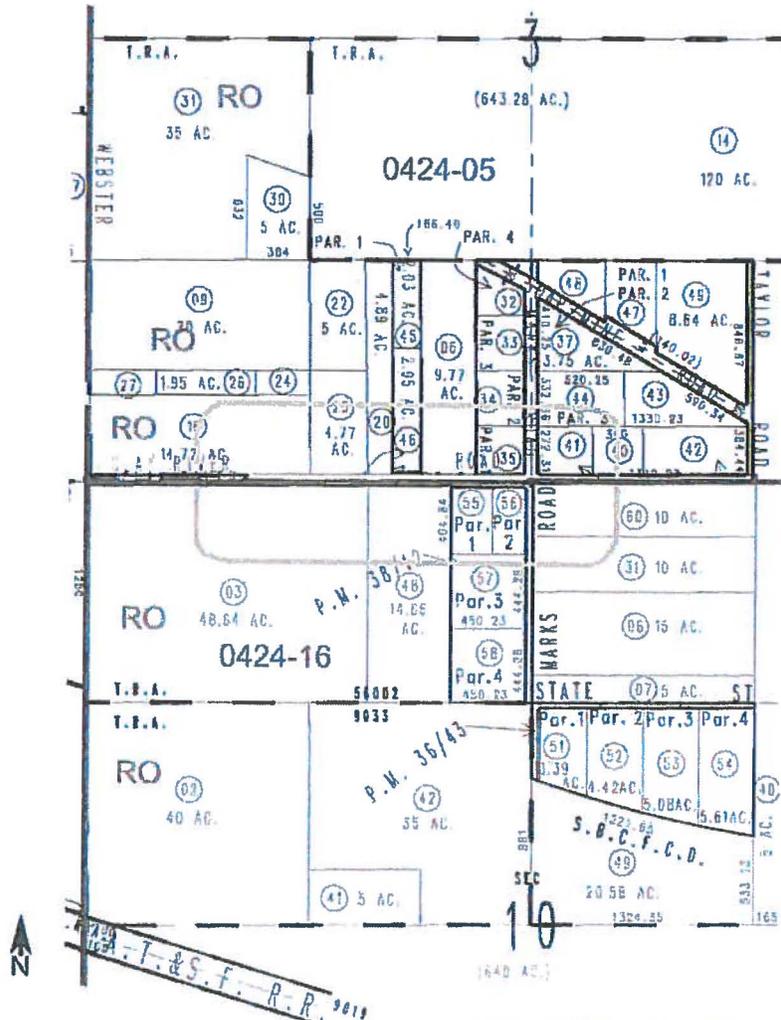
- Existing Pipelines (Pilot Project 2009)
- Proposed Pipelines (2012)
- Proposed Pipeline Extension (2013)

Figure 1 - Regional and Project Location
 Soapmine Road Nitrate Remediation Project



**Figure 2: Project Detail
2013 Pipeline and Wells**

8" PVC Pipeline
Extension/Well
Considered in
2012 Environm.
Documentation



General Plan / Zoning
 RO = Recreation Opportunities

Parcel Map Book Boundary
 Proposed Pipeline
 500-foot Radius from Proposed Pipeline

Figure 3
 2013 Remediation Project Extension
 General Plan / Zoning, 500-foot Radius Map
 and San Bernardino County Parcelization

Source: San Bernardino
 County Assessor, May 2013;
 City of Barstow



1.



4.



2.



5.



3.

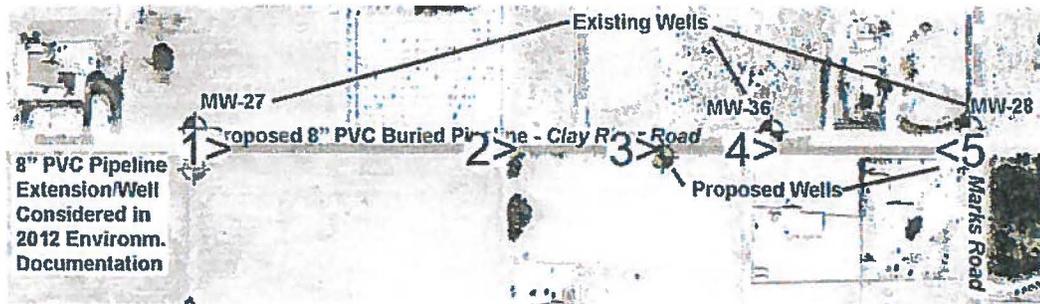


Figure 4
 Soapmine Road Nitrate Remediation Project
 Project Site Photographs

Source: Paul R. Secord, AICP - 28 Aug 2013

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The findings from the 2012 Initial Study were found not to have been altered by the proposed changes from to the subject project covered by this 2013 Amendment. Each potential impact area has been reviewed and is addressed in the remainder of this report.

This Amended review of the 2012 Initial Study found that construction and operation of the subject project was unlikely to result in any "Potentially Significant Impact" of any of the environmental factors listed below; although standard mitigation for Cultural Resources is included in the event that archaeological or historical remains are uncovered during excavation activities:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation / Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance | | |

Determination:

On the basis of this evaluation:

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Signature

September 24 2013

Date

Mike Massimini, City Planner

Printed Name

City of Barstow

For

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis.)
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact(s)” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, “Earlier Analyses,” may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration, Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analyses Used: Identify and state where it is available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed: Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures: For effects that are “Less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references the information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project’s environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

- City of Barstow, *Barstow General Plan*, updated through January 1, 2012, including General Plan Elements, Technical Reports and Environmental Documentation.
- City of Barstow, *Standardized Emergency Management System Multifunction Hazard Plan (SEMS MFHP)*, adopted July 18, 2011.
- *Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, City of Barstow Properties, Portion of Section 4, T.9N, R1W, S.B.B. & M., The Southern Side of Interstate Highway 15, Barstow, California 92311*, Krazan & Associates, Inc. Bakersfield, CA, prepared for Pacific Holt Corporation, February 10, 2006.
- *Geotechnical Engineering and Liquefaction Investigation With Percolation Evaluation, Proposed 151 Acre Residential Tract, Interstate Highway 15 At The Mojave River, Barstow, California*, Krazan & Associates, Inc. Bakersfield, CA, prepared for Pacific Holt Corporation, April 20, 2006.
- *Barstow Groundwater Nitrate Pollution, Fact Sheet*; California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, April 24, 2012.
- *Public Information Meeting Handout*; California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, April 24, 2012.
- *Soapmine Rd and Perchlorate Investigation & Cleanup Project Updates*; Memorandum from Mark W. Murphy, Senior Management Assistant to Charles C. Mitchell, City Manager and Public Presentation Slides, City of Barstow, May 2, 2012.
- *Second Supplement to the May 2010 Feasibility Study and Remedial Action Plan*; City of Barstow, CRWQCB WCIC No. 6B3601010001, Prepared by DPRA, Inc., February 24, 2012.
- City of Barstow, *Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study - Soapmine Road Area Nitrate Remediation Project - June 2012 (SCH Number 2012081081, submittal 8/31/2012, end review 10/1/12.)*
- *California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region - Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R6V-2013-0045A1 - Wastewater Treatment Plant, City of Barstow WDID No. 6B360101001 - Requiring the City of Barstow to clean up and abate the discharge and threatened discharge of nitrate contaminants to groundwaters of the Mojave River Hydrologic Unit - July 10, 2013.*
- *Third Supplement to the May 2010 Feasibility Study and Remedial Action Plan (Third SFSRAP,) April 5, 2013.*

These documents are available for review, and as a copy at cost, at the Barstow City Hall, Planning Department, 220 East Mountain View Street, Barstow, CA 92311-2888, attn: Michael Massimini, City Planner, (760) 225-5152.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST AND DISCUSSION

I. AESTHETICS

No change – no impact.

The project is buried pipeline and two additional pumps and will not be visible. No lighting is associated with the subject project.

II. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

No change – no impact.

The project consists of a 1,575-foot addition to one sections of buried pipelines and two pumps and will not impact farmland.

III. AIR QUALITY

No change – no impact.

Since the proposed project will not alter the land use of the project area there will be no impacts to the implementation of the applicable air quality plan, which has been developed based on existing zoning and land use designations. Additional construction activities will be limited to less than one month and will not be extensive enough to trigger air quality permits.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No change – no impact.

The entire length of the project site and surrounding properties was subject to a walkover survey by Paul R. Secord, AICP and Mark Murphy, City of Barstow on April 1, 2009, resurveyed on May 18 and 21, 2012 by Mark Murphy and reevaluated by Paul R. Secord on May 21, 2012, with subsequent reevaluation of the additional construction area covered by this Amendment in September 2013. All surveys were entirely within public right-of-way and found the location for the subject pipeline extension and pumps to be devoid of vegetation. The pipeline location is all within the sandy shoulder of a paved road. No significant or potentially significant vegetation or animal life was identified. The plant community on the site is sparse and highly disturbed; in most cases essentially non-existent.

There was no evidence of desert tortoise on the site, as the soils were too sandy and devoid of vegetation to serve a suitable tortoise habitat.

Figure 4, *Soapmine Road Nitrate Remediation Project, Project Site Photographs*, shows existing vegetation on the project site. Once the project construction is complete, a period expected to take one-month or less, the site will be essentially unchanged from its current condition.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

No change – Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation.

A Cultural Resources Survey of the project site was conducted in May 2012 by Paul R. Secord, AICP and reevaluated by Mr. Secord in September 2013. This consisted of a review of cultural resources site maps on file at the City of Barstow Community Development Department that are derived from records at the Archaeological Information Center at the San Bernardino County Museum. The entire length of the project site was subject to a walkover survey by Paul R. Secord, AICP and Mark Murphy, City of Barstow on April 1, 2009, with a reevaluation in May of 2012 and September 2013. No historic or prehistoric remains, or indications that such remains, have been discovered within or in the immediate vicinity of the project area.

No significant cultural resources are known within the immediate vicinity of the project area. While no further actions or studies are required prior to development activities by the City of Barstow, the following recommendations/mitigation are provided here to ensure that no potential cultural resources are compromised:

(1): Archaeological monitoring does not appear necessary unless cultural resources are found during construction excavation.

(2): In the event that buried archaeological/historical remains are uncovered during excavation, all ground disturbing activities in the area of the find shall immediately cease. A qualified archaeologist shall examine the find, and provide recommendations for further mitigation measures. If human remains are uncovered during construction, the coroner and a qualified archaeologist shall be notified immediately, in accordance with State law.

No evidence of human remains exists on the project site and there is no reason to believe that unknown human remains exist on the project site. Compliance with existing statutory law regarding the treatment of any remains discovered would adequately address any unanticipated discoveries.

The mitigation listed above is exactly the same as that contained in the 2012 Mitigated Negative Declaration. No additional mitigation is required as a consequence of the 2013 proposed project expansion addressed by this Amendment.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

No change – no impact.

The project addressed in this report is a buried 1,575-foot pipeline and two additional pumps. Compliance with state and local seismic safety standards will adequately mitigate potential earthquake hazards and no other site-specific mitigation is required. Sources: City of Barstow, *Barstow General Plan*, updated July 7, 1997, Hazards Element, pg. III. 4; and Earthquake and Flood Hazard Technical Report, pgs. III. 2. 1-6. The project site is flat, and thus not subject to landslides.

Erosion is a broad term that refers to the “wearing away” of the land surface by the detachment and transport of surface soil and rocks. The primary agents of this process are water and wind.

Soils on the site, at the surface and extending to the 3-foot depth of proposed excavation, are primarily unconsolidated fluvial and windblown dune sands. Following construction of the proposed buried pipeline the site will be essentially identical to its current condition. While wind blown sand is a concern along the Mojave River, the proposed project will not exacerbate or substantially alter existing conditions.

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

No change – no impact.

Greenhouse gas emissions would be limited to the construction. Construction activities will be limited to less than one month and will not be extensive enough to trigger air quality permits, nor will they generate potentially significant air emissions.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

No change – no impact.

There are no hazardous materials associated with the proposed project. A preliminary Phase One Assessment, (*Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment, City of Barstow Properties, Portion of Section 4, T.9N, R1W, S.B.B. & M., The Southern Side of Interstate Highway 15, Barstow, California 92311*, Krazan & Associates, Inc. Bakersfield, CA, prepared for Pacific Holt Corporation, February 10, 2006) did not reveal any hazardous, or potentially hazardous, material within or adjacent the project site, including the area of the proposed pipeline

extension.

The project site is not within 1/4 mile of an existing or proposed school.

This project is not located on a California Environmental Protection Agency Cortese - listed hazardous waste site. <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/default.asp>

The nearest airport to Barstow is the Barstow-Daggett Airport, located 5 miles from the eastern city limits. The project is not located within an airport land use plan, source: City of Barstow, *Barstow General Plan*, updated July 7, 1997, Noise Element Technical Report, pg. III.4.9.

The City of Barstow has adopted a State of California mandated Standardized Emergency Management System Multifunction Hazards Plan (SEMS MFHP). Section Five of this Plan, Threat Summary and Assessments, discusses in detail the various potential emergencies with which the City of Barstow might be confronted. The project will not impair nor interfere with an emergency response or evacuation plan.

The project site is not within an identified wildfire hazards area.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

No change – no impact.

The project is being undertaken in response to a directive from the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB) to develop, and implement, a plan for the remediation of nitrate contaminated water. In addition, the proposed project will not alter the vacant nature of the project area.

Concerns pertaining to the potential depletion of groundwater by the nitrate removal project were carefully evaluated during test phases and not found to be warranted. A test in January 2012 observed a water drawdown of 26-feet at a test well, but the observed groundwater elevation reductions were only 2-feet at observation wells located approximately 11-feet and 29-feet from the pumping well. The drawdown was only 0.50-feet at an observation well located about 275-feet from the pumping well. Once pumping stopped, groundwater returned to pre-pumping levels in approximately 5-minutes. This is because of the large volumes of water flowing underground in close proximity to the Mojave Rrverbed where the project wells are located.

Continuous pumping with additional wells over long periods of time is projected by the project engineer, DPRA, Inc., to result in drawdown at the top of the groundwater level of 1.5 to 3-feet for a zone of about 250-feet surrounding each pumping well. This would have an essentially inconsequential impact on overall ground water levels, which occur from a depth below the surface of about 10-feet to over 100-feet at the project location. See: *Second Supplement to the May 2010 Feasibility Study and Remedial Action Plan*; City of Barstow, CRWQCB WCIC No. 6B3601010001, Prepared by DPRA, Inc., February 24, 2012; and *Third Supplement to the May 2010 Feasibility Study and Remedial Action Plan (Third SFSRAP)*

The subject project is specifically intended to improve water quality as documented in supporting reports incorporated by reference to this Initial Study.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Map Panel Number 06071C3938H - 28 Aug 2008, covers the entire project area. The pilot project is completely designated as being within Zone AE, with flood depth elevations defined.

However, the existing and proposed pipelines are completely buried, and are not subject to impacts from surface flooding. In addition, the currently proposed pipeline extensions, are outside of the AE flood zone.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING

No change – no impact.

The project is the extension of a buried pipeline and pumps and will not be visible. The entire project is to be constructed within City of Barstow and San Bernardino County public street right-of-way.

The proposed project will not result in any change in existing land use plans or policy. Portions of the project are adjacent to several single-family residences and vacant parcels. After completion, the project will not be visible, as it consists entirely of buried pipeline and below ground surface pumps.

As described under subsection IV. Biological Resources, the project will not have adverse effects any biological resources, nor will it impact a habitat conservation plan.

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES

No change – no impact.

The project site is in an area designated as Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ) 4, indicating it contains no known mineral resources, source: City of Barstow, *Barstow General Plan*, updated July 7, 1997, Natural Factors Element, pg. II.5 and Mineral and Soil Resources Technical Report, pg. II.2.3.

XII. NOISE

No change – no impact.

The two additional water extraction pumps are to be located 60 feet below the ground surface and will not be audible at ground level.

The proposed project will not result in any change in existing land use plans or policy.

Construction activities will be limited to a period of one-month or less. Construction noise is short term in nature and its duration and timing are controlled through applicable City Codes and Regulations. It is not expected to reach a level of significance.

There are no public air facilities located in the vicinity of the project site.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING

No change – no impact.

The proposed project will not entail a change in the existing condition of the subject site. Implementation of the proposed project will not affect any housing units as all construction will occur within public street right-of-way.

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES

No change – no impact.

The proposed project will not result in a change on the existing character of the site, nor result in an increased need for services, including police, fire, street maintenance, code enforcement, refuse collection, schools, parks, or other public facilities/services.

The City of Barstow General Plan, updated July 7, 1997, Hazards Element Technical Report states: "Fire protection, including fire prevention, fire safety and paramedic services to the Planning Area is provided by the Barstow Fire Protection District."

According to the City of Barstow General Plan, updated July 7, 1997, Hazards Element, Technical Report, pgs. VI.3.3-4 and VI.2.18, "Police protection services are provided to the project site by the Barstow Police Department, the County of San Bernardino Sheriff's Department, and the California Highway Patrol."

As the project does not include any additional development or housing, there is no impact to schools, parks or other public services.

XV. RECREATION

No change – no impact.

The proposed project will not result in a change on the existing character of the site.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

No change – no impact.

The proposed project will not change the existing character of the site, or result in the extension of any existing roadways or transportation facilities.

XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

No change – no impact.

The project is designed for groundwater remediation. The proposed project will not result in a change of the existing character of the site, nor result in an increased need for services, new water or wastewater facilities, new storm drainage facilities, additional water service/supplies, or solid waste production or collection.

XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

No change – no impact.

As more completely set out in the responses in subsection V, Cultural Resources, above, there are no historical or cultural resources which are eligible for listing in the California Register on the proposed project site.

The proposed project is consistent with the land use designation and zoning for the project site. It is therefore not anticipated to have cumulatively considerable effects.

No environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly, have been identified.

