

Appendix B

GSR Scoping Report

SCOPING SUMMARY MEMORANDUM

REGIONAL GROUNDWATER STORAGE AND RECOVERY PROJECT

October 2009

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1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The San Francisco Planning Department is the lead agency for implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for all projects sponsored by the City and County of San Francisco or conducted within San Francisco. The San Francisco Planning Department is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC's) proposed Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project (Project or proposed Project). The EIR, which will assess the potential impacts of the Project on the physical environment of the project area, is being prepared in accordance with CEQA. CEQA requires the preparation of an EIR when a proposed project could significantly affect the physical environment.

As part of the EIR process, the San Francisco Planning Department conducted a public scoping meeting in July 2009, soliciting comments from the public to help determine the scope of the EIR. This report describes the scoping process and summarizes the public's and regulatory agencies' comments received during scoping.

1.2 NOTICE OF PREPARATION

As the first step in the CEQA process, the San Francisco Planning Department published a Notice of Preparation (NOP) on June 24, 2009, announcing the anticipated preparation of the Draft EIR for the proposed Project. The NOP summarized the goals, objectives, and elements of the proposed Project, and presented the San Francisco Planning Department's determination that the proposed Project may have a significant effect on the environment. The NOP also described the requirement for preparation of an EIR on the proposed Project under CEQA. The San Francisco Planning Department determined that an EIR is the appropriate environmental document for the proposed Project. The NOP also described the scoping process and included information on a public scoping meeting. The scoping process, notification procedures, and outcome of the scoping meetings are described below, following a brief description of the proposed Project.

1.3 REGIONAL GROUNDWATER AND STORAGE RECOVERY PROJECT

The purpose of the Project is to further the use of the South Westside Groundwater Basin as an underground storage reservoir by storing water in the basin during wet periods for subsequent recapture during dry periods. This new dry-year water supply

would be made available to the cities of Daly City and San Bruno, the California Water Company (Cal Water) in its South San Francisco service area (collectively referred to as Partner Agencies) and San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) retail water customers.

The SFPUC proposes to provide surface water, when available, to Partner Agencies, to be used by these agencies in lieu of pumping groundwater during normal and wet rainfall years. The Partner Agencies currently use groundwater as one of the sources of their drinking water supply. This supply would be partially replaced by surface water supplies from the SFPUC regional water system. The reduction of pumping by Partner Agencies would ultimately increase groundwater storage within the South Westside Groundwater Basin by up to 61,000 acre-feet (AF) (approximately 20 billion gallons). Stored groundwater would be utilized by pumping new Project wells during periods of insufficient surface water supplies (i.e., dry years). As part of the proposed Project, SFPUC would construct new groundwater production well facilities, which would be operated by either the Partner Agencies or SFPUC for pumping groundwater at a rate of 7.2 million gallons per day during dry years. The proposed Project would help meet the water supply reliability needs of all SFPUC customers during dry years and may provide some increased level of regional operational flexibility to respond and restore service during unplanned outages.

The proposed Project is one of several facility improvement projects identified in the SFPUC's Water System Improvement Program (WSIP). The WSIP was adopted by the SFPUC in October 2008 to improve the SFPUC's regional water system with respect to water quality, seismic response, water delivery, and water supply to meet water delivery needs in the service area and establishes level of service goals and system performance objectives. The proposed Project's primary contribution to the WSIP goals is its ability to meet the water supply needs of SFPUC customers during drought years. To address the potential environmental impacts of the WSIP, the San Francisco Planning Department prepared a Program EIR (PEIR) on the proposed WSIP, which was certified by the San Francisco Planning Commission on October 30, 2008 (San Francisco Planning Commission Motion No. 17734). At a project-level of detail, the PEIR evaluated the environmental impacts of the WSIP's water supply strategy and, at a program level of detail, it evaluated the environmental impacts of the WSIP's facility improvement projects, including the proposed Project.

The proposed Project consists of: 1) cooperative management of surface water and groundwater to optimize the water demand and supply balance; and 2) construction and operation of groundwater production well facilities on 16 of 19 potential sites in northern San Mateo County. Each groundwater well facility site would contain a

groundwater production well, pump station, underground distribution piping, and utility connections. Some well facility sites would contain groundwater disinfection units and groundwater treatment facilities. Well facilities would connect to distribution systems for Daly City, San Bruno, Cal Water, and to the SFPUC regional water transmission system for delivery of blended surface and groundwater supplies to retail customers in San Francisco. In addition, the Westlake Pump Station in Daly City may need to be upgraded, and treatment facilities may need to be added to several well facility sites.

2. SCOPING MEETING PROCESS

2.1 PURPOSE OF SCOPING MEETING

The purpose of scoping is to solicit input from the public and agencies on the appropriate scope, focus, and content of the EIR. The San Francisco Planning Department will consider all of the input received during the scoping process in the preparation of the Draft EIR. The Draft EIR will describe the existing environmental conditions of the area that could be affected by the proposed Project and evaluate the potential effects of the proposed Project in accordance with CEQA. The comments provided by the public and agencies during scoping will help the San Francisco Planning Department identify pertinent issues, methods of analyses, and level of detail that should be addressed in the Draft EIR. The scoping comments will also provide the basis for developing a reasonable range of feasible alternatives that will be evaluated in the Draft EIR. The Draft EIR is scheduled to be available for public comment in summer 2010. In addition to facilitating public and regulatory agency input on the scope and focus of the Draft EIR, scoping allows the San Francisco Planning Department to explain the EIR process to the public and to identify additional opportunities for public comment and public involvement during the EIR process. CEQA requires that the public be informed about the significant environmental effects of a proposed project, and the ways in which those environmental effects can be avoided or reduced, before the project is approved.

2.2 NOTIFICATION OF SCOPING MEETING

The scoping period began on June 24, 2009, with the issuance of the NOP. A public scoping meeting was held on July 9, 2009, and written comments were accepted through July 28, 2009. Agencies and the public were notified about the availability of the NOP and the public scoping meeting date and location, and were provided with details on the comment process. The following methods of notification were used:

Mailing List. A mailing list was compiled, including approximately 1,500 contacts for affected federal, state, regional, and local agencies; federal, state, regional, and local elected officials; regional and local interest groups; member agencies of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) within San Mateo County; other potentially affected groundwater and irrigation users; and land owners and residents within approximately 300 feet of the Project well facility sites.

NOP Form and Report. On June 24, 2009, the NOP Form and Report (Appendix A) were distributed via certified mail to 32 potentially affected agencies and the State Clearinghouse. The NOP Form was also sent via first-class mail to the entire mailing list.

Meeting Notification. Notice of the public scoping meeting was provided to individuals and the general public through the following means (see Appendix B):

- **Legal notices.** Notices of the public scoping meeting, including information on how to obtain a copy of the NOP and provide public comment, were placed in the legal classified section of the San Francisco Examiner (6/24/09) and San Mateo County Times (6/24/09).
- **Display ads.** Display ads with information about the public scoping meeting, including information on how to obtain a copy of the NOP and provide public comment, were placed in the San Francisco Examiner (date) and San Mateo County Times (date) by the PUC.
- **Locations where NOP was made available.** The NOP Form and Report were posted to the San Francisco Planning Department's website (www.sfgov.org/planning/mea) as well as the SFPUC project website (www.sfwater.org). A printed copy of the NOP was also provided to anyone who requested it from the San Francisco Planning Department or the SFPUC.

2.3 SCOPING MEETING

The public scoping meeting was held on July 9, 2009 at the South San Francisco Municipal Services Building at 33 Arroyo Drive in South San Francisco, California, and was attended by 33 individuals.

The meeting included a presentation on the environmental review process and the proposed Project, followed by a formal public comment period. Attendees interested in presenting verbal comments submitted speaker cards and were called upon to speak. The meetings concluded with closing remarks. A transcript of this meeting is provided in Appendix C. Appendix D contains copies of the scoping meeting presentation, handout agenda, fact sheet, comment cards, speaker cards and sign-in sheets.

Immediately prior to the scoping meeting, an Informational Session was held by the SFPUC at the scoping meeting location where attendees were invited to view Project display boards and ask questions of the SFPUC project team.

3. SCOPING COMMENTS RECEIVED

3.1 OVERVIEW

Table 1 lists comments received by commenter type and source. Six people spoke at the scoping meeting, and ten comment letters were received during the comment period. One additional comment letter was received after the close of the comment period. This additional written comment is included in this summary.

TABLE 1
Comments Received by Commenter Type and Source

Commenter Type	Comment Source
Federal Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
State Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit, Scott Morgan (Written Comment #1) • California Department of Transportation, Lisa Carboni (Written Comment #2) • California Department of Water Resources, Karl P. Winkler (Written Comment #3)
Regional and Local Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County of San Mateo Planning and Building Department, Melissa Ross (Written Comment #4) • Town of Colma, Laura Allen (Written Comment #5) • Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency, Nicole M. Sandkulla (Written Comment #6) • Town of Colma, Andrea Ouse (Oral Comment #101) • Montara Water and Sanitary District, Paul Perkovic (Oral Comment #106)
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson, & Judson, Robert B. Maddow (BPMNJ) (Written Comment #7) • Kathryn Slater Carter (Oral Comment #103) • BPMNJ, Robert B. Maddow (Oral Comment #105)
Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Trout, Mondy Lariz (Written Comment #8) • Committee to Save Lake Merced, Jerry Cadagan (Written Comment #9) • Tuolumne River Trust, Peter Drekmeier (Written Comment #10) • Restore Hetch Hetchy, Bob Hackamack (Written Comment #11) • Tuolumne River Trust, Peter Drekmeier (Oral Comment #102) • Lakeshore Area Improvement Club, Jim Stark (Oral Comment #104)

3.2 SUBJECT AREA OF COMMENTS

This section presents a summary of the comments received during the scoping process period. Table 2 identifies the issue areas raised by individual commenters. The corresponding comment number is provided in parentheses at the end of each comment. A transcript of the oral comments from the public scoping meeting is provided in Appendix C. The written comments (by number) can be found in Appendix E.

TABLE 2
Comments Received by Commenter and Type of Communication

No.	Commenter	Date	Notice of Preparation	Scope of EIR	Project Description	Project Alternatives	Permits and Approvals	Water Rights	Hydrology & Water Quality	Land Use & Planning	Aesthetics	Cultural Resources	Transportation/Circulation	Climate Change	Cumulative Impacts
<i>Written Comments</i>															
#1	Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse	6/25/09	X												
#2	Lisa Carboni, California Department of Transportation	7/13/09	X									X	X		
#3	Karl P. Winkler, California Department of Water Resources	7/28/09							X						
#4	Melissa Ross, County of San Mateo	7/24/09								X					
#5	Laura Allen, Town of Colma	7/28/09		X	X			X	X	X					

TABLE 2
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#6	Nicole M. Sandkulla, BAWSCA	7/31/09		X	X	X	X		X						
#7	Robert B. Maddow, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson	7/28/09		X				X	X						X
#8	Mondy Lariz, California Trout	7/28/09	X						X						
#9	Jerry Cadagan, Committee to Save Lake Merced	7/28/09	X		X	X			X					X	
#10	Peter Drekmeier, Tuolumne River Trust	7/28/09				X			X						
#11	Bob Hackamack, Restore Hetch Hetchy	7/28/09		X	X			X							
<i>Oral Comments</i>															
101	Andrea Ouse, Town of Colma	7/9/09		X				X	X		X				

TABLE 2**Comments Received by Commenter and Type of Communication**

No.	Commenter	Date	Notice of Preparation	Scope of EIR	Project Description	Project Alternatives	Permits and Approvals	Water Rights	Hydrology & Water Quality	Land Use & Planning	Aesthetics	Cultural Resources	Transportation/Circulation	Climate Change	Cumulative Impacts
102	Peter Drekmeier, Tuolumne River Trust	7/9/09				X			X						
103	Kathryn Slater Carter	7/9/09				X			X						
104	Jim Stark, Lakeshore Area Improvement Club	7/9/09							X						
105	Robert B. Maddow, BPMNJ	7/9/09		X		X		X	X						
106	Paul Perkovic, resident of Montara and a member of the Board of Directors of the Montara Water and Sanitary District	7/9/09							X						

Please note that some of the comments summarized below may not characterize the project or its potential effects correctly. It is not uncommon for scoping comments to misrepresent the proposed project. The meaning of the comment summaries has not been changed, even if the comments appear to be incorrect. This summary does not include commentary on the comments. The comments will be considered in preparation of the EIR.

Notice of Preparation

Comment: The commenter states that he was dismayed to find no mention of Lake Merced in the NOP. (#8, California Trout)

Comment: The commenter states that there are too few details in the project description found in the NOP. Nowhere in the NOP or related material presented at the scoping meeting is Lake Merced or the Tuolumne River mentioned. It is within these two water bodies that the potentially significant negative environmental effects of the Project might materialize. Amplifying the project description after the deadline for scoping comments has passed would seem inconsistent with the spirit of the scoping process. Based on the inadequacy of the detail in the project description, the NOP should be withdrawn at this time and reissued only when an adequately detailed project description is submitted by the SFPUC. (#9, Committee to Save Lake Merced)

Scope of EIR

Comment: Several commenters expressed uncertainty over whether the test wells warrant a categorical exemption under CEQA. The Town of Colma requested that the project description and any other available information about the test wells be provided to the Town of Colma for review and comment. The test wells and the rest of the Project are all part of the same reasonably foreseeable “project” under CEQA, and that the EIR should describe the construction and operational impacts of the test wells; provide information regarding rates of pumping to be used to test the stability of the underlying aquifer, planned draw-down of groundwater levels to evaluate subsurface hydrogeological conditions, and the potential for well testing to result in a cone of depression affecting nearby groundwater users). It is appropriate to include the test wells in the EIR, so that they cannot be placed in full operation until the EIR is certified and the Project is approved. (#101, Andrea Ouse, Town of Colma; #5, Town of Colma; #7, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson)

Comment: Commenters suggest that the EIR should look at the additional use of recycled water as a source of water for irrigation purposes. The EIR should address how the water recycling program could work in parallel with the proposed project a the EIR should include an assessment of potential impacts if recycled water is used. (#105, Robert B. Maddow, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson; #6, BASWCA)

Comment: The environmental impacts of planned upgrades to the Westlake Pump Station and the addition of treatment facilities at well facility sites should be addressed in the EIR. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should present the detailed operation strategy for the proposed Project, including the individual facilities, along with a detailed hydrological and environmental impact analysis of the proposed Project and associated facilities based upon the known operational strategy. (#6, BAWSCA)

Comment: The EIR should clarify how the administrative board for the management of the Westside Basin was arranged, and asks if the SFPUC intends to include representatives from the neighboring jurisdictions, public representatives, and representatives from existing irrigators (cemeteries and golf courses). The purview of the administrative board also should be described, as well as regulations and administrative rules that will govern the Board and the South Westside Groundwater Basin, and the notification process and timing for review and comment by users on any proposed administrative regulations. Describe if the board (assuming there will be an oversight committee) has a right to dictate how much water can be pumped and if there will be pumping limits. The EIR should clarify the rules that the SFPUC and participating pumpers have agreed to that will govern the operation of the Project during wet, normal, and dry periods, as well as the development of additional groundwater capability to meet future local water supply reliability needs. (#6, BAWSCA; #5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should describe how the baseline data for existing groundwater users, such as irrigators, will be determined, and if there has been an assessment of their future needs and the associated impacts. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should describe the jurisdiction the water providers would have over procedures for replacement of existing wells, which is currently permitted by the County. The EIR should describe if there will be another approval process that will have oversight in these requests. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should describe the bases for the establishment of the various baseline quantity numbers provided in the NOP, including 1) the estimate of the quantity currently in storage in the groundwater basin, 2) how it was determined that 61,000 acre-feet of groundwater storage is available in the Westside Basin, 3) the method of determining that 7.2 million gallons a day would be pumped in dry years, and 4) the length of time it will take for the aquifer to be replenished or brought to the desired levels. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should describe if there is a plan to assemble an agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) between the irrigators, water providers, and legislative bodies in each jurisdiction to define the various limits and protections for current and future activities. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should describe if irrigation uses have been factored into the calculations for replenishing the water table. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The project description must include information on the location of the distribution system extensions necessary to connect Project facilities to existing distribution lines. Issues addressed should include aesthetics impacts, street and on-street parking closures affecting traffic, parking, and emergency response, and any economic impacts on local businesses that would result in indirect impacts on the physical environment. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The existing project description (provided with the NOP) is inadequate to allow for meaningful CEQA review for the following reasons:

- 1) It lacks definitions of critical terms such as “excess surface water”, “dry, normal and wet” years, and “sufficient surface water supplies.”
- 2) It lacks adequate information regarding the aquifer in question to give meaning and context to the stated Project purposes. For example, the total capacity, current storage volume, and unused capacity for future conjunctive use in the South Westside Groundwater Basin are not given.
- 3) It should spell out how the proposed Project integrates with SFPUC’s plans for groundwater development in the North Westside Groundwater Basin.

The commenter states that many answers to these issues may be found in the “groundwater storage and recovery agreement” mentioned in the project description. If so, then that agreement should be publicly disclosed before preparation of the EIR, and the scoping process should occur after, not before, those critical details are revealed. (#302-3, Jerry Cadagan, Committee to Save Lake Merced)

Comment: If this is a regional project, why is the North Westside Groundwater Basin not included? (#11, Restore Hetch Hetchy)

Comment: The EIR should repeat the clarification made on Page 1, Footnote 1 of the NOP whenever the 8.5-year design drought cycle is discussed. (#6, BAWSCA)

Comment: The EIR should address the potential for other users of the basin, who are not participating in this Project, to affect the overall storage level in the basin and the amount of water potentially available for withdrawal under the Project. The EIR should discuss what mechanisms can be implemented to protect the Program Storage against withdrawal by other non-participating pumpers. (#6, BAWSCA)

Comment: The EIR should clarify exactly how the new dry-year water supply would be made available to Partner Agencies and SFPUC wholesale customers under the terms of the Shortage Allocation Plan between the SFPUC and its wholesale customers. If the intent is that the available Program Storage, as quantified by the SFPUC Storage Account, will be taken into consideration by the SFPUC when determining how much water is available for delivery and whether a shortage condition exists, the EIR should provide this clarity. (#6, BAWSCA)

Comment: The EIR should address how the Program Storage and associated Project facilities might be used during an emergency, what rules would be applied to such operations, and who the beneficiaries would potentially be. (#6, BAWSCA)

Comment: The EIR should provide the water supply availability criteria to be used to determine the conditions of a “normal”, “wet”, and “dry” year associated with Project operation. (#6, BASWCA)

Comment: The EIR should provide a definition of “excess surface water” that determines the amount of reduced groundwater pumping in normal and wet years. (#6, BASWCA)

Comment: The EIR should define the methods to determine the amount of groundwater in the storage account at any point in time. Also, the basis for estimating underground losses of stored water that is not subsequently available for recapture needs to be explained. (#6, BASWCA)

Project Alternatives

Comment: Several commenters suggested that the EIR look at the possibility of using stormwater as a component of the recharge of the basin. The EIR should look at recharge of the groundwater with stormwater even in wet years, thus decreasing reliance on the Tuolumne River. The EIR should study using treated stormwater runoff, since most of the cities have existing stormwater drainage systems. Preliminary inquiry into the injection of stormwater and/or recycled water to the aquifer in this

regard was that local geological conditions do not lend themselves to effective use of injection wells. This issue needs to be examined and discussed in the EIR in greater detail, including consideration of using the soon-to-be-made-available public groundwater model to determine optimum locations for injecting stormwater and recycled water. (#105, Robert B. Maddow, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson; #102, Peter Drekmeier, Tuolumne River Trust; #103, Kathryn Slater-Carter; #10, Tuolumne River Trust; #9, Committee to Save Lake Merced)

Comment: The EIR should discuss what would be necessary to recharge more of the 75,000 acre feet vacant storage available in this aquifer and the time to accomplish refilling. (#11, Restore Hetch Hetchy)

Comment: If there are alternatives that consider different well locations than those listed in the NOP, the EIR should discuss the siting criteria used to select an alternative well site. (#6, BASWCA)

Comment: Discuss using recycled water and urban stormwater runoff after the first flushing rain as source to raise the level in Lake Merced for this recharge purpose. (#11, Restore Hetch Hetchy)

Permits and Approvals

Comment: The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) should be added to the list of permitting agencies. (#6, BASWCA)

Hydrology and Water Quality

Groundwater Levels

Comment: The EIR should study the potential settlement issues associated with the more active management of the aquifer, including recharging the aquifer and deleting a part of the aquifer. It appears there is a gradual decrease in the amount of water in the aquifer right now. (#101, Andrea Ouse, Town of Colma)

Comment: Several of the golf courses throughout the basin have switched from use of groundwater to use of recycled water, and they have worked hard and paid money to preserve the aquifer. The proposed doubling of production of groundwater from the aquifer is of concern to some owners of private wells who have the legal rights to groundwater use within the basin. Beyond the in-lieu pilot program, no one knows

what will happen when the aquifer is refilled. The EIR should describe how the effects of refilling the aquifer will be measured, both from the standpoint of its long-term productivity and from the standpoint of the impact on private well owners who have legal right to use water from the aquifer. There is potential for negative impacts to the production wells of pumpers, including the golf clubs, particularly during dry years. Should water levels be depressed below the screened intervals of the well casings, there is possibility of long-term well damage. The impacts on private wells may require mitigation by the SFPUC, and this needs to be analyzed and disclosed in the EIR. The locations of the new extraction wells proposed by the SFPUC, and any new wells planned by their municipal partners, need to be fully disclosed and analyzed in the EIR, with detailed maps. The results of the analysis, to be determined by mutual interference modeling, needs to be fully disclosed and analyzed in the EIR and the mitigation plan. (#105, Robert B. Maddow, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson; #7, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson)

Comment: The EIR should address the effect of aquifer replenishment to the assessed amounts (61,000 acre feet) on whatever lies above the basin, and also the effect of lowering the water table on whatever lies above the basin. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: There is the possibility that the ratio of “stored” to future extracted water is not actually or even close to 1:1. There is the potential for new users, or the potential for the “stored” water to be lost (not remain within the aquifer or the portion that is utilized), or the actual “usable” available storage may not be accurate. Careful environmental and technical analysis of the actual storage capacity and the effects of its use are needed before the Project is approved. (#7, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson)

Groundwater Quality

Comment: Will contaminants be remobilized when the basin is refilled? Numerous gas stations are located throughout the urbanized area in the basin. Some may have had leakage problems with MTBE-supplemented fuel. Some contaminants may have adhered to the soil particles when water levels were lower, and as the water levels are raised, the contaminants may be remobilized. Beyond leaking underground storage tanks, contaminants might have been deposited in the basin through industrial activity long ago and during the time when the aquifer was being hit hard. (#106, Paul Perkovic, member of the Board of Directors of the Montara Water and Sanitary District; #105, Robert B. Maddow, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson; #5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The potential for water levels to decline, even temporarily, as a result of dry year pumping may negatively impact water quality by concentrating contaminants and minerals. There may also be a potential for mixing of waters (and minerals) that may not otherwise have occurred, which would be a cause of concern and should be analyzed in the EIR. (#7, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson)

Comment: The EIR should explain how the high nitrate and manganese concentrations in water from the aquifer will be handled during drought when about 7.2 mgd will be added to the diminished surface supply. Describe if wellhead treatment will be used to accomplish reduction of these two chemicals or of blending with system water take care of these problems. (#11, Restore Hetch Hetchy)

Comment: The EIR should discuss the reason(s) for providing disinfection facilities at each well as disinfection is not necessarily required under Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. It should specify the type of disinfection method to be used (chlorine or chloramines) and discuss any blending impacts or water quality compatibility issues. (#6, BASWCA)

Comment: The EIR should include the site-specific water quality testing data which is required in the pre-design. (#6, BASWCA)

Comment: The EIR should include an assessment to determine the ability to meet water quality goals when blending under the planned operational scheme. Project documentation indicates this will be verified from water samples collected from the test wells in the pre-design phase. The commenter asks if sufficient information will be available at the time of the EIR analysis to confirm that blending is a viable method to achieve water quality goals. (#6, BASWCA)

Comment: The EIR should provide the details of the long term monitoring program which will be used to assess changes in local groundwater quality and levels within the South Westside Groundwater Basin as a whole. The program should include the development of a best practices plan to protect the groundwater basin if not already developed. (#6, BASWCA)

Comment: It is indicated in the documentation for this Project that Drinking Water Source Assessments will be performed during pre-design. The commenter asks if these assessments will be available for use in the EIR analysis. (#6, BASWCA)

Water Supply

Comment: The commenter asks if the rate of recharge for the basin has been calculated and how long the water supply will last given that during dry years there would be more water extracted. (#103, Kathryn Slater-Carter)

Comment: The commenter asks how the Project will stabilize the water supplies that would be available from Hetch Hetchy to meet the coastal needs, including within the Montara Water and Sanitary District and the Coastside County Water District. (#106, Paul Perkovic, member of the Board of Directors of the Montara Water and Sanitary District)

Comment: It would be prudent to include in Project plans emergency generators or backup generators in the well pump-housing and treatment facilities. (#106, Paul Perkovic, member of the Board of Directors of the Montara Water and Sanitary District)

Comment: The Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation agency has a very complex water allocation scheme for drought periods, which is based on historic use and recent use. If participating agencies take delivery of a much higher quantity of water from the SFPUC system during the recharge period, then would their groundwater allocation be much higher during a drought? (#106, Paul Perkovic, member of the Board of Directors of the Montara Water and Sanitary District)

Comment: The Department of Water Resources states that it strongly supports the concept of the Project, and recognizes the importance of this Project and similar groundwater storage projects that meet the State of California's future water supply needs. (#3, Department of Water Resources)

Comment: The EIR should address any effect of the Project on reducing the availability of water supplies provided by California Water Company to the Town of Colma and its residents, thus requiring the Town and its residents to acquire water from other sources, and to identify other sources that are available. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The current Notice and Description did not mention the specific source of the surface water supply that would be used to replace the present well water being pumped. The concern is that more water will be drawn from other watersheds. Those sources must be acknowledged and their impacts shown and mitigation provided in the Project EIR. The EIR should present a water balance stating the source of replacement water and provide a detailed water balance for the SFPUC delivery system as a whole. The comment provides a list of surface water diversions and inputs that should be presented in the water balance. (#11, Restore Hetch Hetchy).

Comment: The EIR should include a groundwater recovery assessment. (#6, BASWCA)

Surface Water – Lake Merced

Comment: The Lakeshore Acres Improvement Club has been concerned with lake levels at Lake Merced. The EIR should examine Lake Merced water levels and respond to all the concerns that are already known regarding the lake's water levels. (#104, Lakeshore Area Improvement Club)

Comment: The commenter states that a significant contributing factor to the decline in Lake Merced lake levels during the 80's was excessive pumping from the Westside Basin, resulting in an overdraft condition of the aquifer. The EIR should analyze whether the Project would cause excessive aquifer pumping and resultant overdraft, resulting in significant harm to the environment. (#9, Committee to Save Lake Merced)

Comment: The EIR should discuss the "potential for the flow from the shallow aquifer/lake system toward the underlying aquifer from which nearby production wells withdraw water" in the South Westside Groundwater Basin south of Lake Merced (quote from the Draft WSIP PEIR). (#11, Restore Hetch Hetchy)

Comment: The EIR should discuss the lake level management plan for Lake Merced. (#6, BASWCA)

Surface Water – Tuolumne River

Comment: The EIR should address the impacts of what sounds like the diversion of an extra 6.7 million gallons of water per day from the Tuolumne River in wet years, in addition to what was studied in the WSIP EIR. Additional information will be available at the end of this year or early next year that was not available at the time of the WSIP EIR. The PUC is doing a biological study of the stretch of the river below Hetch Hetchy as part of the Kirkwood Powerhouse Agreement in 1988. (#102, Peter Drekmeier, Tuolumne River Trust)

Comment: The commenter states that in general the Tuolumne River Trust supports the concept of cooperative management of surface water and groundwater to optimize the water demand and supply balance. However, the trust has concerns that the Project could harm the Tuolumne River by increasing diversions in normal and wet years. The EIR needs to identify the source(s) of the additional surface water that would provide

an additional 5.4 millions gallons per day to SFPUC customers in normal and wet years. It also should define wet, normal and dry years. (#10, Tuolumne River Trust)

Comment: Currently, 60 percent of the Tuolumne River is used for agricultural and urban uses, and even more water is diverted, causing significant impacts to the river ecosystem, including a decline in anadromous fish. Diverting more water from the river would exacerbate this problem. The commenter states that the WSIP PEIR analysis of the impacts on salmon and steelhead from diverting more water from the Tuolumne River was wholly inadequate. New information about potential impacts to the Tuolumne River from increasing diversion should be included in the EIR for the Project, such as the SFPUC study of biological resources in the stretch of the river downstream of the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, expected to be completed by the end of 2009. (#10, Tuolumne River Trust)

Comment: The EIR should address comments submitted by the Department of Fish and Game on January 15, 2009 for the San Joaquin Pipeline System Project regarding the effect of increased diversions from the Tuolumne River on fish species in the river. (#10, Tuolumne River Trust)

Comment: Wet years do not result in “wasted” water. Wet years can provide better flows for juvenile salmon and steelhead, enabling them to get flushed out into the Bay and Ocean in higher numbers. The EIR should study the impacts of diverting additional water from the Tuolumne River on fish populations even in wet and normal years. (#10, Tuolumne River Trust)

Comment: Requirements for instream flows in the lower Tuolumne River are likely to increase as a result of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing process that will begin in 2011 and be completed in 2016. FERC actions must be considered in the CEQA analysis for the Project. (#10, Tuolumne River Trust)

Water Rights

Comment: The EIR should describe if the water in the South Westside Groundwater Basin is to be used for the purposes of supplying residential, commercial, agricultural and recreational needs of those who reside over the basin, or if there are plans to export the water to communities beyond the underlying limits of the basin. If the plans are to export the water, describe of this will affect the ability of existing users to access more of the water in the basin. Describe if those jurisdictions that are not Partner Agencies will

be allowed to review any agreement made with customers not located directly over the basin. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should describe if the current and future water rights of an established pumper will be preserved by their current standard (#5, Town of Colma).

Comment: The project description should identify the proposed management structure in terms of the assertion of authority over the aquifer. It should address whether the Project will change the rights and ownership of the water to include entities other than those that already have rights to the water (#101, Andrea Ouse, Town of Colma).

Comment: The commenter asks about the legal implications of the undertaking and the impact of the Project on private property owners' rights to extract water from the basin for productive, beneficial uses, including the potential for some wells to be rendered obsolete, or require deepening, or require users to make new pumping or water supply arrangements. (#105, Robert B. Maddow, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson)

Comment: The EIR should discuss the rights that municipalities, residents, and property owners that are located in the overlying lands of the South Westside Groundwater Basin have to the use of groundwater within the Basin. The comment also provides a summary of water use rights under California law. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should address any reasonably likely effects of the Project on groundwater rights, including the effects of water storage during wet periods and water recapture during dry periods on the town of Colma and its residents' use of the groundwater. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR should describe the provisions the City of San Francisco plans to make to avoid or minimize any adverse effects on groundwater rights of overlying municipalities, including through project design or compensation. (#5, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR needs to address protection of existing overlying rights, including any existing overlying rights that are not currently utilized due to the use of recycled water for irrigation in areas served by the aquifer. If the SFPUC seeks to recover the 15,000 AF they have already stored, the EIR should indicate how the interests of the overlying owners will be protected – i.e. how will the SFPUC assure other pumpers that their water rights will not be impaired by this excess pumping? (#7, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson)

Water Supply Cost

Comment: What would be the cost of the increased use of Hetch Hetchy water, which is very expensive water, and would business owners see an increase in their water rates. Daly City is able to keep the cost down by also using groundwater? (#103, Kathryn Slater-Carter)

Comment: If Daly City, South San Francisco, and Cal Water are provided additional water from Hetch Hetchy instead of pumping groundwater, would these entities pay the current Hetch Hetchy wholesale price for this water or would it be treated as an advance of so many acre feet of water that could be drawn on in the future? Because the cost for Hetch Hetchy water increases each year, paying current prices to purchase water to allow recharge, and then drawing on that water in the future when the agencies otherwise would be paying much higher rates to purchase Hetch Hetchy water, would mean that the other Hetch Hetchy water users, the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, are underwriting the cost of water to South City, Daly City, and Cal Water. It would seem fairer to treat it as an advance of water that is then repaid later by drawing on groundwater, and the payments for Hetch Hetchy water remain at an average use and escalating price to pay for the seismic improvement program. (#106, Paul Perkovic, member of the Board of Directors of the Montara Water and Sanitary District)

Comment: Energy costs for irrigation users of the aquifer should be analyzed in the EIR. (#7, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson)

Climate Change

Comment: The EIR must consider climate change in detail given that the Project is partially based on the premise that there will be undefined “excess” surface water available in the undefined “normal and wet years.” (#9, Committee to Save Lake Merced)

Land Use and Planning

Comment: The two potential Project sites located in Broadmoor are within unincorporated San Mateo County jurisdiction. Therefore, the SFPUC is required to submit a project description for review and determination of General Plan conformity pursuant to Government Code Section 65402. (#4, County of San Mateo)

Comment: The EIR should list the municipalities that are located in the overlying lands of the South Westside Groundwater Basin. The commenter asks if the Town of Colma, in particular, is located in these lands. (#5, Town of Colma)

Aesthetics

Comment: The commenter is concerned about the buildings associated with each well site, specifically their location and physical appearance. The Town of Colma tries to keep its policies in line with the Town's existing tranquil and serene environment. (#101, Andrea Ouse, Town of Colma)

Cultural Resources

Comment: If construction activities are proposed within the State's Right-of-Way (ROW), Caltrans requires documented results of a current (no more than 5 years old) archaeological record search at the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System before an encroachment permit can be issued. If warranted, a cultural resource study by a qualified, professional archaeologist in compliance with NEPA (if there is a federal action on the Project), CEQA, and PRC section Section 5024.5 (for state-owned historic resources), and Volume 2 of Caltrans "Standard Environmental Reference." (#2, California Department of Transportation)

Transportation and Circulation

Comment: Caltrans comments that, as lead agency, the San Francisco Planning Department is responsible for all Project mitigation, including any needed improvements to State Highways. The EIR should fully discuss the Project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, and implementation responsibilities as well as lead agency monitoring for all proposed mitigation measures. The Project's traffic mitigation fees should also be specifically identified. (#2, California Department of Transportation)

Comment: Any required roadway improvements must be completed prior to issuance of Project occupancy permits. Also, an encroachment permit is required when a project involves work in the State's ROW so the lead agency should ensure resolution of Caltrans concerns prior to submittal of the encroachment permit application. Traffic-related mitigation measures will be incorporated into the construction plans during the encroachment permit process. (#2, California Department of Transportation)

Comment: Because the proposed Project is located adjacent to State highway facilities, the EIR must evaluate traffic impacts on State facilities to determine if a Traffic Impact Study is warranted. In addition, Project vehicle trips and hours of operation should be discussed and street routes for vehicles should be identified. Use of the Caltrans guidance for preparation of traffic impact studies is recommended. (#2, California Department of Transportation)

Comment: Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State facilities requires a transportation permit. (#2, California Department of Transportation)

Comment: Caltrans encourages the San Francisco Planning Department to coordinate with Caltrans for all SFPUC WSIP projects, and provides a contact name and address. (#2, California Department of Transportation)

Cumulative Impacts

Comment: The Draft WSIP PEIR lists several golf courses located atop the aquifer that are successfully using recycled water for irrigation. The EIR should discuss the impact on aquifer recovery from conversion to using recycled water for additional golf courses and other irrigated landscapes that still pump from this aquifer or use system water for irrigation. (#11, Restore Hetch Hetchy)

Comment: The commenter expresses concern about the test wells and indicates that the test wells appear to be handled as a separate project and not encompassed as part of a cumulative review of the Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project. (#101, Andrea Ouse, Town of Colma)

Comment: The EIR needs to fully analyze the impacts of the Project and other groundwater-related projects in the area, including, but not limited to the SFPUC's proposed lake level restoration project for Lake Merced; the project to pump groundwater at production rates from the North Westside Basin; the variety of recycled water projects proposed in various portions of the land overlying the aquifer; and stormwater management projects being considered in the area, particularly to the extent they may involve detention basins. (#7, Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson & Judson)

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Appendix A
Notice of Preparation



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report

Date: June 24, 2009
Case No.: ~~2008.01396E~~ 2008.1396E
Project Title: **Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project**
Location: The proposed Project is located in the South Westside Groundwater Basin in San Mateo County, and the proposed facilities will be constructed in northern San Mateo County. The South Westside Groundwater Basin is located in San Mateo County within the larger Westside Groundwater Basin which underlies both San Francisco and San Mateo counties. Proposed facilities are located in the cities of South San Francisco, Colma, San Bruno, Millbrae, and Daly City and in unincorporated portions of San Mateo County.

BPA Nos.: N/A
Zoning: N/A
Block/Lot: N/A
Lot Size: Various
Project Sponsor: Greg Bartow, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
(415) 934-5724
Lead Agency: San Francisco Planning Department
Staff Contact: Diana Sokolove – (415) 575-9046
diana.sokolove@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery (GSR) Project (Project or proposed Project) is to further the use of the South Westside Groundwater Basin as an underground storage reservoir by storing water in the basin during wet periods for subsequent recapture during dry periods. This new dry-year water supply would be made available to the cities of Daly City and San Bruno, the California Water Company (Cal Water) in its South San Francisco service area (collectively referred to as Partner Agencies) and San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) wholesale water customers.

The SFPUC proposes to provide surface water, when available, to Partner Agencies, to be used by these agencies in lieu of pumping groundwater during normal and wet rainfall years. The Partner Agencies currently use groundwater as one of the sources of their drinking water supply. This supply would be partially replaced by surface water supplies from the SFPUC regional water system. The reduction of pumping by Partner Agencies would ultimately increase groundwater storage within the South Westside Groundwater Basin by up to 61,000 acre-feet (AF) (approximately 20 billion gallons). Stored groundwater would be utilized by pumping new Project wells during periods of insufficient surface water supplies (i.e., dry years). As part of the proposed Project, SFPUC would construct new groundwater production well facilities, which would be operated by either the Partner Agencies or SFPUC for pumping groundwater at a rate of 7.2 million gallons per day during dry years. The proposed Project would help meet the water supply reliability needs of all SFPUC customers during dry years and may provide some

increased level of regional operational flexibility to respond and restore service during unplanned outages.

The proposed Project is one of several facility improvement projects identified in the San Francisco Region as part of the SFPUC's Water System Improvement Program (WSIP). The WSIP was adopted by the SFPUC in October 2008 to improve the SFPUC's regional water system with respect to water quality, seismic response, water delivery, and water supply to meet water delivery needs in the service area and establishes level of service goals and system performance objectives. The proposed Project's primary contribution to the WSIP goals is its ability to meet the water supply needs of SFPUC customers during drought years.

The proposed Project consists of 1) cooperative management of surface water and groundwater to optimize the water demand and supply balance; and 2) construction and operation of groundwater production well facilities on 16 of 19 potential sites in northern San Mateo County. Each groundwater well facility site would contain a groundwater production well, pump station, underground distribution piping, and utility connections. Some well facility sites would contain groundwater disinfection units and groundwater treatment facilities. Well facilities would connect to distribution systems for Daly City, San Bruno, Cal Water, and SFPUC. In addition, the Westlake Pump Station in Daly City may need to be upgraded and treatment facilities may need to be added to several well facility sites.

FINDING

This project may have a significant effect on the environment and an Environmental Impact Report is required. This determination is based upon the criteria of the State CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15063 (Initial Study), 15064 (Determining Significant Effect), and 15065 (Mandatory Findings of Significance), and for the reasons documented in the attached project description and description of potential environmental effects. (Documents are also available online at: <http://www.sfgov.org/planning/mea>.)

PUBLIC SCOPING PROCESS

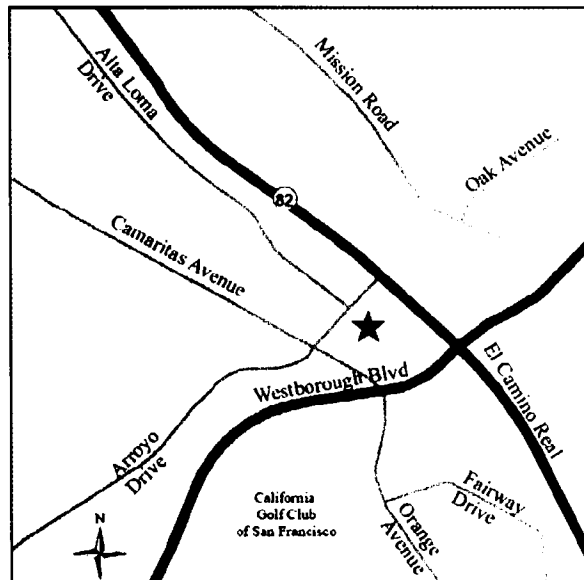
Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code Section 21083.9 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15206, a public scoping meeting will be held to receive oral comments concerning the scope of the EIR at the following location, date, and time.

Notice of Preparation of an EIR
June 2009

2008-1346E
~~Case No. 2005-0164E~~
Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

DATE: Thursday, July 9, 2009
6:15-7:00 p.m. Informational Session
7:00 p.m. Scoping meeting

LOCATION:
South San Francisco Municipal Services Building
Community Room
33 Arroyo Drive
South San Francisco, CA



Written comments will also be accepted at this meeting and until the close of business on **July 28, 2009**. Written comments should be sent to Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer, Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project Scoping Comments, San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. They also may be submitted by fax to (415) 558-6409 or sent by email to diana.sokolove@sfgov.org.

If you work for a Responsible or Trustee Agency, we need to know the views of your agency regarding the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed Project. Your agency may need to use the EIR when considering a permit or other approval for this proposed Project. Please include the name of a contact person in your agency.

June 24, 2009
Date

[Signature] for
Bill Wycko
Environmental Review Officer

Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

2008.1346E
~~Case No. 2005.0164E~~

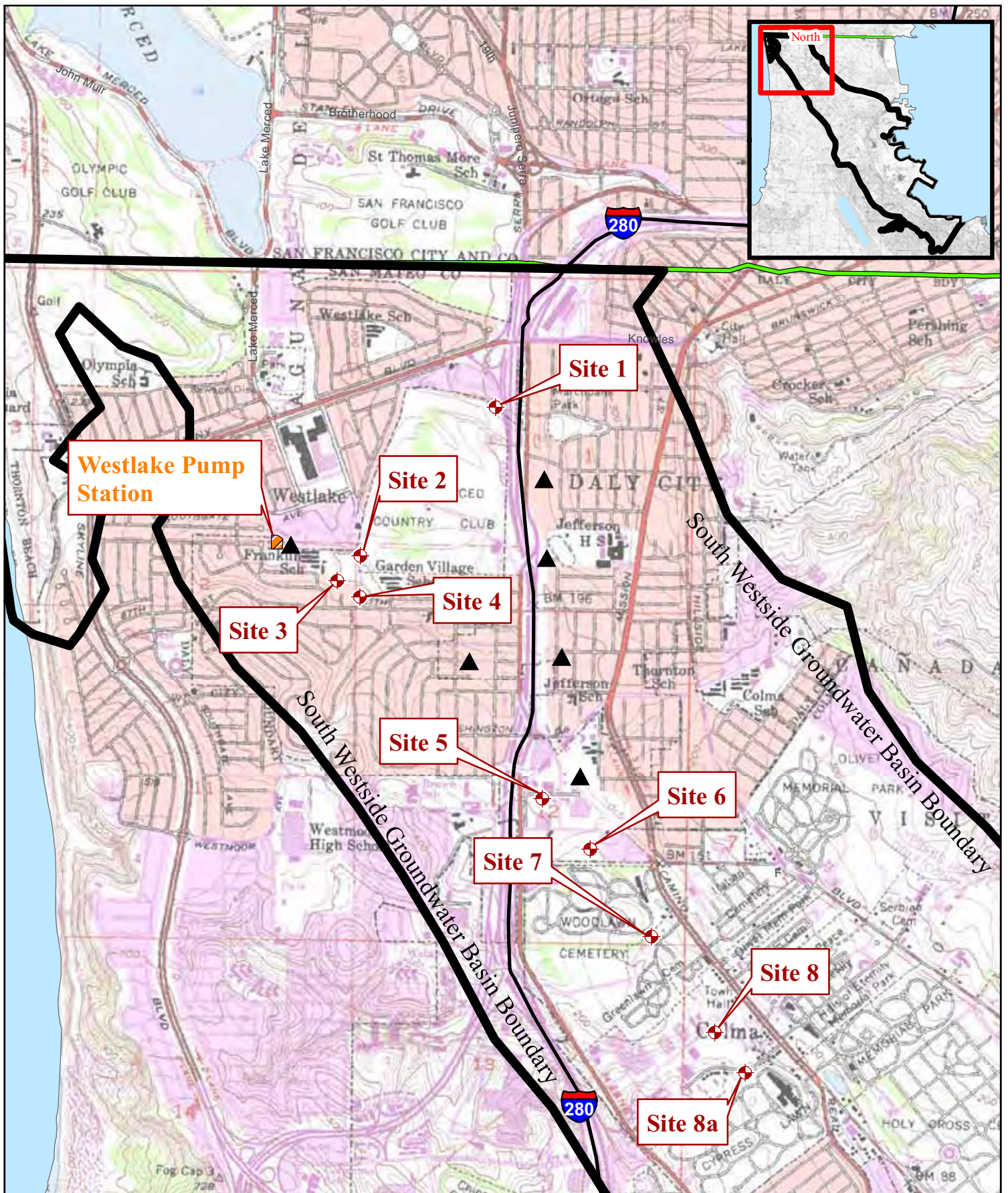
1.0 OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is proposing the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery (GSR) Project (Project or proposed Project), which would be located in northern San Mateo County, California (see Figures 1, 2, and 3). To meet California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements, the San Francisco Planning Department's Major Environmental Analysis Division (MEA) will prepare and distribute an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) describing and analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed Project. This Notice of Preparation (NOP) provides a description of the Project background, a brief description of the proposed Project elements, and describes some of the proposed Project's potential environmental effects.






The purpose of the proposed Project is to further the use of the South Westside Groundwater Basin as an underground storage reservoir by storing water in the basin during wet periods for subsequent recapture during dry periods. This new dry-year water supply would be made available to the cities of Daly City and San Bruno, the California Water Company (Cal Water) in its South San Francisco service area (collectively designated as Partner Agencies) and SFPUC wholesale water customers.

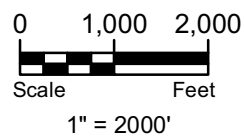
SFPUC proposes to provide excess surface water when available to the Partner Agencies to be used by these agencies in lieu of pumping groundwater during normal and wet years. The Partner Agencies currently use groundwater as one of the sources of their drinking water supply. This supply would be partially replaced by surface water supplies from the SFPUC regional water system. The reduction of groundwater pumping by Partner Agencies would ultimately increase groundwater storage within the South Westside Groundwater Basin by up to 61,000 acre-feet¹ (AF) (approximately 20 billion gallons). Stored

¹ The SFPUC plans for an 8.5-year drought. Over this 8.5-year period, the SFPUC anticipates it will exercise its dry-year supplies after the first year of the drought. Therefore, the 61,000 AF of storage is assumed to be used over 7.5 years of the design drought, with wells operating at a maximum capacity of 7.2 MGD.



Legend

-  Proposed Well Facility Sites
-  Partner Agency Well
-  County Boundary
-  Westlake Pump Station
-  South Westside Groundwater Basin

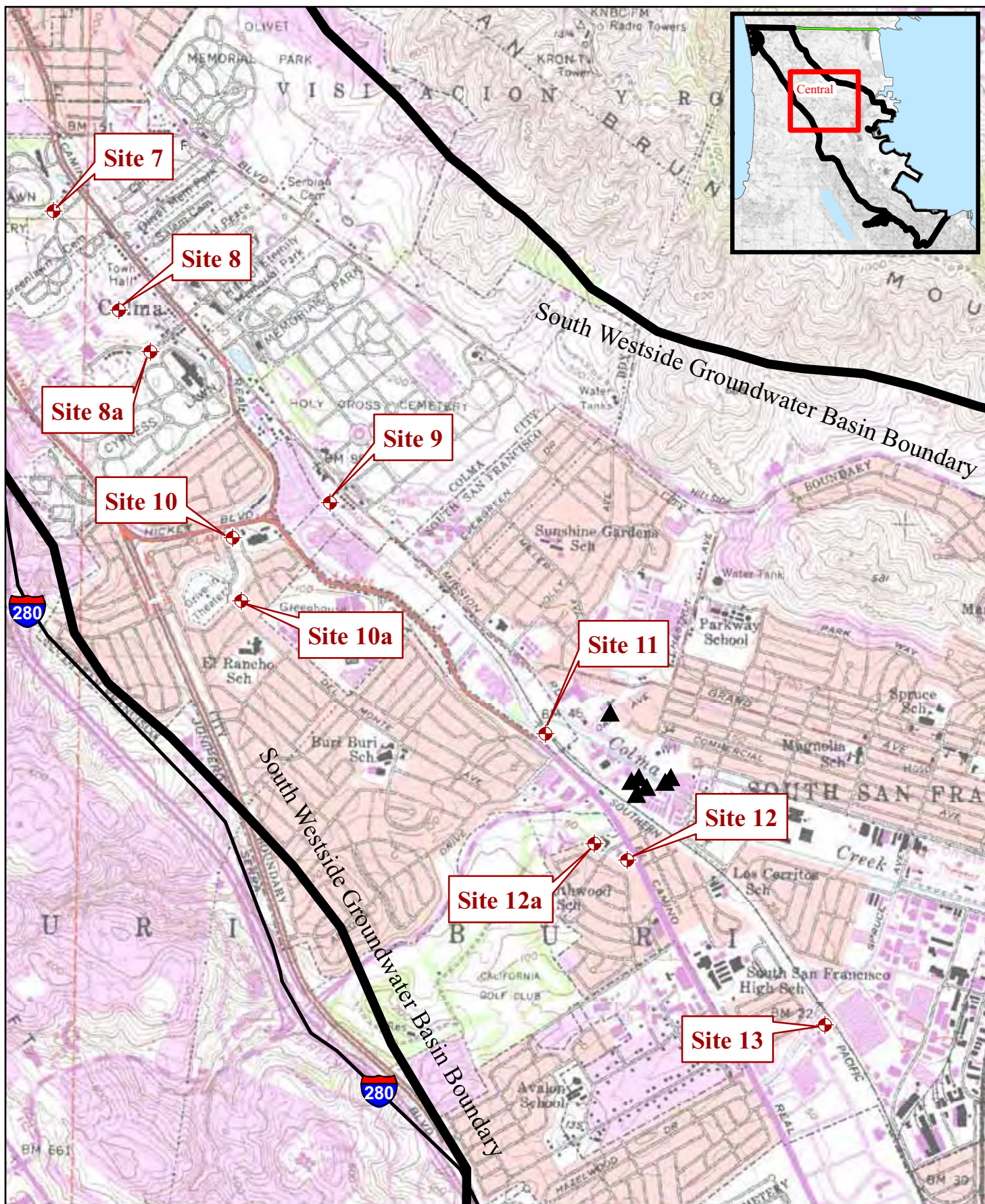


Project Location Map-North




Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

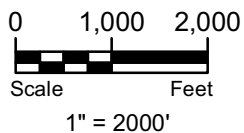
Figure 1

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Legend

-  Proposed Well Facility Sites
-  Partner Agency Well
-  South Westside Groundwater Basin

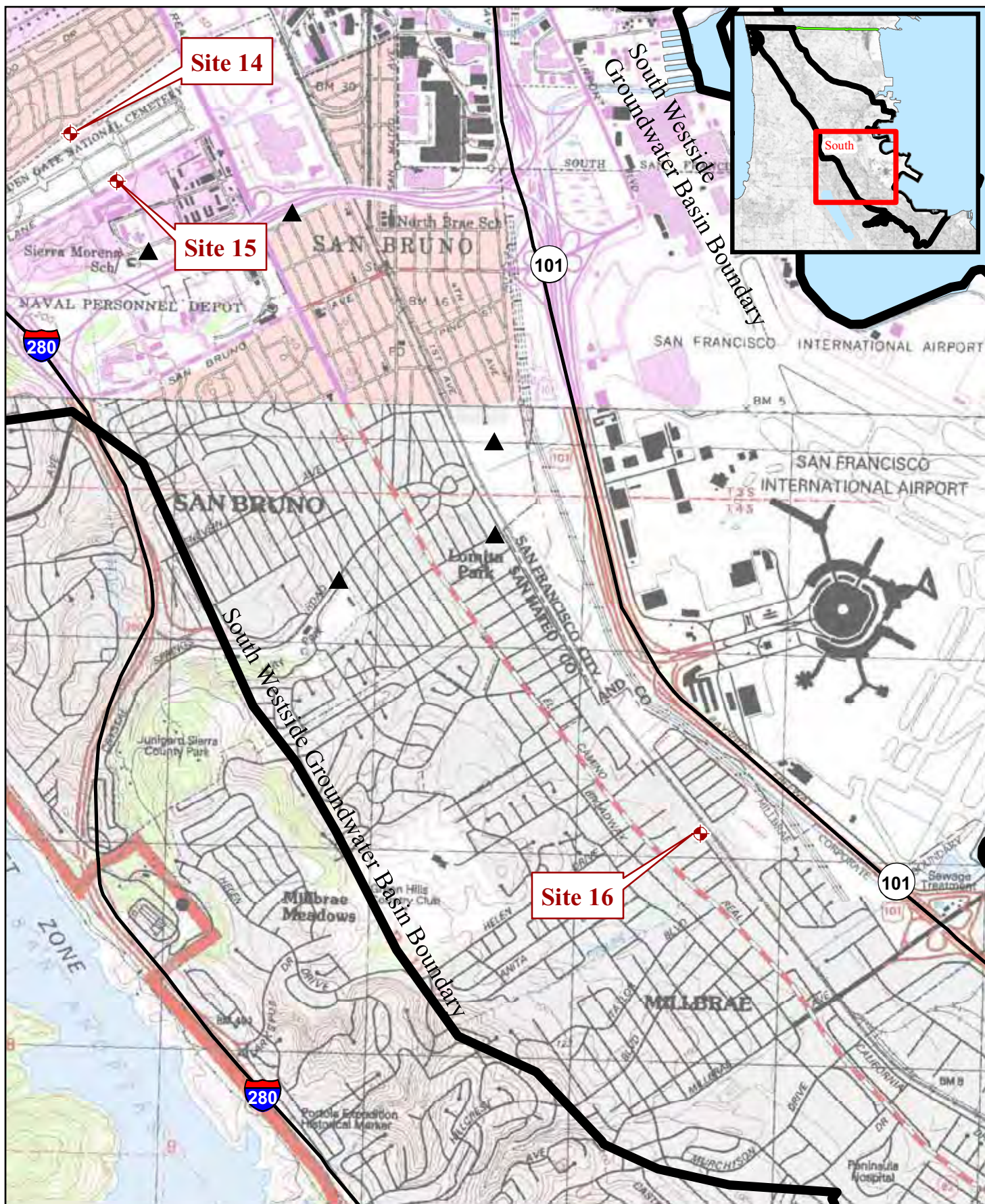


**Project Location
Map-Central**




Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

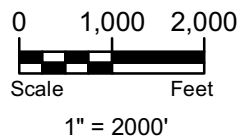
Figure 2

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Legend

-  Proposed Well Facility Sites
-  Partner Agency Well
-  South Westside Groundwater Basin



Project Location Map-South

Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

Figure 3

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groundwater would be utilized by pumping new Project wells during periods of insufficient surface water supplies (i.e., dry years). As part of the proposed Project, SFPUC would create new groundwater production well facilities, which would be operated by either the Partner Agencies or SFPUC for pumping groundwater at a rate of up to 7.2 million gallons per day (MGD) during dry years. The proposed Project would help meet the water supply reliability needs of all SFPUC customers during dry years and may provide some increased level of regional operational flexibility to respond and restore service during unplanned outages.

The proposed Project is a component of the SFPUC's proposed Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) (see www.sfwater.org). The basic goals of the WSIP are to increase the reliability of the regional water system with respect to water quality, seismic response, delivery, and water supply to meet water delivery needs in the service area. A Program EIR (PEIR) for the WSIP was certified by the San Francisco Planning Commission, and the WSIP was adopted by the SFPUC on October 30, 2008. The PEIR addresses the potential environmental impacts of the WSIP facilities on a programmatic level and evaluates regional water supply alternatives. The proposed Project, which is the subject of this NOP, is one component of the WSIP²; implementation of this proposed Project would contribute to meeting the WSIP's overall goals and objectives.

For purposes of the WSIP PEIR, the SFPUC's regional water system facilities were subdivided into six regions: Hetch Hetchy, San Joaquin, Sunol Valley, Bay Division, Peninsula, and San Francisco. The proposed Project would occur in the San Francisco Region.

2.0 PROPOSED PROJECT FACILITIES

The proposed Project facilities would consist of new groundwater production well facilities within the South Westside Groundwater Basin (Basin); the facilities are designed to withdraw up to 7.2 MGD from the volume of stored groundwater directly resulting from Project-related reduced groundwater

² The Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project was listed as the Conjunctive Use Project in the PEIR.

pumping in the Basin by Partner Agencies during normal and wet years. Up to 16 new groundwater well facilities would be constructed on 16 of the 19 potential sites in northern San Mateo County to supply the needed withdrawal capacity. Well facilities would be connected to Daly City, San Bruno, Cal Water, or SFPUC distribution systems. In addition, the existing Westlake Pump Station in Daly City may need to be modified and treatment facilities may need to be added.

Each groundwater well facility site would contain a groundwater production well, pump station, underground distribution piping, and utility connections. Each well facility would have a disinfection unit as required, unless it is near an existing disinfection unit that can accommodate the additional volume, in which case the well would be connected to the existing unit. Well facility sites where the groundwater may need treatment have been designed with appropriate treatment facilities.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

As described above, the San Francisco Planning Commission certified the WSIP PEIR in October 2008. The PEIR addressed the potential environmental impacts of the WSIP facilities on a programmatic level and evaluated regional water supply alternatives. The PEIR is available on the San Francisco Planning Department website at www.sfgov.org/planning/mea.

The San Francisco Planning Department will prepare a project-specific EIR to evaluate the environmental effects of the proposed Project. The EIR will be prepared in compliance with the CEQA Guidelines Section 15161 and will address project-specific construction and operational impacts.

The first step in the environmental review process is the formal public scoping process, for which this NOP has been prepared. Following the public scoping period, a Draft EIR will be prepared and circulated for a 45-day public review period. Public comments on the Draft EIR will be accepted in writing during the review period or verbally at a formal public hearing to be held by the San Francisco Planning Commission. The San Francisco Planning Department then will prepare written responses to comments on environmental issues raised during the public review period, and a Response to Comments document will be prepared. That document will be considered by the San Francisco Planning

Commission, along with the Draft EIR and any revisions to the draft based on the response to comments, for certification as a Final EIR.

4.0 PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

The San Francisco Planning Department will hold a public scoping meeting at the following location, date, and time.

DATE: Thursday, July 9, 2009

6:15-7:00 p.m. Informational Session

7:00 p.m. Scoping meeting

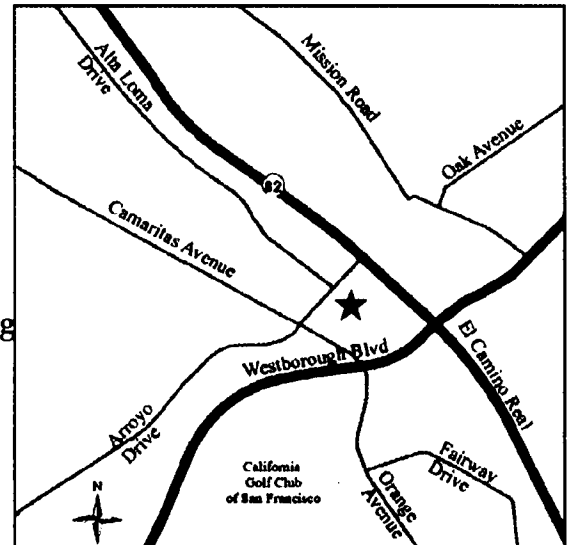
LOCATION:

South San Francisco Municipal Services Building

Community Room

33 Arroyo Drive

South San Francisco, CA



The purpose of this meeting is to assist the Planning Department with its review of the proposed scope and content of the EIR as summarized in this NOP. The public will be given the opportunity to provide comment for consideration. The San Francisco Planning Department also will accept written comments on the scope of the EIR at the meeting or by mail, email, or fax until close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **July 28, 2009**. Written comments may be submitted by mail to the San Francisco Planning Department, Attn: Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer, Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project Scoping Comments, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. They also may be submitted by fax to (415) 558-6409, or sent by email to diana.sokolove@sfgov.org.

5.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

5.1 Project Location

The proposed Project is located in the South Westside Groundwater Basin in San Mateo County, and the proposed facilities will be constructed in northern San Mateo County as shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3. The South Westside Groundwater Basin is located in San Mateo County within the larger Westside Groundwater Basin³, which underlies both San Francisco and San Mateo counties. The Project is also located within the water service areas for the cities of Daly City, San Bruno, and Millbrae and within the Cal Water service area, which includes portions of South San Francisco, Colma, and unincorporated San Mateo County.

Groundwater well facilities would be constructed and operated at up to 16 locations in the cities of Colma, Daly City, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Millbrae, and unincorporated San Mateo County (see Figures 1, 2, and 3). Well facilities would be connected to existing water distribution pipelines owned by Daly City, San Bruno, Cal Water, and SFPUC. The Project also includes an upgrade of the existing Westlake Pump Station in Daly City to serve the proposed new well facility sites.

5.2 Project Objectives

The proposed Project is a regional groundwater storage and recovery project that is part of the SFPUC's WSIP. The overall goals of the WSIP for the regional water system are to maintain high-quality water; reduce vulnerability to earthquakes; increase water delivery reliability; meet customer water supply needs; enhance sustainability; and achieve a cost-effective, fully operational system. The proposed Project's primary contribution to the WSIP goals is its ability to meet the water supply needs of SFPUC customers during drought years. In addition,

³ The Westside Groundwater Basin extends from western San Francisco south into San Mateo County. The Basin has an area of approximately 40 square miles and underlies Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Millbrae, and Burlingame. The Westside Groundwater Basin has been administratively divided at the San Francisco County-San Mateo County line. This is a political boundary, not a physical boundary. The portion of the basin that lies within San Francisco County is referred to as the North Westside Groundwater Basin. The portion of the basin that lies within San Mateo County is referred to as the South Westside Groundwater Basin. The Project would occur solely within the South Westside Groundwater Basin.

the Project may provide some increased level of regional operational flexibility to respond and restore service under unplanned outages.

The specific objectives of the proposed Project are to:

- Cooperatively manage the South Westside Groundwater Basin through the coordinated use of SFPUC surface water and the groundwater pumped by the Partner Agencies;
- Provide increased SFPUC surface water to the Partner Agencies in normal and wet years, resulting in a reduction of groundwater pumping by these agencies and an increase in groundwater storage in the South Westside Groundwater Basin;
- Increase the pumping capacity from the South Westside Groundwater Basin by up to 7.2 MGD to supply water during dry years and emergencies; and
- Provide a new dry-year groundwater supply for SFPUC customers and increase water supply reliability during the 8½-year design drought cycle.

5.3 Proposed Project

The proposed Project is a groundwater storage and recovery project, which includes the operation of new groundwater production wells and associated distribution and treatment facilities. This section includes a description of these proposed Project components.

5.3.1 *Groundwater Storage and Recovery*

The Partner Agencies currently supply potable water to their customers through a combination of groundwater from the South Westside Groundwater Basin and purchase of SFPUC surface water. The proposed Project would provide additional SFPUC surface water to the Partner Agencies during normal and wet years when sufficient surface water supplies are available. The Partner Agencies would reduce their groundwater pumping by a comparable amount and allow the groundwater basin to recharge naturally during these periods.

Figure 4 illustrates the increase in groundwater storage expected from a reduction in pumping during normal and wet years, as well the decrease in groundwater storage projected from an increase in pumping during dry years.

During normal and wet years, the volume of groundwater in the South Westside Groundwater Basin would naturally increase due to the reduced groundwater pumping, eventually reaching an increased storage volume of up to 61,000 AF. During dry or drought years, the Partner Agencies and SFPUC would pump previously stored groundwater. This new dry-year water supply would be made available to both the Partner Agencies and SFPUC wholesale customers under the terms of the Shortage Allocation Plan between the SFPUC and its wholesale customers⁴. A groundwater storage and recovery agreement would be negotiated by and between the SFPUC and Partner Agencies for groundwater and surface water management. Specifically, the agreement would cover water accounting; ownership principles; and operation, maintenance and replacement of facilities.

5.3.2 Production Wells and Associated Facilities

The proposed Project includes new groundwater production well facilities within the South Westside Groundwater Basin to withdraw the increased volume of stored groundwater at a rate of 7.2 MGD. Up to 16 new groundwater well facilities would be constructed on 16 of the 19 potential sites in northern San Mateo County. Of the 19 sites, 5 well facilities would connect to Daly City's distribution system, 3 well facilities would connect to San Bruno's distribution system, 4 well facilities would connect to Cal Water's distribution system, and 7 well facilities would connect to the SFPUC distribution system. In addition, the Westlake Pump Station in Daly City may be expanded and additional treatment facilities added.

Each groundwater well facility site would contain a groundwater production well, a pump station, underground distribution piping, and

⁴ The Shortage Allocation Plan identified a water allocation method to be used to determine the share of water for wholesale customers during shortages caused by drought.

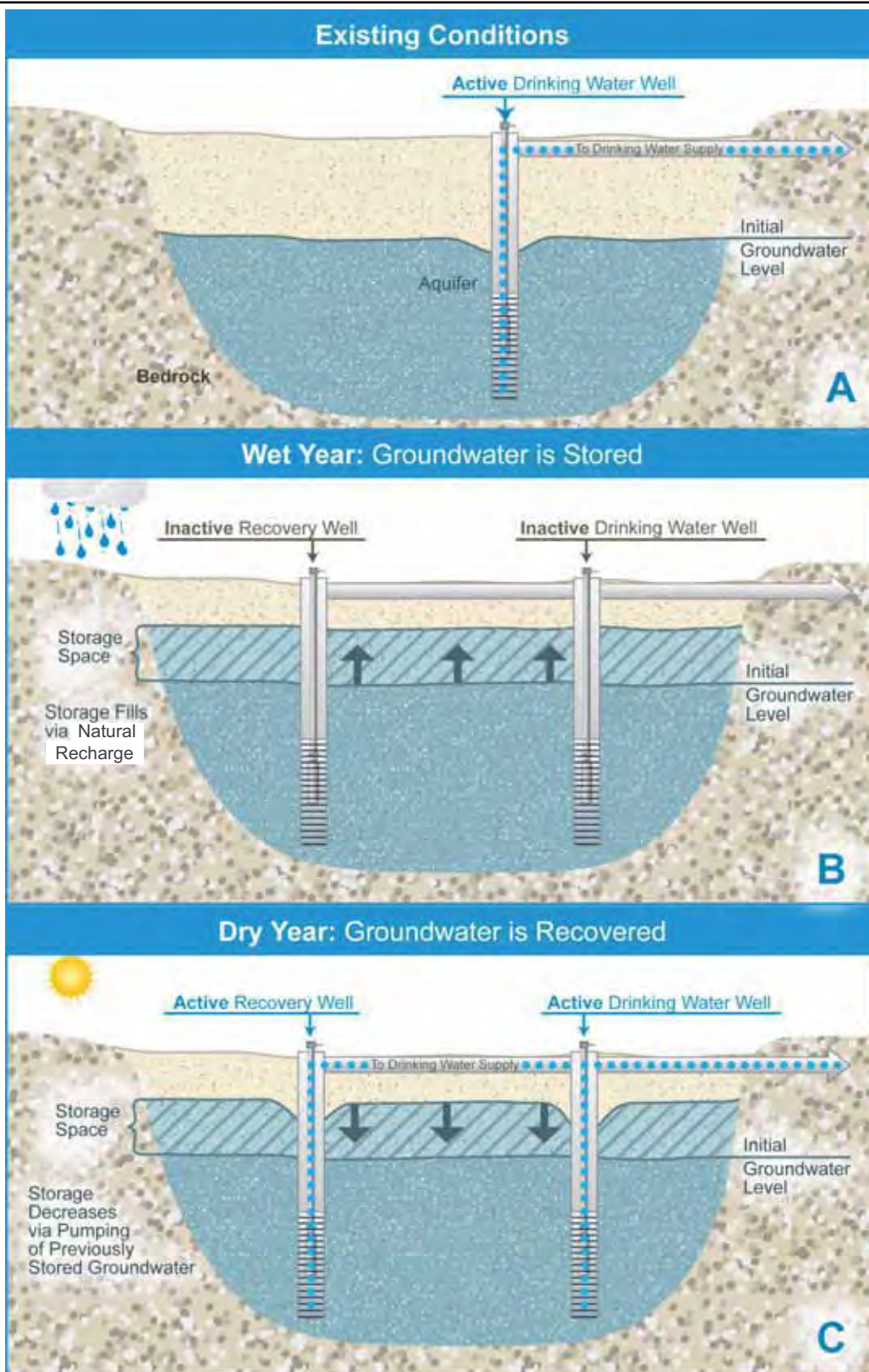


Figure (A) reflects the existing groundwater conditions, showing available storage space above the aquifer. In (B) the upward arrows represent the filling of the storage space with groundwater during wet years; in (C) the downward arrows represent the decline in stored water during dry years. The "Drinking Water Wells" represent the existing wells operated by the Cities of San Bruno and Daly City and California Water Service Company. The "Recovery Wells" represent the new wells that are proposed as part of the Project.

Groundwater Storage and Recovery
Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
Figure 4

utility connections. Each well facility also would have a disinfection unit, unless it is located near an existing disinfection unit that can accommodate the additional volume, in which case the well would be connected to the existing unit. Well facility sites where the groundwater may need treatment have been designed with appropriate treatment facilities (e.g., disinfection and manganese treatment). The facilities and the nature, extent and anticipated duration of construction activities are described further below.

Prior to confirming the final selected sites and full development of the groundwater well facilities, monitoring wells and test wells may be installed at the well facility sites to gather information about local groundwater characteristics and to determine the technical feasibility of each of the sites to produce sufficient volumes and quality of water for operation of a groundwater production well. If selected, sites would be converted from test wells to permanent production wells; pumps would be added, well enclosures would be built (fencing or building), disinfection units and treatment facilities would be constructed as needed, and utility and distribution pipelines would be installed.

A list of the 19 potential well facility sites and pump station upgrade is provided in Table 1.

TABLE 1
Well Facility Locations

Site ID ^a	Site Name	Location
1	Lake Merced Golf Course	Daly City
2	Park Plaza Meter	Daly City
3	Ben Franklin Intermediate School	Unincorporated San Mateo County (Broadmoor)
4	Garden Village Elementary School	Unincorporated San Mateo County (Broadmoor)
5	Right-of-Way at Serra Bowl	Daly City
6	Right-of-Way at Colma BART	Daly City
7	Right-of-Way at Colma Boulevard	Colma
8	Right-of-Way at Serramonte Boulevard	Colma

TABLE 1
Well Facility Locations

Site ID ^a	Site Name	Location
8a	Standard Plumbing Supply	Colma
9	Treasure Island Trailer Court	South San Francisco
10	Right-of-Way at Hickey Boulevard	South San Francisco
10a	Alta Loma Drive	South San Francisco
11	South San Francisco Main Area	South San Francisco
12	Funeral Home	South San Francisco
12a	Funeral Home	South San Francisco
13	South San Francisco Linear Park	South San Francisco
14	Golden Gate National Cemetery	San Bruno
15	Golden Gate National Cemetery	San Bruno
16	Millbrae Corporation Yard	Millbrae
PS	Westlake Pump Station Upgrade	Daly City

a. The EIR will evaluate the environmental effects of the development of all 19 well facility sites, even though a maximum of 16 well facilities would be constructed.

Well Station Design

The SFPUC has considered institutional, regulatory, operational, maintenance, and technical information in the design of the well stations. Three well station types are included in the proposed Project:

- Type 1 - well only, building or fenced enclosure;
- Type 2 - well plus chemical treatment building; and
- Type 3 - well plus chemical treatment and filtration building.

Site-specific well station design characteristics are listed in Table 2 and described in detail below. These characteristics include proposed building type, pump type, water distribution system connection point, groundwater disinfection location, and the method that would be used to achieve agency-specific water quality goals (i.e., blending with surface water or treatment).

TABLE 2

Site-Specific Well Station Characteristics

Site ID	Site Description	Well Station Type ^a	Pump Type	Connection Point	Alternate Connection Point	Disinfection Location	Method for Achieving Water Quality Goals
1	Lake Merced Golf Club	Type 2	Above-ground	SFPUC San Andreas Pipeline #2	Daly City	At site	Blending ^b
2	Park Plaza Meter	Type 1 with fenced enclosure	Submersible	Daly City	SFPUC Sunset Supply	Westlake Pump Station	Blending
3	Ben Franklin Intermediate School	Type 1 with fenced enclosure	Submersible	Daly City	SFPUC Sunset Supply	Westlake Pump Station	Blending
4	Garden Village Elementary School	Type 1 with fenced enclosure	Submersible	Daly City	SFPUC Sunset Supply	Westlake Pump Station	Blending or iron/manganese treatment
5	Right-of-Way at Serra Bowl	Type 2	Above-ground	Daly City	Cal Water	At site	Blending or iron/manganese treatment
6	Right-of-Way at Colma BART	Type 2	Above-ground	Cal Water	SFPUC Pipeline	At site	Blending or iron/manganese treatment
7	Right-of-Way at Colma Boulevard	Type 2	Above-ground	Cal Water	SFPUC Pipeline	At site	Blending or iron/manganese treatment
8	Right-of-Way at Serramonte Boulevard	Type 2	Above-ground	Cal Water	SFPUC Pipeline	At site	Blending or iron/manganese treatment
8a	Standard Plumbing Supply	Type 2	Above-ground	Cal Water	SFPUC	At site	Blending
9	Treasure Island Trailer Court	Type 2	Above-ground	SFPUC Sunset Supply Pipeline	None	At site	Blending

TABLE 2

Site-Specific Well Station Characteristics

Site ID	Site Description	Well Station Type ^a	Pump Type	Connection Point	Alternate Connection Point	Disinfection Location	Method for Achieving Water Quality Goals
10	Right-of-Way at Hickey Boulevard	Type 2	Above-ground	Daly City	SFPUC San Andreas #2	At site	Blending
10a	Alta Loma Drive	Type 2	Above-ground	SFPUC San Andreas Pipeline #2	Cal Water	At site	Blending
11	SSF Main Area	Type 2	Above-ground	SFPUC Sunset Supply Pipeline	Cal Water	At site	Blending
12	Funeral Home	Type 2	Above-ground	SFPUC Sunset Supply Pipeline	Cal Water or other SFPUC pipeline	At site	Blending
12a	Funeral Home	Type 2	Above-ground	SFPUC Sunset Supply Pipeline	Cal Water or other SFPUC pipeline	At site	Blending
13	SSF Linear Park	Type 3	Above-ground	San Bruno	Cal Water, SFPUC, or other San Bruno	At site	Blending or iron/manganese treatment
14	Golden Gate National Cemetery	Type 1 with building enclosure	Above-ground	San Bruno	SFPUC pipeline	At site	Blending or iron/manganese treatment
15	Golden Gate National Cemetery	Type 3	Above-ground	San Bruno	SFPUC pipeline	At site	Blending or iron/manganese treatment
16	Millbrae Corp Yard	Type 2	Above-ground	SFPUC Crystal Springs Pipeline #2	None	At site	Blending

a. Type 1 is Well Only; Type 2 is Well plus Chemical Treatment Building; Type 3 is Well plus Chemical Treatment and Filtration Building; see text below for further description of conceptual layouts.

b. Blending is the mixing of groundwater with other potable supply water

Buildings would be about 15 feet tall and constructed of concrete block. Acoustical louvers for noise reduction would be used. The buildings would be painted in neutral colors with anti-graffiti coating.

It is anticipated that all outdoor site lighting would be activated by motion-controlled sensors, with manual switching available for as-needed night operations. Facilities would be designed to meet California's energy efficiency standards outlined in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations and use recycled materials to the extent possible.

Type 1 Conceptual Layout: Well-Only. The conceptual layout for the "well-only" type includes an approximately 40-foot by 20-foot building or fenced enclosure to house the wellhead, pump, piping, and associated electrical and control equipment.

Type 2 Conceptual Layout: Well plus Chemical Treatment. The conceptual layout for the "well with chemical treatment" type would consist of a 40-foot by 20-foot building to house the wellhead, pump, pipeline, and associated electrical and control equipment, plus an approximately 15-foot by 15-foot building extension for chemical storage and handling. Space would be provided onsite for disinfection, pH adjustment, and fluoride addition if needed.

Type 3 Conceptual Layout: Well plus Chemical Treatment and Filtration. The conceptual layout for the "well with chemical treatment and filtration" type would be similar to Type 2 but with the addition of a filtration system. The building dimensions would be approximately 25 feet by 80 feet. Filtration would be located only at well facilities that require manganese and/or iron removal. This well station type would be larger than the other types to provide space for the wellhead, treatment facilities, and filtration vessels. The filtration system consists of a series of vertical pressure vessels. The number and size of the pressure vessels would depend on the well yield and the number of wells connected to the filtration system. The backwash water from the system would connect to a nearby sanitary sewer. It is anticipated that filters would be backwashed, on average, once a day for 4 minutes.

Well Pumps

Each well facility site would contain either a submersible or above-ground pump. The selection of the pump type is based on the preference of the Partner Agency responsible for well operation. In most cases, the wells would be equipped with above-ground pumps. In comparison to submersible motors, above-ground motors are more efficient, have a longer service life, are more durable in cases where variable frequency drives are required, and are more accessible and thus easier to maintain. In cases where noise, visibility, or lack of space is an issue, submersible pumps would be used. Submersible motors are quieter to operate, but more difficult to maintain, because maintenance requires the removal of the entire pump assembly. Any wells that are in fenced enclosures (i.e., without buildings) have been designated for submersible pumps.

Utility and Distribution Piping

Underground piping would connect the wells to the local distribution systems or SFPUC water distribution system. In addition, underground piping would connect well facilities to the storm drain system and/or the sanitary sewer system to allow discharge of the initial flush of water. Chloraminated water would be de-chlorinated or sent to the local sanitary sewer system. Backwash from the manganese treatment facilities would also be sent to the local sanitary sewer system. The piping for all selected sites would consist of a total of approximately 4,600 feet of 6-inch pipe and 12,500 feet of 8-inch pipe. In general, the pipeline route would be excavated to a depth of 6 feet. The maximum width of the pipeline work area (including the trenches) would be 20 feet. The pipelines would be constructed using conventional open-cut trenching techniques. Above or underground electrical lines would also be installed from the groundwater well facilities to the nearest power source (PG&E facilities). The dimension of the trenches for the underground electrical lines would be smaller than those of the water pipelines.

Westlake Pump Station Upgrade

Upgrades to the Westlake Pump Station may be necessary to serve the well stations at Sites 2, 3 and 4. The upgrades would include new chemical storage tanks, replaced or upgraded chemical metering pumps, a resized

transformer, and up to three new booster pumps to deliver the additional water into the distribution system.

5.3.3 Construction Methods

Monitoring Wells, Geotechnical Borings, and Test Wells

Prior to the selection and full development of the groundwater production well sites, monitoring wells and test wells may be installed and geotechnical borings may be drilled at the well facility sites to gather information about local groundwater characteristics and to determine the technical feasibility of each of the sites to produce sufficient volumes and quality of water for operation of a groundwater production well. Depending upon the results of the testing, well facility sites would be selected, and test wells converted to permanent production wells, which would consist of full development of the well facility site to include the addition of pumps to the wells, the addition of enclosures around the well, installation of disinfection units and treatment facilities as needed, and installation of utilities and distribution pipelines.

In the event that additional monitoring or test wells are needed, the selected site would need to be cleared of vegetation and graded for installation and drilling of the borehole. For monitoring wells, a borehole would be drilled to a depth of approximately 750 feet below ground. For test wells, one steel casing would be installed to a depth of approximately 50 feet, with a borehole drilled to a depth of approximately 550 to 700 feet. Equipment used for well drilling and construction would include a mounted drill rig on a support truck, pump and pick up trucks or trailers and similar equipment. Construction of a monitoring well would be completed in approximately three weeks, with construction activities occurring between 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM Monday through Friday only. Construction and testing of test wells would require approximately 4 weeks. Drilling would extend for about a week both during the day and night. If the results of the test wells were favorable and the wells were selected as permanent production well sites, then development of production well facilities would occur, as described below.

Additional geotechnical borings may be required and would be drilled to a depth of approximately 50 feet below ground surface (deeper if fill or soft soil is encountered). A boring would be completed in approximately two days. Drilling activities would occur between 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM Monday through Friday only.

Construction of Well Station Facilities

Each well facility site would include a construction staging area; some sites may have two optional locations for staging areas. The minimum size of the staging area would be 1,500 square feet. Staging areas would be fenced. Any temporary spoils (excavated material) storage would occur inside the staging areas.

Construction of facilities at the well sites would require site clearing and grubbing. Site excavation and grading would be minor, with grading to a maximum depth of 5 feet for the building foundation (if the well facility includes a building) and utilities underneath the building. After the foundation and utilities connections are constructed, the remainder of the building would be constructed and the well pump and other equipment installed, as needed. No significant near-surface groundwater is expected at any site; therefore dewatering for construction of project facilities is not anticipated. Diesel generators with self-contained fuel tanks may be used during construction. Construction equipment is expected to include: a front end loader, backhoe/excavator, fork lift, telescopic crane, cement mixer, concrete pump truck, compactor, hauling trucks, pump-setting rig, and arc welder.

It is estimated that during the peak construction period, the maximum number of construction workers at any one site would be 15.

Construction of Distribution and Utility Connections

In general, the pipeline routes would be excavated up to a depth of 6 feet. The width of pipeline construction zones would be generally 20 feet, and the width of the electrical connection construction zones would be less than 20 feet. The pipelines would be constructed using conventional open-cut trenching techniques. Construction equipment is expected to include: an excavator, front-end loader, hauling trucks, compactor, asphalt trucks, and arc welder. Diesel generators with self-contained fuel tanks may be

used during construction. At some sites, pipeline excavation would generate excess soil (called spoils) that would be reused onsite (for engineering fill) or disposed of at a Class III non-hazardous waste disposal site. After pipeline placement, the trenched area would be restored to its original condition.

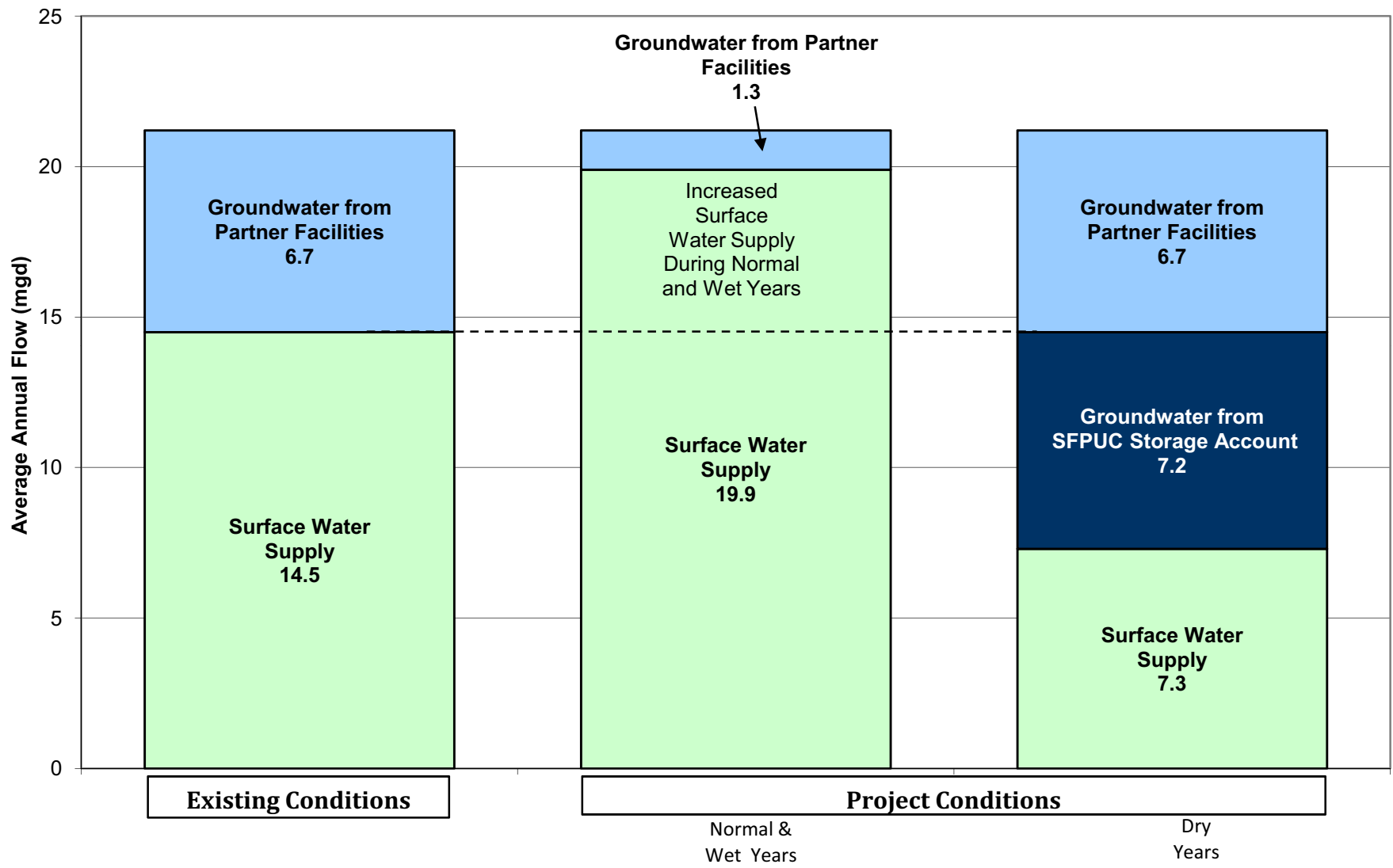
5.3.4 Operation and Maintenance

Project operations would be designed to allow natural recharge of the South Westside Groundwater Basin through reduced Partner Agency groundwater pumping, to provide up to 61,000 AF of increased groundwater in storage to be used by the SFPUC and Partner Agencies during drought conditions.

Figure 5 illustrates how the Project would change the source of water supply for the Partner Agencies. During normal and wet years, the portion of water supply coming from SFPUC surface water would increase compared to the existing condition. During dry years, the portion of water supply coming from groundwater would increase compared to the existing condition. For SFPUC wholesale water customers, the source of water supply would not change during normal and wet years; but the portion of groundwater delivered to some SFPUC customers would increase during dry years, compared to existing conditions.

An accounting of additional storage volumes (called the SFPUC Storage Account) would track the amount of water that has been stored during the normal and wet years and the amount of water pumped during dry years. The specific volumes shown in Figure 5 are based on historic rainfall and hydrology (MWH, 2007), but actual volumes in any given year would vary depending on several factors, including: 1) the final location and capacity of the project well facilities, 2) the availability of additional stored water in the SFPUC Storage Account, and 3) direction from the Operating Committee⁵ regarding which wells should be used.

⁵ It is expected that a Project agreement by and between SFPUC and the Partner Agencies would establish an Operating Committee. The role of the Operating Committee would be to monitor and track the SFPUC Storage Account, including any losses from the system, and establish pumping schedules for the project wells.



- Groundwater from Partner Facilities ¹
- Groundwater from Storage Account
- Surface Water Supply

Source of Water Supply for Partner Agencies

Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

¹ Partner facilities are operated by City of Daly City, City of San Bruno, and Cal Water.

Figure 5

During normal and wet years, the proposed groundwater well facilities would be operated by SFPUC or by Partner Agencies only periodically for maintenance purposes. During dry years, the proposed groundwater well facilities would be operated by SFPUC or by Partner Agencies for additional water supply.

All well stations would be unmanned, but subject to remote monitoring and operation by the Partner Agency or SFPUC who would operate the well facility. Each well station would be visited daily when wells are operating for routine equipment checks, lasting approximately 30 minutes each. During normal and wet years, wells would be visited on a weekly basis, would be normally off, but regular exercising would be conducted. Longer term maintenance would include removal and repair or replacement of pumps, valves, and other equipment. Production wells may require redevelopment and/or rehabilitation on an infrequent basis.

6.0 PERMITS AND APPROVALS REQUIRED

The SFPUC may be required to obtain the following permits and approvals for Project construction and operation:

- Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) if the Project affects jurisdictional wetlands or waters of the U.S.
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs approval and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review for Sites 14 and 15 at the Golden Gate National Cemetery.
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Section 7 consultation under the federal Endangered Species Act, if the Project affects threatened or endangered species or their habitat.
- Review by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation may be required if the Project affects properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.
- Permit amendments and approval of well construction and operation from the California Department of Public Health, Water Supply Division.
- Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game if the Project could affect streambeds under California jurisdiction.
- Section 2081/2080.1 Incidental Take Permit from the California Department of Fish and Game if a “take” (to hunt, pursue, catch, capture,

or kill, or attempt the same) could occur to state-listed species as a result of the Project.

- California Department of Fish and Game Memorandum of Agreement if needed to ensure no effect to fully protected species.
- Preparation of a California Department of Toxic Substances Control Contaminated Soil Treatment Work Plan (required only if contaminated soil is encountered during construction).
- San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board Discharge permits, if required, for emergency and/or maintenance water discharges, and for “overboard” pumping of well waters.
- San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Certification, the state certification of the federal Section 404 Wetlands Permit.
- California Department of Transportation Encroachment permits to cross State roadways and Interstate Highways.
- State Water Resources Control Board Stormwater General Permit and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, if more than one acre of land is disturbed.
- Bay Area Air Quality Management District permit for stationary equipment that may generate air pollutants (e.g., generators).
- EIR certification by the San Francisco Planning Commission.
- Board of Supervisors approval may be needed for funding appropriation or property rights acquisition.
- SFPUC approval, adoption of CEQA findings and mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP).
- Adoption of CEQA findings and MMRP by local City Councils or Boards of Supervisors.
- San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission review of local, state and national landmarks and historical landscapes.
- Determination of Project consistency with park use by local Recreation and Park Commissions and approval of use of property under their jurisdiction.
- Approval of local Unified School District(s) for use of property under their jurisdiction.
- Approval of exterior design of proposed facilities on SFPUC property or right-of-way by the San Francisco Arts Commission.
- Agreements with Partner Agencies.
- Local Department(s) of Public Health approval of well construction and operation permits in accordance with California Department of Water Resources Standards.

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- Local Department(s) of Public Health approval of Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA)/Hazardous Materials Business Plan for Project operations.
- Local Department(s) of Public Works approval of excavation permits, encroachment permits, and temporary occupancy permits for street space.
- Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) encroachment permits to cross existing BART system.

7.0 PROPERTY RIGHTS ACQUISITION

Several types of property rights would be needed for Project construction and operation, as shown in Table 3. The process for acquiring right-of-way involves the preparation of deed and appraisal map, an appraisal of fair market value, negotiations with property owners, and condemnation (if necessary).

TABLE 3
Property Rights Proposed for Acquisition

Property Acquisition Type	Rights
Access Easement	Temporary or permanent rights to enter or cross another property
Pipeline Easement	Rights to install and maintain a pipeline over or across another property
Fee Acquisition	Purchase of all the property rights, land, improvements (if any), etc.
Encroachment Permit	Rights to encroach across a publicly-owned street or highway for pipeline or other purposes

Of the 19 potential well sites, 12 sites are on SFPUC fee-owned land or within SFPUC right-of-way. The other seven well sites are on other public and private parcels which would require an acquisition of property use rights for the well(s), connecting pipelines, and/or access. Lastly, several sites have lengthy connecting pipeline requirements that would most likely be constructed on a combination of public and private parcels.

8.0 CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

The proposed Project schedule expected at the time of this NOP includes construction of permanent well facilities and pipeline connections from April 2012 through approximately May 2014.

9.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

9.1 Environmental Issues to be Addressed in the EIR

The EIR will address all environmental issue areas required under CEQA. The EIR will address environmental impacts of the proposed Project due to construction and operation activities and will propose mitigation measures for impacts considered to be significant. The following sections describe the anticipated environmental issues that will be addressed by the EIR.

9.1.1 *Land Use and Visual Quality*

Construction and operation of the proposed Project could affect land uses and visual quality of the Project sites and surrounding areas. Potential impacts to be evaluated in the EIR include:

- Temporary and permanent disruption or displacement of existing land uses during construction including construction impacts on such sensitive land uses as schools, residences and funeral homes, and the potential temporary closure of a portion of South San Francisco Linear Park to the public.
- Impacts on scenic vistas or visual character, including potential impacts on the visual character of Golden Gate National Cemetery, Woodlawn Cemetery, Greenlawn Memorial Park, and Lake Merced Golf Club.

9.1.2 Geology, Soils and Seismicity

Construction and operation of new well facilities and below-ground distribution pipelines and electrical power lines could result in site-specific impacts on or from local geology and soils conditions. Potential impacts to be evaluated in the EIR include:

- Seismic hazards and/or increased exposure of people and structures to seismic hazards, including impacts from ground-shaking in the event of an earthquake on the San Andreas fault or other Bay Area fault.
- Increased exposure of people or structures to geologic hazards (such as liquefaction, poor soil conditions, or unstable slopes) from construction in geologic hazard zones.
- Soil erosion potential from construction activities.
- Potential land subsidence from drawdown of the groundwater aquifer.

9.1.3 Hydrology and Water Quality

Construction and operation of the Project could affect surface water quality and could affect groundwater levels and quality in the Project area and in the South Westside Groundwater Basin as a whole. Potential impacts to be evaluated include:

- Changes in local groundwater quality and levels within the South Westside Groundwater Basin as a whole.
- Changes in drinking water quality due to use of treated groundwater.
- Alteration of drainage patterns and increase in stormwater flows due to increase in the amount of impervious surfaces.
- Degradation of surface water quality as a result of erosion and sedimentation, hazardous materials release during construction, and construction dewatering discharges.

9.1.4 Biological Resources

The proposed Project could result in a permanent loss of wetlands and sensitive habitats and could directly impact special-status wildlife and plant species. Temporary impacts to biological resources could result from proximity to construction activities, including noise, vibration, and dust. Potential impacts to be evaluated include:

- Impacts on wetlands and aquatic resources.
- Impacts on sensitive wildlife habitats and protected/heritage trees.
- Impacts on special-status wildlife and plant species – direct mortality and/or habitat effects.
- Conflicts with adopted conservation plans or other approved biological resources plans.

9.1.5 Cultural Resources

The proposed Project could affect archaeological, historical, or paleontological resources through ground-disturbing activities during construction, or by introducing new facilities that compromise the historic integrity of historic buildings or landscapes. Potential impacts to be evaluated include:

- Impacts on archaeological and paleontological resources.
- Impacts on the historical significance of a historic district, contributor to a historic district, or historic landscape. Of particular focus will be the proposed well facilities on 1920s Lake Merced Golf Club; the turn of the century Woodlawn Cemetery, the Cypress Lawn Cemetery, and the Golden Gate National Cemetery.
- Impacts on Native American cultural resources.

9.1.6 Traffic, Transportation and Circulation

Construction could have temporary impacts on traffic volumes, traffic safety, and parking in the vicinity of the well facility sites and at the Westlake Pump Station. Potential impacts to be evaluated EIR include:

- Temporary reduction in roadway capacity and increased traffic delays, including impacts from short-term closure of one parking and/or traffic lane. Impaired access to adjacent roadways and land uses.
- Temporary displacement of on- or off-street parking.
- Increased traffic safety hazards during construction.
- Long-term traffic increases during facility operation.

9.1.7 *Noise and Vibration*

Construction noise and vibration impacts from the proposed Project would be associated with facility construction activities, and therefore, would be temporary and short-term. Operation of the proposed pumps and treatment facilities could create permanent noise impacts. Potential impacts to be evaluated include:

- Impacts of construction noise and vibration on sensitive receptors in the vicinity of Project construction sites, especially such sensitive land uses as schools, health care facilities, cemeteries, funeral homes, and churches.
- Noise impacts from groundwater well station operation, including pumps and groundwater treatment facilities.

9.1.8 *Recreational Resources*

Construction could temporarily disrupt recreational uses in the vicinity of the well facility sites as a result of noise, dust, and temporary access restrictions. The EIR will evaluate the impact of the Project on recreational resources. Potential impacts to be evaluated include:

- Temporary and permanent impacts on recreational facilities, including but not limited to Lake Merced Golf Club and Linear Park in South San Francisco.

9.1.9 Other Environmental Issues

Other environmental issues that will be evaluated in the EIR include the Project's potential impacts on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions; public services and utilities, including the Project's beneficial effect on water supply; agricultural resources; hazards, including the potential hazards from chemical storage at the well sites; and energy resources.

The EIR also will evaluate any potential growth-inducing impacts that could result from implementation of the Project. The EIR also will address whether the Project could result in impacts that would be significant when combined with the impacts of other SFPUC or non-SFPUC projects occurring in the same geographic area as the Project and at the same time.

9.2 Alternatives

CEQA requires that an EIR evaluate a reasonable range of feasible alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, that would attain most of the basic project objectives but that could avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project. The EIR will identify the potentially significant impacts of the proposed Project. The findings of the EIR impact analysis will guide the refinement of an appropriate range of alternatives to be evaluated in the EIR that would avoid or substantially lessen significant impacts, while still meeting the project objectives. Alternatives suggested during the public scoping period would also be considered. The EIR will include a discussion of impacts associated with the No Project Alternative.

10.0 REFERENCES

- MWH. 2007. Final Alternatives Analysis Report, Groundwater Conjunctive Use Project. October.
- MWH. 2008. San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Water System Improvement Project Groundwater Conjunctive Use Project WSIP Project CUW30103 Conceptual Engineering Report. November.
- SFPUC. 2005. 2005 Urban Water Management Plan for the City and County of San Francisco. December.

SFPUC. 2009. Conceptual Engineering Report Checklist for Environmental Review. February.

City of San Francisco Planning Department. Program Environmental Impact Report for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Water System Improvement Program (State Clearinghouse No. 2005092026). 2008. September.

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~~Case No. 2005-0164E~~

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June 24, 2009

Appendix B
Notification Materials (Proof of Publication)

San Mateo County Times

c/o Bay Area News Group-East Bay, Legal Advertising
477 9th Ave., #110
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Legal Advertising
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PROOF OF PUBLICATION

FILE NO.

In the matter of

The undersigned deposes that he/she is the Public Notice Advertising Clerk of the SAN MATEO COUNTY TIMES, a newspaper of general circulation as defined by Government Code Section 6000, adjudicated as such by the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Mateo (Order Nos. 55795 on September 21, 1951), which is published and circulated in said county and state daily (Sunday excepted).

The PUBLIC NOTICE

was published in every issue of the SAN MATEO COUNTY TIMES on the following date(s):

6/24/2009

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.


Public Notice Advertising Clerk

Legal No.

0003188359

SAN FRANCISCO PLAN- NING DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public of the following actions under the Environmental Review Process. Review of the documents concerning these projects can be arranged by calling (415) 558-6378 and asking for the staff person indicated.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF EIR AND NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING

The initial evaluation conducted by the Planning Department determined that the following project(s) may have significant effects on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared.

Case No. 2005.0164E: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is proposing the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project to provide surface water to the cities of Daly City and San Bruno and the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) (collectively referred to as Partner Agencies), to be used by these agencies in lieu of pumping groundwater during normal and wet years. The Partner Agencies currently use groundwater as one of the sources of their drinking water supply. The supply would be partially replaced by surface water supplies from the SFPUC regional water system. The reduction of pumping by Partner Agencies would increase groundwater storage in northern San Mateo County within the southern portion of the Westside Groundwater Basin, known as the South Westside Groundwater Basin. The Westside Groundwater Basin spans northern San Mateo County and the City and County of San Francisco. Stored groundwater would be pumped during periods of insufficient surface water supplies (i.e., dry years). As part of the proposed Project, SFPUC would construct new groundwater production well facilities in the cities of Colma, Daly City, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Millbrae, and unincorporated San Mateo County that would be operated by SFPUC and the Partner Agencies. Well facilities would be connected to Daly City, San Bruno, Cal Water, or SFPUC distribution systems.

The project is part of the SFPUC's Water System Improvement Program (WSIP). The WSIP was adopted in October 2008 to improve the SFPUC's regional water system with respect to water quality, seismic response, water delivery, and water supply to meet water delivery needs in the service area.

Notice is hereby given to the general public as follows:

1) A Notice of Preparation of an EIR was published on June 24, 2009 by the Planning Department in connection with this project.

2) Public comments concerning the scope of the EIR will be accepted from June 24, 2009 to July 28, 2009, 5:00 p.m. Mail written comments to the San Francisco Planning Department, Attn: Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer, Regional Groundwater

Storage and Recovery
Project NOP, 1650 Mis-
sion Street, Suite 400,
San Francisco, CA 94103.
Comments also may be
submitted by fax to
(415) 558-6409, or sent
by email to
diana.sokolove@sfgov.o
rg.

3)The San Francisco
Planning Department
will hold a scoping
meeting starting at 7:00
p.m. at the South San
Francisco Municipal
Services Building, Com-
munity Room, 33 Arroyo
Drive, South San Fran-
cisco, CA. Preceding the
Scoping Meeting, the
San Francisco Public
Utilities Commission will
hold a Public Informa-
tion Session from 6:15-
7:00 p.m.

San Mateo County
Times, #3188359
June 24, 2009

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

This space for filing stamp only

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VIRNALIZA BYRD
S.F. PLANNING DEPT
1650 MISSION ST #400
SAN FRANCISCO, CA - 94103

EXM #: 1628277

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

State of California)
County of SAN FRANCISCO) ss

Notice Type: GPN - GOVT PUBLIC NOTICE

Ad Description: 2005.0164E: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of California; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of the SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER, a newspaper published in the English language in the city of SAN FRANCISCO, county of SAN FRANCISCO, and adjudged a newspaper of general circulation as defined by the laws of the State of California by the Superior Court of the County of SAN FRANCISCO, State of California, under date 10/18/1951, Case No. 410667. That the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit:

06/24/2009

Executed on: 06/24/2009
At Los Angeles, California

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

[Handwritten Signature]

Signature

SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public of the following actions under the Environmental Review Process. Review of the documents concerning these projects can be arranged by calling (415) 575-9025 and asking for the staff person indicated.

PRELIMINARY MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The initial evaluation conducted by the Planning Department determined that the following projects could not have a significant effect on the environment, and that no environmental impact report is required. Accordingly, a Preliminary Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared.

Public recommendations for amendment of the text of the finding, or any appeal of this determination to the Planning Commission (with \$500 filing fee) must be filed with the Department within 20 days following the date of this notice. In the absence of an appeal, the Negative Declaration shall be made final, subject to any necessary modifications, 20 days from the date of this notice.

2008.1286E: 1100 Ellis Street/Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory Theatre. The 61,105 square-foot project site (Assessor's Block 0711, Lot 031) is located on the north side of Ellis Street, on a block bounded by Gough, Ellis and Laguna Streets, and Geary Boulevard, within the Western Addition neighborhood. The site is located in an RM-4 (Residential Mixed-Use, High Density) District and 80-B Height and Bulk District. The proposed project involves the construction of a new theater, renovation of two existing buildings, and construction of a new elevator within the Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory school campus. The proposed theater would be located within the existing interior courtyard of the campus. The total area would be approximately 11,513 square feet, would be 36 feet 9 inches in height, and would seat approximately 299 people. The proposed project would not result in an increase in the number of students or staff. (FORD-HAM)

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF EIR AND NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING

The initial evaluation conducted by the Planning Department determined that the following project(s) may have significant effects on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared.

2005.0164E: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project - The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is proposing the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project to provide surface water to the cities of Daly City and San Bruno and the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) (collectively referred to as Partner Agencies), to be used by these agencies in lieu of pumping groundwater during normal and wet years. The Partner Agencies currently use groundwater as one of the sources of their drinking water supply. The supply would be partially replaced by surface water supplies from the SFPUC regional water system. The reduction of pumping by Partner Agencies would increase groundwater storage in northern San Mateo County within the southern portion of the Westside Groundwater Basin, known as the "South Westside Groundwater Basin." The Westside Groundwater Basin spans northern San Mateo County and the City and County of San Francisco. Stored groundwater would be pumped during periods of insufficient surface water supplies (i.e., dry years). As part of the proposed Project, SFPUC would construct new groundwater production well facilities in the cities of Colma, Daly City, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Millbrae, and unincorporated San Mateo County that would be operated by SFPUC and the Partner Agencies. Well facilities would be connected to Daly City, San Bruno, Cal Water, or SFPUC distribution systems. The project is part of the SFPUC's Water System Improvement Program (WSIP). The WSIP was adopted in October 2008 to improve the SFPUC's regional water system with respect to water quality, seismic response, water delivery, and water supply to meet water delivery needs in the service area.



* A 0 0 0 0 0 1 2 1 4 1 8 5 *

Notice is hereby given to the general public as follows.

1) A Notice of Preparation of an EIR was published on June 24, 2009 by the Planning Department in connection with this project.

2) Public comments concerning the scope of the EIR will be accepted from June 24, 2009 to July 28, 2009, 5:00 p.m. Mail written comments to the San Francisco Planning Department, Attn. Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer, Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project NOP, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. Comments also may be submitted by fax to (415) 558-6409, or sent by email to diana.sokolove@sfgov.org.

3) The San Francisco Planning Department will hold a scoping meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. at the South San Francisco Municipal Services Building, Community Room, 33 Arroyo Drive, South San Francisco, CA. Preceding the Scoping Meeting, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission will hold a Public Information Session from 6:15-7:00 p.m.

Appendix C
Public Scoping Meeting Transcript

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

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SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

PROPOSED REGIONAL GROUNDWATER STORAGE & RECOVERY PROJECT

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THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2009

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

REPORTED BY: Katy Leonard
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 11599

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Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

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A P P E A R A N C E S

Moderator:

DIANA H. SOKOLOVE, Senior Environmental Planner

SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

(415) 575-9046

(415) 558-6409 (Fax)

diana.sokolove@sfgov.org

Presenter:

GREG BARTOW, Project Manager

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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A G E N D A

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

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8 CLOSING REMARKS:	35

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11 A T T A C H M E N T S

12 SF Planning Department Public Scoping Meeting Agenda

13 1 page

14

15 SF Planning Department "Notice of Preparation of an
16 Environmental Impact Report," 30 pages

17 Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
18 handout, 2 pages

19

20 Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery project
21 "Frequently Asked Questions" handout, 2 pages

22 SF Public Utilities Commission "WSIP" brochure, 1 page

23

24 (Attached to the original transcript)

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 JULY 9, 2009

Page 3

7:02 P.M.

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

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INTRODUCTION

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MS. SOKOLOVE: Hi. Good evening. Thank you for coming tonight.

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welcome to tonight's Public Scoping Meeting for the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project.

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Can everyone hear me?

My name is Diana Sokolove, and I'm a Senior Environmental Planner with the San Francisco Planning Department, and I'll be the moderator for tonight's meeting.

So, I just wanted to review with you briefly the purpose of the meeting tonight for those of you who may be unfamiliar with the environmental review process.

Essentially, I'm here to hear from you. And I want to hear your comments on the scope and focus of the proposed project that's sponsored by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

Your comments tonight can help me understand the depth of analysis that I need to perform in the

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Environmental Impact Report, the alternatives to the proposed project, et cetera. So, we really want to understand what you think about the environmental effects of the project. So, that's the main reason why

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

5 I'm here tonight.

6 Here's our agenda: I'm going to introduce
7 some folks from the project team here from the City and
8 County of San Francisco and some other folks who are
9 here from the partner agencies.

10 I'll make a brief presentation about the
11 environmental review process in general, and then a
12 representative from the San Francisco Public Utilities
13 Commission will give a brief presentation and overview
14 of the proposed project. Then we'll take your comments,
15 and I'll make some closing remarks, and you can all go
16 home.

17 So, just some reminders: If you haven't
18 already, please sign in at the front desk. That's our
19 way of keeping in touch with you, unless, of course, you
20 don't want us to keep in touch with you, but that is our
21 way to keep track and make sure that you receive our
22 notices and publications regarding this project, so
23 please do sign in. Pick up copies of the meeting
24 materials, such as the Notice of Preparation.

25 And if you would like to speak tonight, you'll

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1 fill out one of these yellow cards, please, and you can
2 hand those cards to Pat and she'll give them to me.

3 And if you don't want to speak tonight, but
4 you want to submit comments, you can fill out one of
5 these sheets of paper. (Indicating) They're at the
6 front desk, and I think we have some up here as well so

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

7 you can submit some written comments.

8 And if you so choose, when we're done with the
9 presentation, you can speak directly to the Court
10 Reporter here and she can transcribe your comments
11 directly.

12 Please do hold all of your comments until the
13 end of the meeting so that we can -- I'm sorry -- until
14 the end of the presentation so that we can get through
15 the presentation as quickly as possible.

16 And I know you all have cell phones and pagers
17 and lots of beeping things, so just turn those off. And
18 if you do need to take a call, feel free to step
19 outside. And I know there are restrooms. If you go out
20 this door, make a right. And there is also a water
21 fountain over there.

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1 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS OVERVIEW

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3 MS. SOKOLOVE: So, again, my name is Diana
4 Sokolove. I'm with the San Francisco Planning
5 Department, and the Planning Department is the lead
6 agency for performing the environmental review of this
7 proposed project under the California Environmental

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8 Quality Act, or CEQA, and the project sponsor is the San
9 Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

10 And here tonight is the Project Manager, Greg
11 Bartow. And we also have Sue Chau, who is the
12 Environmental Project Manager. Michele Liapes in the
13 back with communications, and also, Les Chau with
14 Kennedy/Jenks, who's a designer working with the Public
15 Utilities Commission.

16 And I think there's some folks from the
17 partner agencies here.

18 MR. BARTOW: I just want to acknowledge our
19 three partner agency representatives that are here
20 tonight: Patrick Sweetland from Daly City, Tom Salzano
21 from Cal Water, and Steve Davis from the City of San
22 Bruno.

23 Also, two managers from the San Francisco
24 Public Utilities Commission that are here tonight:
25 Andrew Degracó, Manager of our Water Quality Department,

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1 and Paula Kehoe, Director of Water Resources.

2 MS. SOKOLOVE: So, I did want to talk to you a
3 little bit about the California Environmental Quality
4 Act. Proposed projects do require environmental review
5 under CEQA before they can be considered for approval.
6 So, again, we're here tonight to hear your comments on
7 what the environmental effects of the project will be so
8 that we can be sure to disclose all of those facts in
9 the environmental document.

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10 And again, as I explained, for projects that
11 are sponsored by or within the City and County of
12 San Francisco, including San Francisco Public Utilities
13 Commission Projects, CEQA is implemented by the
14 San Francisco Planning Department, and that's who I
15 represent.

16 Here are the objectives of CEQA -- I'll just
17 read these off to you: To prevent environmental impact
18 of proposed projects; identify ways to avoid or reduce
19 environmental impacts; support the agency
20 decision-making process, such as planning commissions or
21 the San Francisco Public Utilities Commissions or any of
22 the partner agencies commissions, and also, resource
23 agencies; to encourage public participation -- so, this
24 is another reason why we're here tonight -- and to
25 enhance interagency coordination.

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1 So, what will our Environmental Impact Report
2 do. Well, the -- the meat of the Environmental Impact
3 Report is an analysis of the environmental effects of
4 the project and looking at alternatives to the proposed
5 project that could reduce or avoid or lessen
6 environmental effects.

7 So, it's going to have a really good
8 description of the proposed project, and it's going to
9 talk about the environmental effects of the project.
10 And those environmental effects range from air quality

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11 impacts, transportation impacts, traffic, hazardous
12 materials impacts, impacts on plants and wildlife.
13 Those kinds of things.

14 And then there will be a section on ways that
15 we can reduce the environmental impacts of the project,
16 be that through mitigation measures or through
17 alternatives to the project.

18 So, now, a representative from the
19 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Greg Bartow,
20 will talk to you a little bit about the project itself.

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

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3 MR. BARTOW: Thanks, Diana.

4 Good evening, everybody. I'm Greg Bartow, the
5 Project Manager for this project, and I want to thank
6 everybody for coming out this evening to learn more
7 about the project. I'm just going to give you a brief
8 overview of the project. The Notice of Preparation goes
9 into the project in a lot more detail. There's also
10 information on our Web site, and materials on the back
11 of the table.

12 First, I want to just talk about the

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

13 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission in general.
14 we're a wholesale water provider and resale water
15 supplier in the San Francisco Bay Area.

16 We supply 2.4 million residents in the Bay
17 Area. About a third of those are San Francisco retail
18 customers, and two-thirds of those are wholesale
19 suburban customers, as -- the light area around the Bay
20 shows the service area, which is a portion of the East
21 Bay, a portion of the South Bay, almost all of San Mateo
22 County, and all of San Francisco. (Indicating)

23 The Water System Improvement Program was a
24 voter-approved bond measure in 2002 to do seismic
25 restoration or rehabilitation of the project -- of a

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1 number of our projects, including pipelines, reservoirs,
2 and treatment plants.

3 It also included a component to diversify our
4 water supply, and that's where this project fits in. It
5 includes this project, as well as drilling new wells in
6 San Francisco for a water supply, recycled water
7 facilities, as two other examples.

8 So, on the need for the project, so that it --
9 this is basically a dry-year water supply project, and
10 what it is designed to do is to meet our
11 commission-approved 80 percent reliability goal, which
12 said another way is, we have -- the Commission has
13 adopted a policy to not -- in any dry year, not have our

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14 cutbacks to be more than 20 percent so we wouldn't have
15 mandatory rationing greater than 20 percent.

16 But this is part of the project that would
17 need to happen to keep that mandatory rationing at no
18 greater than 20 percent in any one year or any series of
19 years.

20 Okay. So, now I'll take you into the westside
21 Basin here. And so, the westside Basin is about 40
22 square miles. It extends from Golden Gate Park to the
23 north, all the way down to Burlingame.

24 And the focus of this project is the South
25 Westside Basin. And we're working with three partner

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1 agencies: Daly City to the north, Cal Water, which
2 serves South San Francisco and Colma and some
3 unincorporated areas in San Mateo County, and then the
4 City of San Bruno.

5 This is a Conjunctive Use Project, and so
6 to -- that term means the use of the -- the managed use
7 of groundwater and surface water. And what really works
8 out for this part of the basin is that these utilities
9 already use groundwater to meet a portion of their water
10 supply needs, and they have an ability to use
11 San Francisco surface water supplies.

12 So, what is groundwater. Groundwater is water
13 that has -- that is in the subsurface that has been
14 recharged, either from rainfall or from streams and
15 irrigation.

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16 And so, what this map or this cross section
17 shows is the unsaturated zone above the groundwater
18 table and a typical well. (Indicating) So, just
19 schematically just to give you a little overview of what
20 we're talking about. Groundwater.

21 How would the project work? So, there's sort
22 of the three components of the project here. The
23 existing conditions, which is the cross section on the
24 upper -- just first of all, I think a simple way to look
25 at the west -- South Westside Basin, if you think about

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1 it as a bathtub full of sand, and then the water levels,
2 due to historic pumping, have been depressed, and so,
3 there's some available storage.

4 So, that bathtub is roughly a half or
5 two-thirds full of water, and the space between the sand
6 grains above that water has available storage space to
7 it. And so, currently, water levels are, in some cases,
8 200 feet below sea level. There's a significant amount
9 of available storage in this underground reservoir. And
10 that's what we want to utilize for this project.

11 So, the existing condition is that there's --
12 the pumping has decreased and stabilized over the years,
13 and the existing conditions is that there are those
14 municipal pumpers and some other irrigation pumpers in
15 the basin that are used in the basin.

16 And the way the project works is, in normal

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17 and wet years, when we have water, extra water within
18 the system, we have no -- we don't have places to put
19 it. We top off our reservoirs, and there's no other
20 location where we can store this. And the South
21 Westside Basin provides such a storage location.

22 So, you can see what we do is, in normal and
23 wet years, we would supply to those three partner
24 agencies more surface water and they would reduce their
25 pumping from the groundwater basin. By reducing the

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1 groundwater pumping, that allows the natural recharge to
2 build up.

3 So, we're not talking about injecting water.
4 We're not talking about recharged ponds like some other
5 utilities. It's just going to be the natural recharge
6 that accumulates in the basin over time. So, that's the
7 middle slide. That's how we've increased the storage
8 there.

9 And then when we get to a drought, we will
10 have installed 16 new wells in the basin that we can
11 draw from this stored water, and then those partner
12 agencies -- the City of Daly City, Cal water, and
13 San Bruno -- would turn their existing wells back on and
14 pump the amount of water they had previously pumped, and
15 will be able to pump from these new wells.

16 So, that's the benefit of the project, is
17 being able to recover that stored water.

18 To say this a little differently, we'll just

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

19 Look at those same time slices that we were showing from
20 top to bottom, only this time it's left to right.

21 So, under existing conditions right now, if
22 you take those three agencies together -- Daly City, Cal
23 Water, and San Bruno -- and look at how much water
24 they're using collectively, they're using 14.5 million
25 gallons per day of surface water and 5.7 million gallons

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1 per day of groundwater. So, this is collectively. In
2 Daly City and San Bruno, it's more 50/50. In Cal Water,
3 it's a smaller percent, but it averages out to be about
4 a third, two-thirds.

5 So, then we get into the storage component of
6 the project, and in wet or normal years, they'll reduce
7 their pumping. So, you can see the blue portion of the
8 chart is decreasing.

9 And then we're adding -- we're providing more
10 surface water to them. So, that's how the water then --
11 by reducing that pumping, then that's allowing
12 groundwater to accumulate in the basin.

13 Then the payout where this project makes --
14 provides the benefit is during the dry year. And during
15 the dry year, we would reduce our surface water
16 deliveries to those utilities, and then we would pump
17 through those 16 new wells -- the middle, the darker
18 blue portion of the water (Indicating) -- and then they
19 would return to pumping their previously pumped amount

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

20 of water.

21 This is -- this provides a regional benefit to
22 all the 2.4 million customers. It sort of helps float
23 everybody's boat by having this additional pumping --
24 pumped groundwater in dry years in this project.

25 I'll talk now more about how we got these well

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1 sites. How did we get to these 16 well sites.

2 Initially, we started with 48 sites that we looked at
3 throughout the basin. We were looking for sites on
4 properties we owned, on other public properties, and
5 private properties.

6 We ranked those relative to a number of
7 criteria, but, for example, distance to transmission
8 lines, location of where they are in the basin. The
9 center of the basin is deeper, so we wanted to stay away
10 from the sides of the basin, which are shallower. We
11 wanted to stay away from potential contaminating
12 activities like underground storage tanks.

13 And so, we winnowed that down from 48 to 19
14 sites that are in the Environmental Impact Report that
15 are listed in this Notice of Preparation. And then of
16 those, we want to build up to 16 sites. So, there's
17 maps in the Notice of Preparation, and this exact map is
18 in there.

19 But just to take you through -- so, starting
20 in the north -- and these are a series of three
21 overlapping maps showing you the location of these 19

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

22 sites. So, that's in the Daly City and Colma area,
23 Colma, South San Francisco area, and then San Bruno and
24 down to Millbrae.

25 So, let me go over the overall project

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1 description. So, we're working on an agreement with
2 these three utilities to store up to 61,000-acre-feet of
3 water in the South Westside Basin. That's about as much
4 water as in our Crystal Springs Reservoir. If you ever
5 go down 280 or cross over 92 to go to Half Moon Bay,
6 you're going through upper and lower Crystal Springs
7 Reservoirs.

8 Starting this spring, there were
9 54,000-acre-feet, and at that time the reservoir was
10 full, so, this is a lot of water that we're able to
11 store in this -- this South Westside Basin. The scope
12 is to develop 7.2 million gallons per day pumping
13 capacity, and to be able to pump that for 7 1/2 years.

14 So, the map is, if you pumped that amount at
15 that rate for that amount of time, that would equal
16 61,000-acre-feet. And we'd only pump the stored water,
17 the water that we had stored through the exchange
18 program with those agencies.

19 I mentioned this before, the project is to
20 construct 16 wells. Each of the facilities would also
21 have pipelines there. There would be electrical
22 connections. There would be connections to the

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

23 stormwater in the sanitary sewer.
24 We'd disinfect the water per the California
25 Department of Public Health requirements. We'd provide

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1 other treatment, if needed. If the water naturally
2 doesn't meet the drinking water standards, then we would
3 treat it to be below those standards. And then the
4 wells would be connected to either Daly City, San Bruno,
5 Cal Water, or the SFPUC pipelines. It will be a
6 combination of those up and down the basin.

7 I want to emphasize that the water will --
8 you'll continue to have high-quality drinking water from
9 this project. The groundwater will be in compliance
10 with the California Department of Public Health
11 requirements. There will be disinfection of the water
12 where we'll have a monitoring program, and in most
13 cases, the groundwater will continue to be blended with
14 San Francisco's imported surface water.

15 Just a typical site layout. So, this is a
16 site in South San Francisco off of Hickey Boulevard. We
17 own the right of way along this proposed site, and
18 the -- this is the well. This is the building.
19 (Indicating) These other lines are existing pipelines
20 or proposed pipelines. (Indicating)

21 As I mentioned, we're going to need
22 connections to the sanitary sewer, storm drains, etc.
23 And then there's a larger line drawn around this that
24 would be the areas of construction, so when we're

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

25 constructing the facility, we'd have a larger area that

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1 would be impacted, and then we'll end up with a smaller
2 building there when we're all done.

3 This is a sample facility from Southern
4 California, a well station. This is a well only. If we
5 have to have disinfection or treatment, the facility
6 could be twice that size.

7 And then I'll turn it back over to Diana.

8 MS. SOKOLOVE: So, here's our environmental
9 review schedule. We distributed the Notice of
10 Preparation on June 24th of this year. Tonight is our
11 Public Scoping Meeting. The scoping period ends on July
12 28th, so that's the last day that we'll be accepting
13 scoping comments. And then we begin our draft
14 Environmental Impact Report. We hope to publish the
15 draft Environmental Impact Report next summer, and then
16 we would release that Environmental Impact Report for a
17 45-day review. Once we get comments back, we will
18 prepare responses to comments, and we would release the
19 response-to-comments document, or the final
20 Environmental Impact Report the following year. We hope
21 to certify in mid 2001.

22 So, here is your chance to give me your
23 comments, and I'm just wondering if anyone has a speaker
24 card, if they wanted to speak tonight.

25 Given the fact that we have a court

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

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1 transcriber here, if you could stay up in the front of
2 the room and sort of speak to her and the audience, that
3 would be great.

4 ---ooo---

5
6 PUBLIC COMMENT

7
8 PUBLIC SPEAKER: Hi. My name is Andrea Ouse. ← ORAL COMMENT 101
9 I'm the City Planner for the Town of Colma. Thank you
10 very much for the Scoping Meeting tonight. I'm here on
11 behalf of the Town of Colma, its residents, and property
12 owners.

13 First of all, I think in concept, the Town
14 agrees with and respects the type of work that's being
15 done here. It's an overall public good. I do think
16 that there are some considerations that maybe haven't
17 been vetted out quite yet.

18 Um, one of the things that concerns us in the
19 Town is the test wells. The test wells appear to be
20 being handled as a separate project and not encompassed
21 as part of a cumulative review of the recharge project.

22 So, I understand from talking to staff, and
23 from a workshop that was held in Colma, that it's --
24 they're being considered under a categorical exemption.

25 Also, what I understand is there's a cluster

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1 of wells. There's approximately five or six different
2 sites in our town of Colma, and there's many others
3 throughout the stretch.

4 There are approximately five different wells
5 in each site, so there's a number of very large, deep
6 holes that will be dug throughout our community, and
7 we're really not sure that that warrants a categorical
8 exemption under CEQA, and we would appreciate being
9 forwarded any paperwork that's been already developed on
10 the test-well issue so that we have the opportunity to
11 review and comment on it.

12 The scope of those test wells, we really
13 didn't know too much about it, but we would also
14 appreciate it, if there's any project description on
15 those test wells, to be sent that information.

16 On the project description of the storage
17 project here, we don't feel at this point that it is
18 quite adequate to describe the -- sort of the depth, and
19 again whether or not this will include clustering. I
20 didn't know that there's going to be buildings
21 associated with each well site.

22 Maybe there is or isn't, but this is kind
23 of -- this was new information for me. We do have some
24 pretty significant concerns if buildings are going to be
25 associated with each well site and where those are going

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1 to be located and what they're going to look like.

2 For any of you not familiar, Colma has
3 76 percent of its land in cemetery use. And there's --
4 you know, we try to keep our policies in line with a
5 very tranquil and serene environment. Our cemeteries
6 have been there over a hundred years and they use a lot
7 of the groundwater to irrigate their property, so we
8 have a very distinct, vested interest in maintaining
9 some sort of rights associated with that usage.

10 At this point I'm not quite sure what the
11 management structure is going to be in terms of the
12 assertion of authority over this -- this aquifer, so I
13 think the project description should include a
14 description of what that breakdown is going to be and
15 what that authority -- who's going to have the authority
16 over this water, and if it's going to change the rights
17 and the ownership of that water to the partner agencies
18 or different entities, other than those that are already
19 existing and have those rights to the water.

20 One of the things I would like to see in the
21 Environmental Impact Report is some sort of study of the
22 potential settlement issues associated with recharging
23 the aquifer and deleting the part of the aquifer.

24 Since it appears to be either a gradual
25 decrease in the amount of water in the aquifer right

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1 now, is there going to be any consideration for
2 potential settlement issues with sort of a more active
3 management of the aquifer?

4 And that concludes my comments. Thank you.

5 MS. SOKOLOVE: Thank you.

6 Did anybody else want to make any comments
7 tonight?

8 PUBLIC SPEAKER: Good evening. My name is
9 Peter Drekmeier. I'm with the Tuolumne River Trust.

← ORAL COMMENT 102

10 And I'm curious if the EIR is going to look at
11 the impacts of -- it sounds like it might divert an
12 extra 6.7 million gallons of water per day from the
13 Tuolumne in wet years, and I'm wondering if in addition
14 to what was studied in the program EIR for the WSIP,
15 that that would be looked at.

16 If that wasn't the plan, I would encourage you
17 to do that, because there's going to be additional
18 information coming out at the end of this year or early
19 next year. The PC is doing a biological study of the
20 stretch below Hetch Hetchy as part of the settlement on
21 the Kirkwood Powerhouse Agreement in 1988. So, we're
22 going to have additional information that wasn't
23 available at the time of the WSIP, and that would be
24 good to incorporate that.

25 I'd also encourage you to look at the recharge

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1 of the groundwater with stormwater so that we might be

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

2 able to tap it sustainably ongoing even in wet years and
3 rely less on the Tuolumne River.

4 Thank you.

5 MS. SOKOLOVE: (Indicating)

6 PUBLIC SPEAKER: Good evening. I'm Kathryn
7 Slater-Carter, and I am a business owner in Daly City
8 and a property owner in Pacifica.

← ORAL COMMENT 103

9 I have a question, actually, about whether the
10 rate of recharge for the basin has been calculated and
11 is part of this, given that during the dry years there
12 would be more water taken out of it, how long will that
13 water supply be good for.

14 There's substantial impervious surface in the
15 basin, and to Peter's earlier comments, I think it might
16 be worthwhile to be looking at treated stormwater
17 runoff, since most of the cities do have stormwater
18 drainage systems in them.

19 The other question is, what will the cost of
20 the -- from the increased use of Hetch Hetchy water be?
21 It's a very expensive water. I'm sure that Daly City is
22 able to blend its rates to keep the cost down by using
23 groundwater.

24 Is this going to cause me, as a business owner
25 that uses a significant amount of water, to see an

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1 increase in my rates?

2 Thank you.

3 MS. SOKOLOVE: (Indicating)

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4 PUBLIC SPEAKER: My name is Jim Stark. I
5 reside in San Francisco, and I live in the area known as
6 "Lakeshore" or "Lakeshore Acres," and for many years,
7 our organization, the Lakeshore Acres Improvement Club,
8 has been concerned with lake levels at Lake Merced, and
9 we hope that the Environmental Impact Report will
10 examine it and respond to all the concerns that are
11 already known regarding lake levels at Lake Merced.

← ORAL COMMENT 104

12 Thank you.

13 MS. SOKOLOVE: (Indicating)

14 PUBLIC SPEAKER: I'm going to talk to you
15 since you're the one who's writing everything the EIR,
16 and I'm happy to have everybody who's here hear me say
17 what I have to say.

18 My name is Bob Maddow. I'm an attorney. I
19 represent a number of golf courses throughout the basin.
20 Several of them have switched from use of groundwater
21 from this very same aquifer to use of recycled water.
22 That's been an important achievement that the City and
23 County of San Francisco and the City of Daly City are
24 very proud of, and rightly so, and so are those golf
25 courses. And they're very satisfied with the recycled

← ORAL COMMENT 105

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1 water as a substitute supply for the groundwater that
2 was being pumped.

3 I have to say that a number of my clients,
4 which are owners of private wells in this same basin who

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

5 have the legal right to use groundwater within this
6 basin -- that they find it somewhat ironic that we're
7 now looking at more than doubling the production of
8 groundwater from this aquifer, which they have worked
9 hard and they are paying good money to preserve, and
10 they're very concerned about making sure that in the
11 long run, the doubling of the production of this aquifer
12 is thought through very carefully before it's
13 undertaken.

14 Greg talked about the aquifer and analogized
15 with the bathtub full of sand, and that's pretty good,
16 because he did not do something that I have seen
17 suggested, or at least implied, in some of the things
18 that I have read about the Conjunctive Use Program, and
19 that's an intent to analogize this to a lake. It's not
20 a lake.

21 You've got -- Greg talked about the fact that
22 the groundwater levels within this basin are depressed
23 dramatically from years of pumping, but it's still an
24 aquifer that has enormous productivity and enormous
25 potential for storage, but nobody knows what's going to

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1 happen when you refill it.

2 There's been a pilot program in which
3 something on the order of 15,000-acre-feet was, in fact,
4 recharged into this aquifer as a result of the same kind
5 of in-lieu program that you're talking about on a larger
6 scale now, but beyond that 15,000-acre-foot pilot

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

7 program, nobody really knows exactly what's going to
8 happen.

9 So, I think it's very important that the
10 Environmental Impact Report describe how it is that
11 that -- the effects of refilling that aquifer will, in
12 fact, be measured, both from the standpoint of its
13 long-term productivity, from the standpoint of the
14 impact of private well owners who still have the legal
15 right to use water from that aquifer.

16 And with regard to water-quality issues, I
17 realize that the water that is extracted from that basin
18 now for municipal purposes is a high-quality water. In
19 fact, the water quality in this area is excellent, if
20 you compare it with what you can find in most of
21 California and much of the nation.

22 But you're dealing with refilling a basin that
23 has been empty, and a significant portion of that basin
24 underlies something that is proudly called "The
25 Industrial City." I don't know what kind of quality

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1 considerations might crop up once that basin is
2 refilled. In other words, are there contaminants that
3 will be remobilized? Let me put it that way.

4 Greg mentioned leaking underground storage
5 tanks. I think it could conceivably go beyond that. I
6 don't have any particular contaminant in mind or source
7 of contaminants in mind.

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8 It just occurs to me that there's the
9 potential for remobilization of contaminants that might
10 have been deposited there through industrial activity
11 long, long ago and during the time when this aquifer
12 was, in fact, being hit pretty hard.

13 From the standpoint of private well owners
14 throughout the basin, both those whom I represent and
15 others whom I know to exist, there needs to be a clear
16 understanding of the possibility for mutual
17 interference. I'm aware of a little work that's been
18 done with regard to mutual interference. I'm not aware
19 of all that has been done or will be done.

20 I hope that that issue is, in fact, discussed
21 in the environmental analysis and in the technical
22 memoranda that accompanies the environmental analysis so
23 that the owners of private wells will understand exactly
24 what they can anticipate. This is not an adjudicated
25 basin.

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1 I really appreciate the comments made by the
2 woman from Colma. What are the legal implications of
3 the type of program that you are actually talking about
4 undertaking? And what are the rights of the
5 private-property owners who are going to find that as a
6 result -- who might find -- we'll know from your EIR, I
7 hope -- that the rights that they have to extract water
8 for productive, beneficial uses from this basin are
9 adversely impacted?

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

10 They might -- might some of their wells be
11 rendered obsolete? Might some of their wells have to be
12 deepened? Might they need new pumping arrangements?
13 Might they have to move to entirely new water supply
14 arrangements as a result of this?

15 We don't know any of that yet. Those are
16 among the suite of issues that need to be addressed.
17 And, of course, there is the overlay of the legal issue
18 that has been referred to a couple of times tonight.

19 All in all, it's an exciting project. It's
20 the kind of project that should be done. It needs to be
21 done in a careful, integrated way, looking at all the
22 opportunities.

23 There was a reference to -- by Mr. Drekmeier
24 to the possibility of using stormwater as a component of
25 the recharge of this basin. And that obviously is a

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1 potential. I'm not quite sure how you intend to look at
2 that, but it is an issue that needs to be addressed.

3 A parallel issue is one that comes right out
4 of your Water System Improvement Program, and that's the
5 additional use of recycled water as a source of water
6 for irrigation purposes throughout the portions of the
7 basin where it is not now available.

8 I know that San Francisco is working hard with
9 Daly City to extend the use of the tertiary water that's
10 produced at the Daly City plant, to move it to Harding

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

11 Park, and I know at various times, San Francisco has
12 considered other aspects of the water recycling program
13 that would be a part of and would work in conjunction
14 with the WSIP program.

15 How does that work throughout the balance of
16 the westside Basin?

17 There are a number of opportunities there, it
18 would seem to me, for there to be a recycled water
19 program that might allow you to get even more bang for
20 your conjunctive use if you were to get those two things
21 in parallel.

22 In other words, integrated water resources
23 management. Paula Kehoe's favorite term. Integrated
24 water resources management needs to be considered and
25 analyzed in this EIR just as it would need to be

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1 considered and analyzed in an EIR for a stormwater
2 treatment program of the type Mr. Drekmeier referred to
3 for an extended recycled water program.

4 We look forward to participating. We
5 appreciate the opportunity, and hope to be able to
6 submit comments by the 28th and participate in the
7 balance of the project.

8 MS. SOKOLOVE: Does anybody else want to speak
9 tonight?

10 PUBLIC SPEAKER: Good evening. My name is
11 Paul Perkovic. I live in Montara, and I'm on the Board
12 of Directors along with Kathryn of the Montara water and

← ORAL COMMENT 106

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13 Sanitary District which serves the Montara, Moss Beach
14 area.

15 Our water -- our district does not receive
16 water from the Hetch Hetchy system. However, the
17 neighboring district to our south, Coastside County
18 Water District, does receive water from Hetch Hetchy.
19 And because the entire coastside is affected by water
20 supplies that meet our domestic and agricultural needs,
21 I'm interested in how this project may stabilize the
22 water supplies that would be available from Hetch Hetchy
23 to meet the coastside needs.

24 Coming from the coastside, I have a different
25 perspective on a couple of the items. I just got

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1 through the materials this evening and scanned through
2 them fairly quickly, but we have a frequent problem
3 where we lose power, and I didn't see any plans for
4 emergency generators, backup generators in any of the
5 well pump-housing or treatment facilities.

6 Certainly, I think that it would be prudent,
7 unless your power supplies are much more reliable here
8 than they are on the coast, that you have some provision
9 for emergency power, unless you have 99.9 percent
10 availability from your public power supplier. We often
11 lose power for hours at a time, sometimes several days
12 at a time, and backup power is necessary on all our
13 facilities.

14 Secondly, before our district acquired the
15 water system from the previous owners, (Inaudible)
16 Corporation of California, there was an instance where
17 an underground fuel tank that was used to store gasoline
18 leaked into our -- one of the aquifers that served our
19 community, and the resulting MTBE contamination meant
20 that two of the major production wells were taken out of
21 service for a period of time, and that had a very
22 dramatic impact on our district.

23 You mentioned that the siting looked at
24 potential contaminant sources. However, there are
25 numerous gas stations located throughout the urbanized

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1 area in the basin area, and I don't know if any of those
2 have had any leakage problems with MTPE-supplemented
3 fuel.

4 And I share the concern of the attorney who
5 just spoke, in that some of the materials -- some of the
6 contaminants may have adhered to the soil particles when
7 water levels were at a lower level, and as the water
8 levels are raised, they may be remobilized.

9 Um, those are the major concerns or questions
10 I have that are directly relevant to the EIR scoping
11 process. However, I have a number of other questions
12 that are sort of business-related questions, and if I
13 may, I'd like to just put those forward.

14 Kathryn raised the question about how the cost
15 of the water would effect the relevant agencies. It

Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

16 looks to me like the plan is during years when there is
17 an adequate supply, Daly City and South San Francisco
18 and Cal Water would take additional water from Hetch
19 Hetchy and not pump the groundwater wells.

20 Would they be paying the current Hetch Hetchy
21 wholesale prices for the water that they take, or would
22 that be treated as an advance of so many million acre
23 feet or so many thousand acre feet that could be drawn
24 on in the future?

25 This is particularly important, because the

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1 price of an acre foot of water this year is about 17
2 percent less than the price of an acre foot of water
3 next year, and about 21 percent less than the price of
4 an acre -- or, cumulative, you know, 38 percent less
5 than the cost of an acre foot two years from now.

6 So, if the agency is paying 2009 prices to
7 purchase water to allow recharge, and then that agency
8 can draw on that water two years from now when they
9 otherwise would be paying much higher rates to purchase
10 water from the Hetch Hetchy system, basically the other
11 users of the Hetch Hetchy water, the Bay Area Water
12 Supply and Conservation Agency, are underwriting the
13 cost of water to the South City and Daly City and CalAm
14 [sic] users.

15 If it's treated as an advance of water that is
16 then repaid later by dry underground water basin, and

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17 the payments to Hetch Hetchy to SFPUC remain at the sort
18 of average use and escalating price to pay for the
19 seismic improvement program, that would seem to me to be
20 more fair.

21 The second question that's related to that --
22 and maybe this is within the scope of the EIR, at least
23 within our scope, the Bay Area Water Supply and
24 conservation agency -- there's a very complex water
25 allocation scheme, as I understand it, for drought

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1 periods.

2 And agencies get some percentage of their
3 water purchase in a base year, plus some percentage of
4 their water purchased in the previous water year, and
5 that affects the water supply assurance during a drought
6 period so that it's based on sort of historic use and
7 recent use to determine how much is delivered.
8 Coastside County Water District is in a very unfortunate
9 situation that their historic water use is very low, and
10 during the planning for this year's drought, it was
11 looking like if Hetch Hetchy -- if the SFPUC cut back
12 20 percent, their water delivery would be cut back
13 36 percent.

14 Now, how will those formulas apply for the
15 agencies we're looking at here that are participants if
16 they are taking delivery of a much higher quantity of
17 water from the SFPUC system during the recharge period?

18 Then when the drought period comes, is their
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Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript

19 allocation much higher as a consequence?

20 Now, again, this may be something that's part
21 of the contract negotiations. That's true.

22 And those are the only comments I have at the
23 moment. Thank you very much.

24 (To Mr. Maddow) And I very much appreciated
25 your comments, sir.

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1 MS. SOKOLOVE: Anyone else?

2 (No response from the audience)

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5 CLOSING REMARKS

6

7 MS. SOKOLOVE: I just wanted to let you know
8 where you can send your comments, if you have any
9 further comments.

10 If you didn't speak tonight, or even if you
11 did speak tonight, and you want to submit some
12 additional comments, you should feel free to send them
13 to me at my E-mail address. You can fax them to my
14 office or you can send them in by mail to the Planning
15 Department through July 28th.

16 And I believe that all of this information is
17 also on your agenda. It's in the Notice of Preparation,
18 et cetera, but if you need my business card, I can give
19 one to you.

20 Appendix C Scoping Meeting Transcript
And for more information, you can contact me.
21 There's my phone number, my E-mail. Please do read the
22 Notice of Preparation. We have extra copies here
23 tonight, so if you'd like to take one with you, I can
24 give you one.
25 And if you have questions or comments about

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1 the project itself, you can contact the San Francisco
2 Public Utilities Commission. And again, all of this
3 information is on your agenda.

4 So, that concludes our presentation for this
5 evening. And I really do want to thank you for coming
6 tonight. Your comments were excellent, and we will
7 certainly take them all into consideration when we're
8 preparing the Environmental Impact Report.

9 Again, thank you very, very much for your
10 time.

11 (Whereupon the Public Scoping Meeting
12 was concluded at 7:49 p.m.)

13 ---000---

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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA) SS.

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3 I, Katy Leonard, CSR No. 11599, in and for
4 the State of California, do hereby certify:

5 That the foregoing is a true, correct, and
6 complete transcript of the Public Scoping Meeting made
7 this date.

8

9 I further certify:

10 That I am not interested in the events
11 of this action.

12

13 WITNESS MY HAND this 15th day of July, 2009.

14

15

16

17

Katy Leonard

18

CSR No. 11599

19

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Appendix D
Public Scoping Meeting Materials (Handouts,
etc.)



San Francisco Planning Department
Major Environmental Analysis Division

SCOPING MEETING

**REGIONAL GROUNDWATER STORAGE AND RECOVERY
PROJECT**

Environmental Impact Report

JULY 9, 2009



Scoping Meeting Purpose

- Hear your comments on the proposed scope and focus of environmental review of the proposed Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
- Help identify the following to be analyzed in depth:
 - ◆ *Range of alternatives*
 - ◆ *Environmental effects*
 - ◆ *Methods of assessment*
 - ◆ *Mitigation measures*

Scoping Meeting Agenda



- Introductions
- Presentation
 - ◆ *Overview of Environmental Review Process*
 - ◆ *Overview of Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project*
- Public Comments
- Closing Remarks



Scoping Meeting Reminders

- Sign in at the table near the entrance.
- Pick up copies of meeting materials.
- If you would like to speak during tonight's hearing, fill out a speaker card.
- To make written comments, pick up comment cards.
 - ◆ *Drop off at the end of the meeting*
 - ◆ *Mail or fax later*
- Please hold all comments until the end of the presentation.

Project Team Introductions



San Francisco Planning Department
(Lead Agency under CEQA)

- ◆ ***Diana Sokolove, Senior Environmental Planner***

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
(Project Sponsor)

- ◆ ***Greg Bartow, Project Manager***
- ◆ ***Suet Chau, Environmental Project Manager***
- ◆ ***Michele Liapes, Communications***
- ◆ ***Les Chau, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants***



ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

California Environmental Quality Act



Proposed projects require environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) before they can be considered for approval

For SFPUC projects, CEQA is implemented by the San Francisco Planning Department

CEQA Objectives



- Present environmental impacts of proposed projects
- Identify ways to avoid or reduce environmental impacts
- Support the agency decision-making process
- Encourage public participation
- Enhance interagency coordination



What will the EIR do?

- Provide a detailed description of the project and the existing environment
- Identify potential environmental impacts
- Identify ways to avoid or reduce significant environmental effects through mitigation or alternatives to the proposed project



PROPOSED REGIONAL GROUNDWATER STORAGE AND RECOVERY PROJECT

SFPUC Hetch Hetchy Water System



Water System Improvement Program (WSIP)

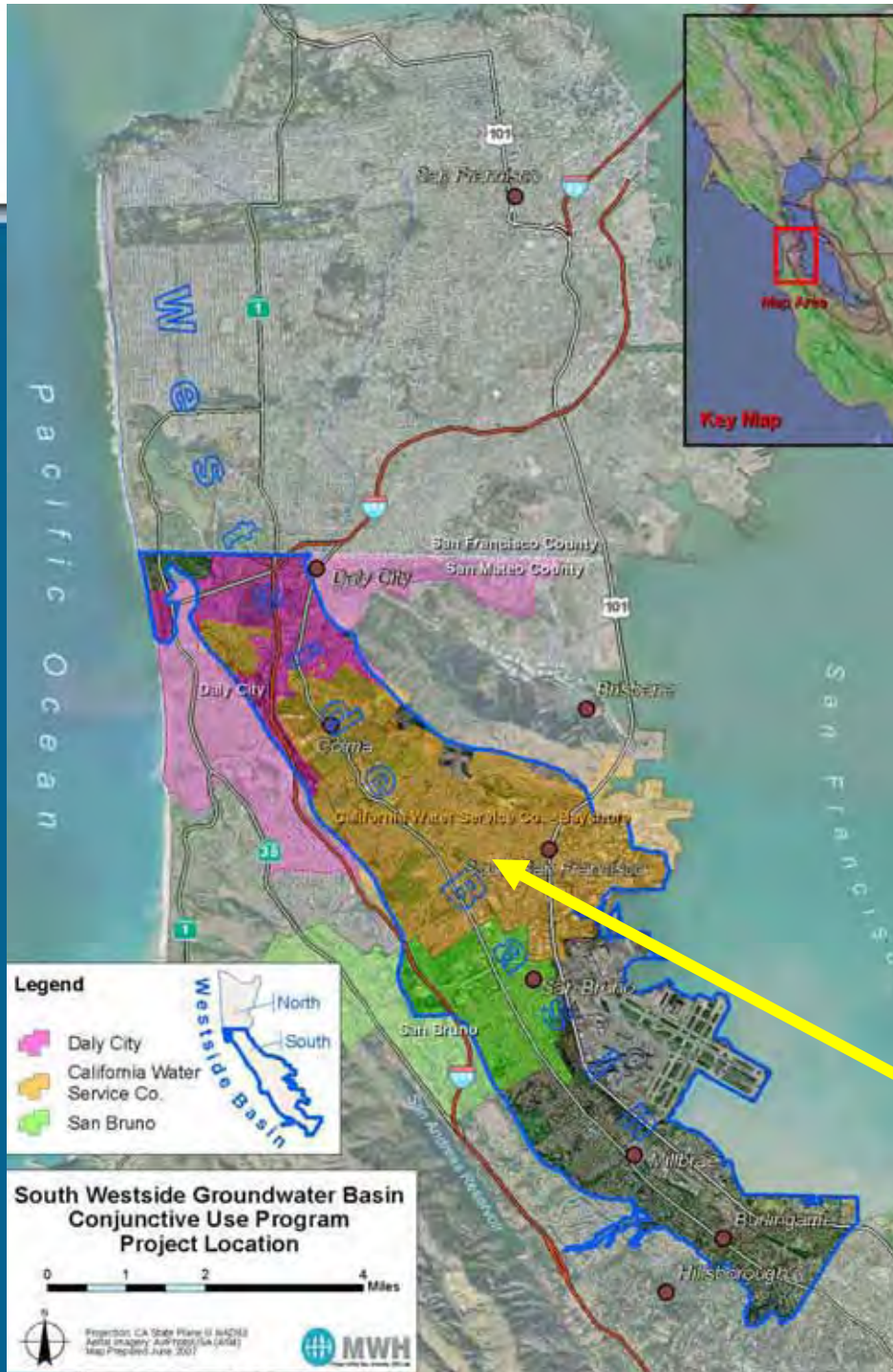


- Voter Approved November 2002
- More than 85 projects to:
 - ◆ *repair, replace and seismically upgrade key water system facilities*
 - ◆ *add new, redundant facilities to insure system reliability*
 - ◆ *diversify water supply and increase dry year supplies*



Need for the Project

- Develop dry-year water supply
- Meet the 80% water supply reliability goal adopted by the SFPUC Commission



Partner Agencies:

City of Daly City

California Water Service Co

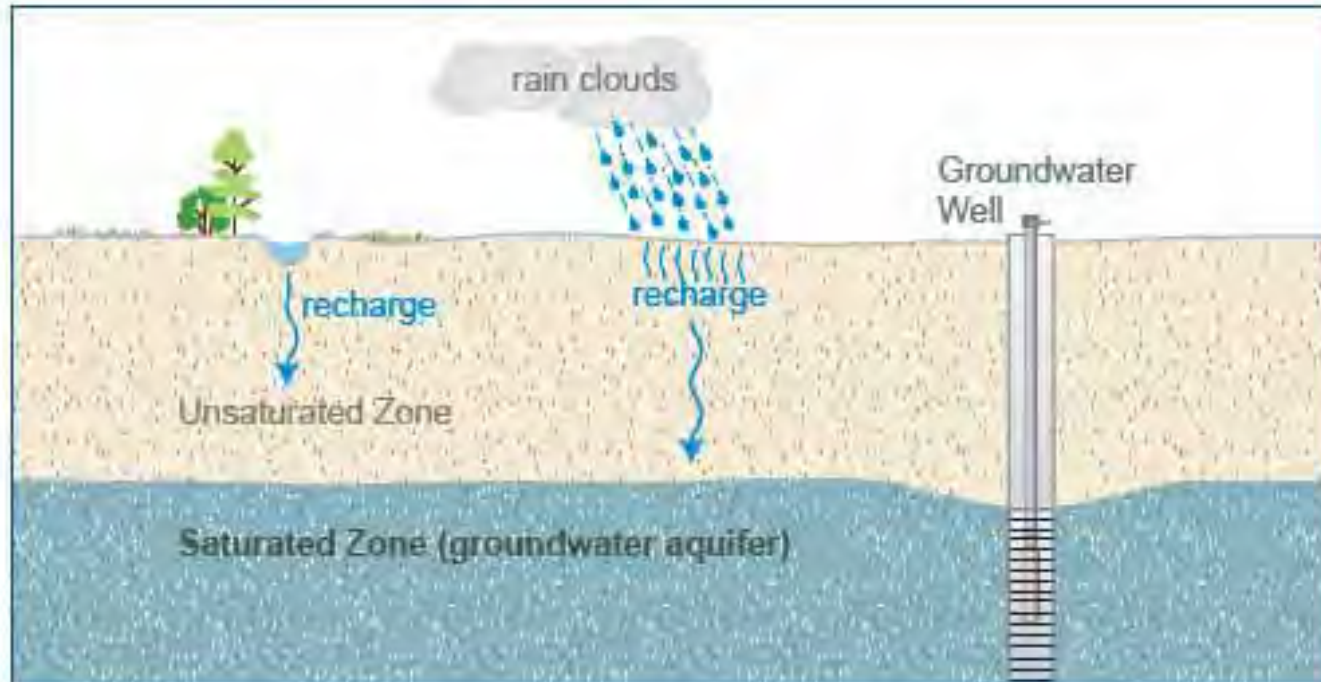
City of San Bruno

South Westside Groundwater Basin

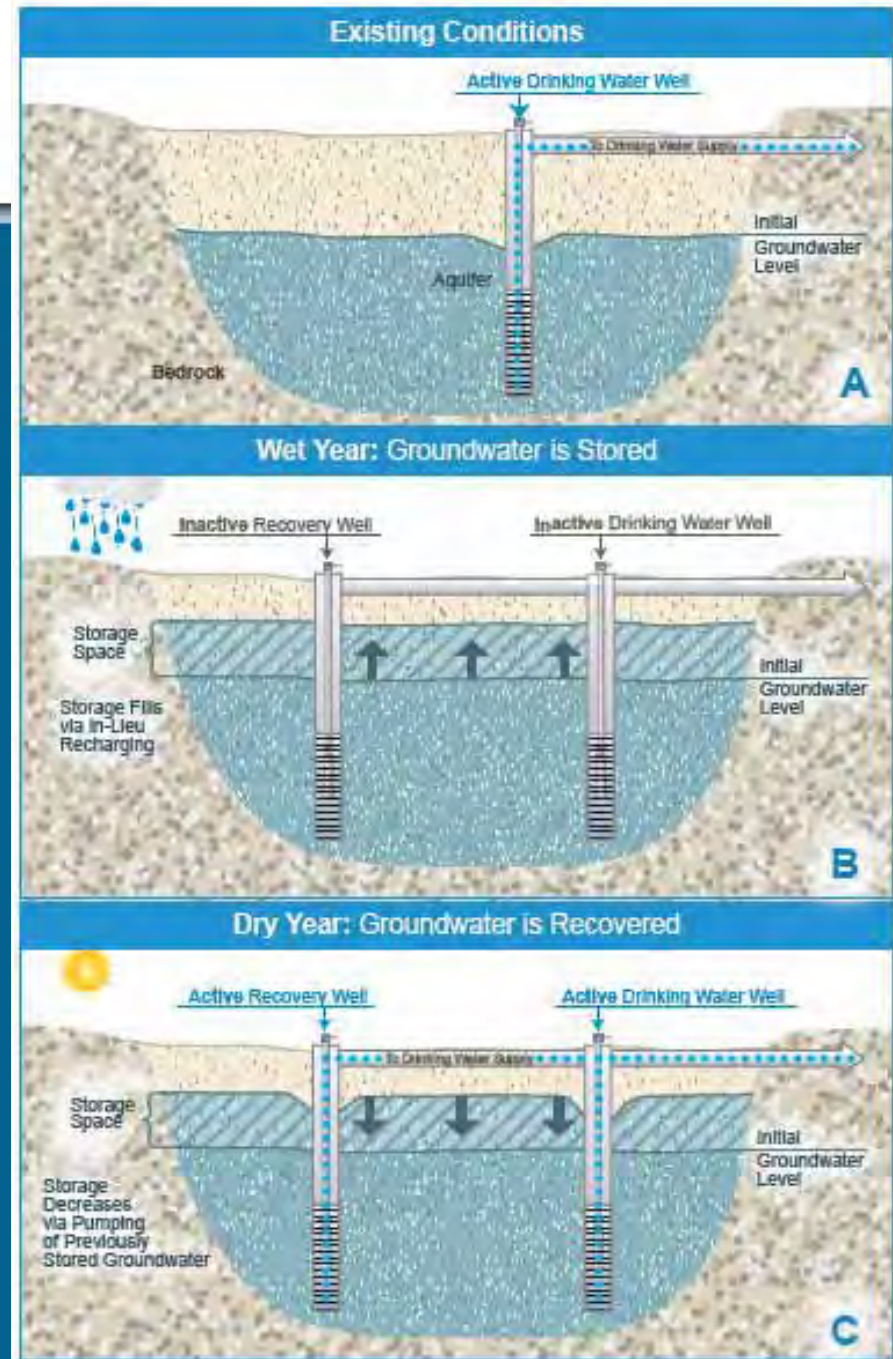


What Is Groundwater?

As rainwater or surface water seeps into the ground, it moves downward between soil particles and collects in an underground geologic reservoir. When such a reservoir can readily yield water to springs or wells, it is called an aquifer and is a potential source of drinking water.

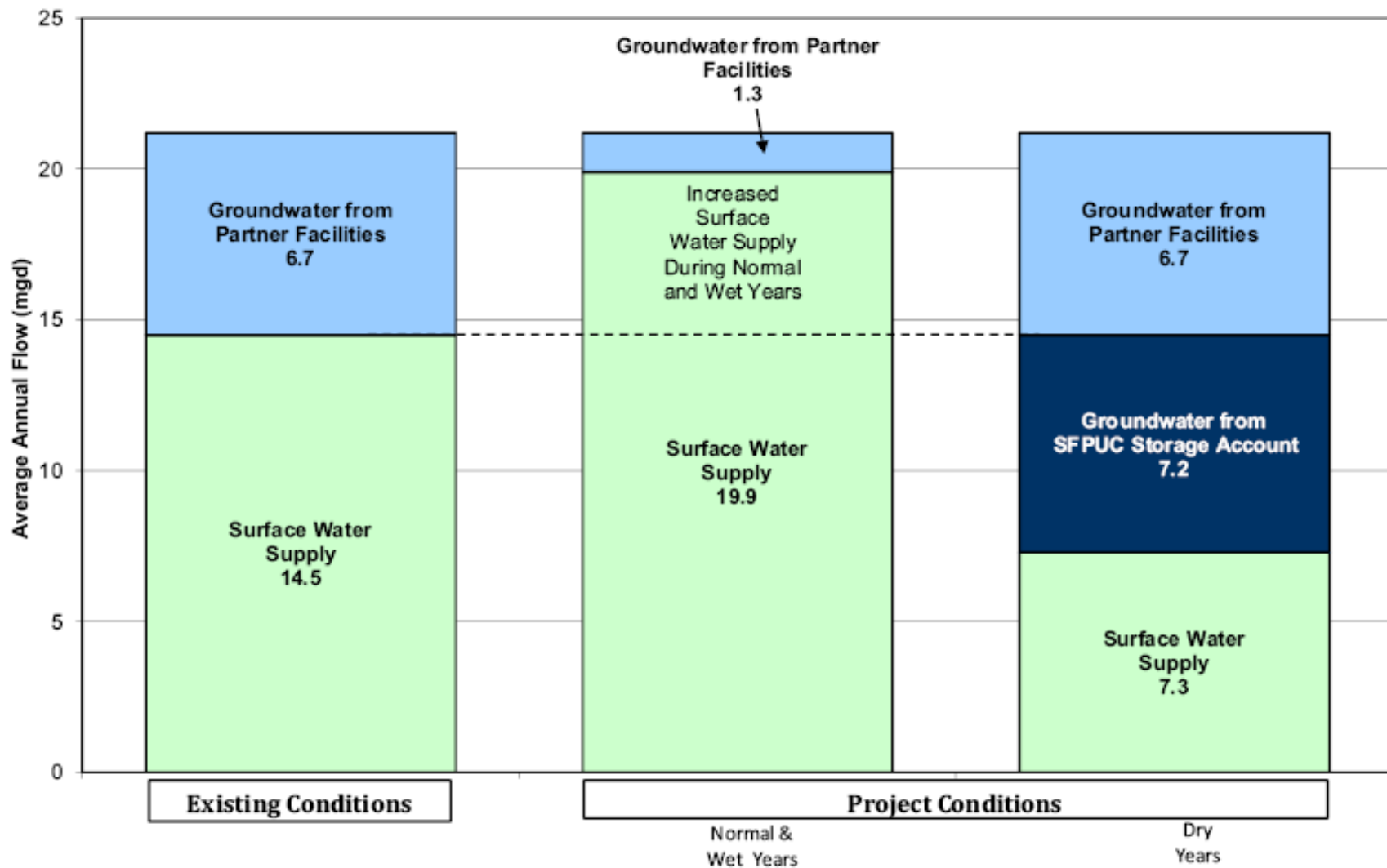


How Would The Project Work?



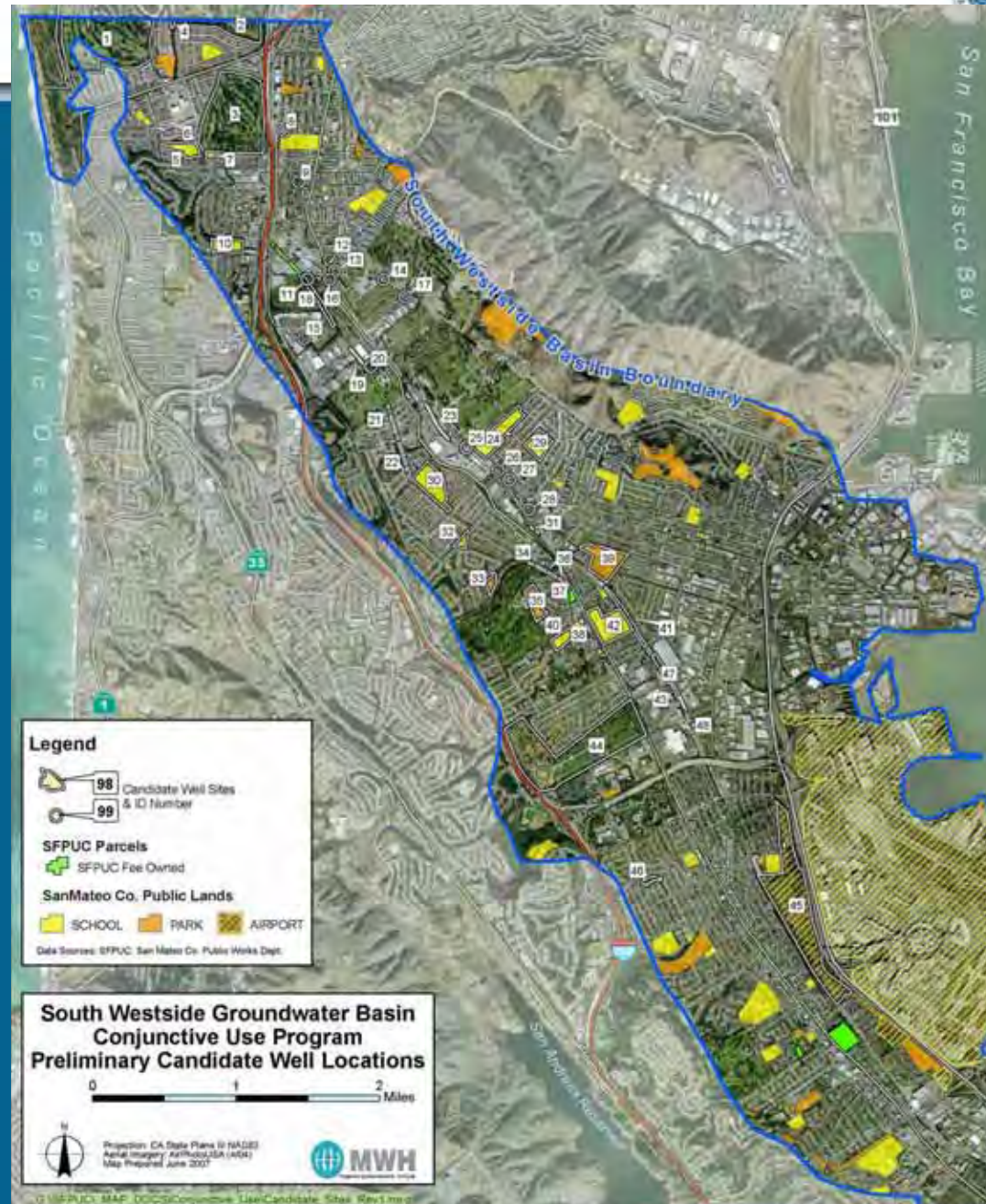


How Would The Project Work?

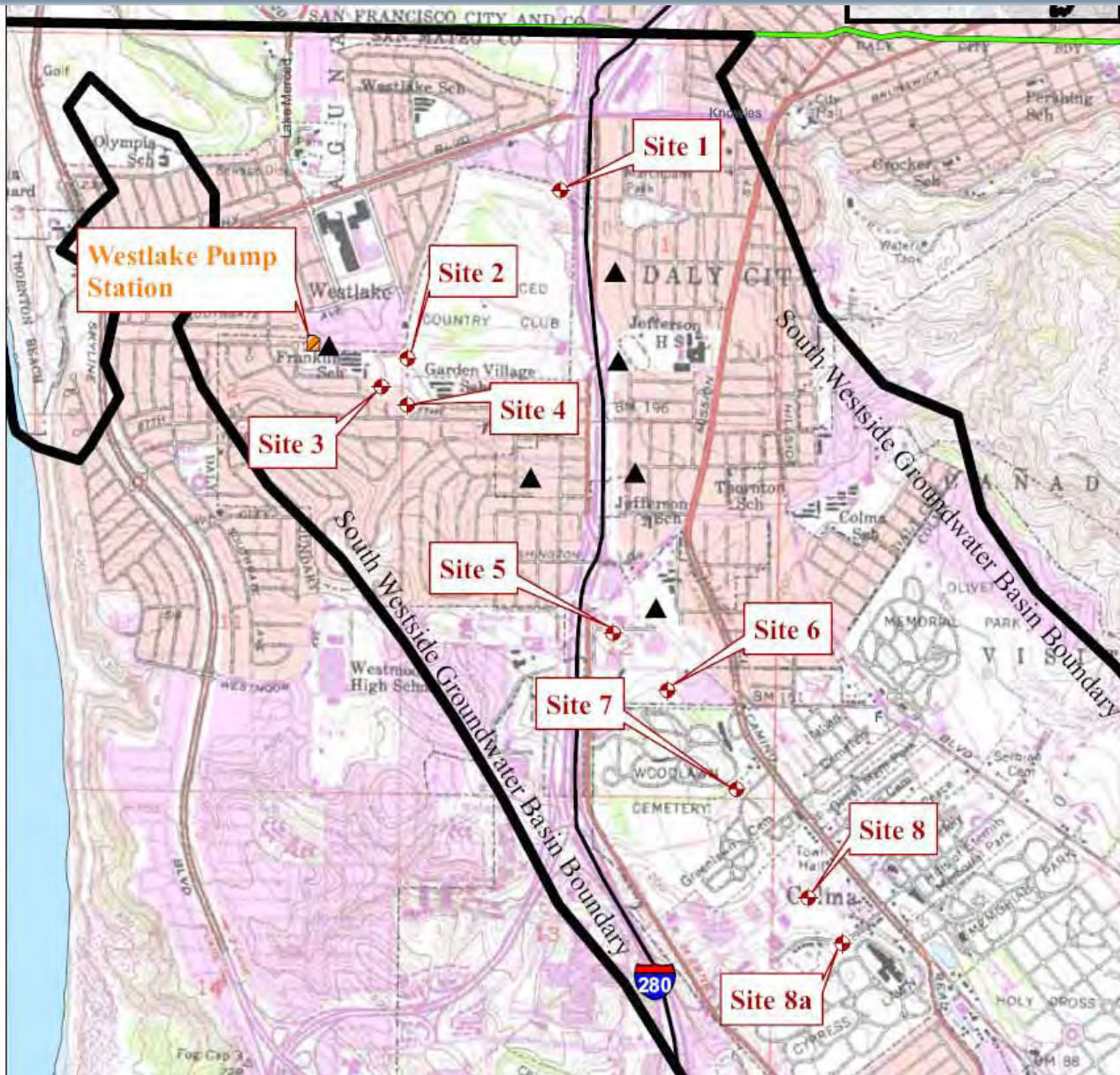




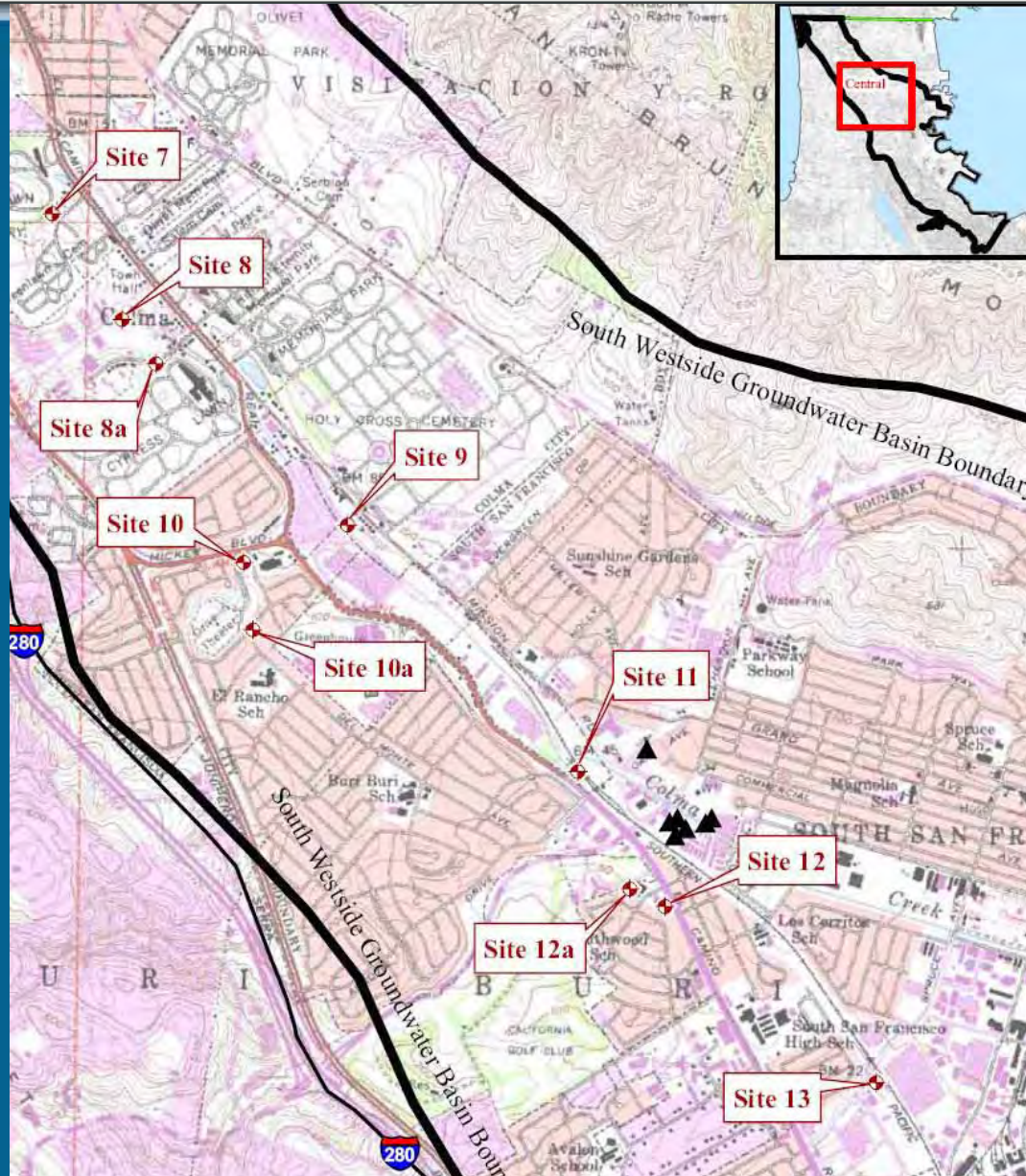
- 48 Potential Well Sites Evaluated
- 19 Sites advanced for EIR
- Up to 16 sites would be developed



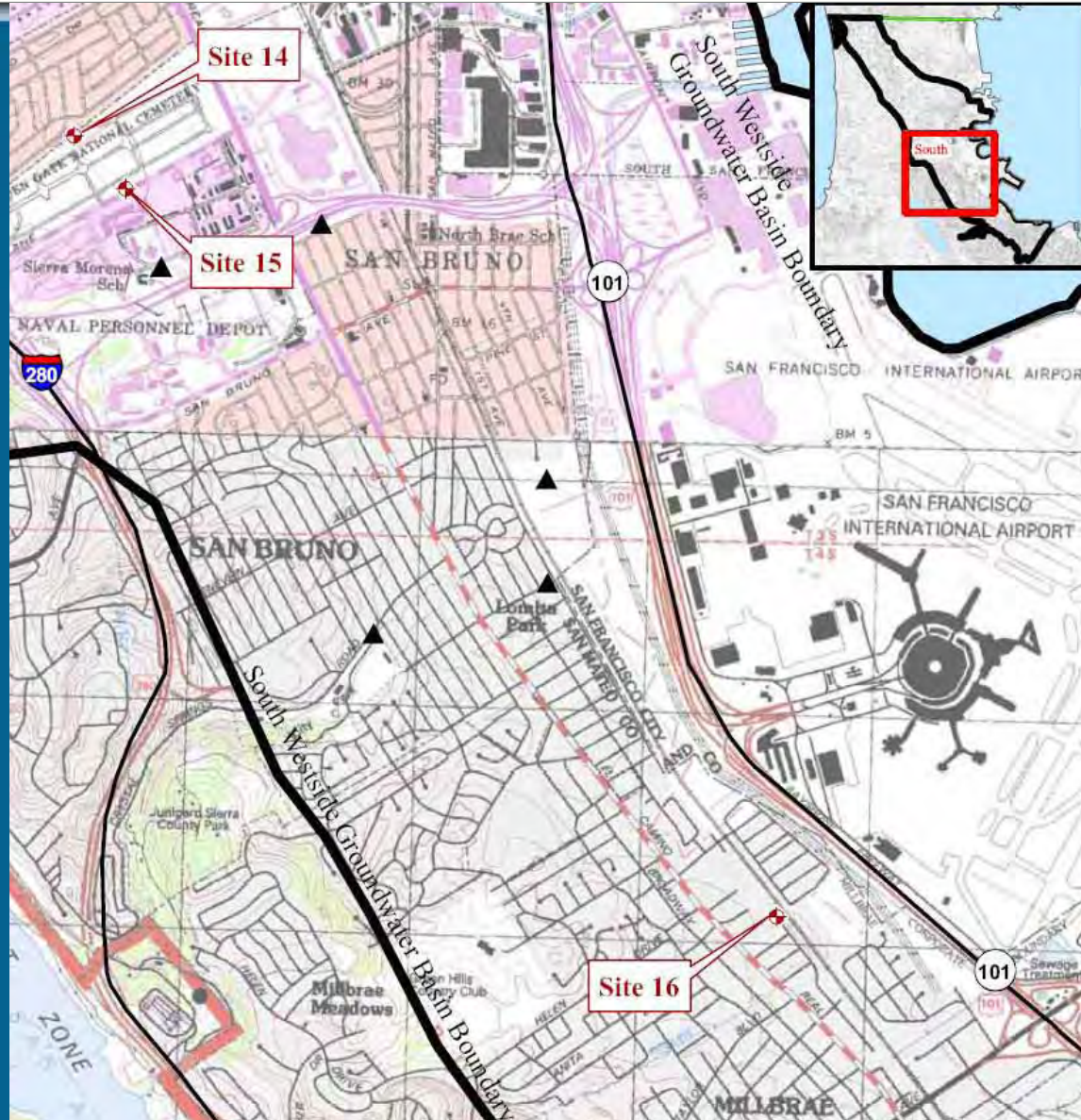
Well Facility Locations (1 of 3)



Well Facility Locations (2 of 3)



Well Facility Locations (3 of 3)





Project Description

- Develop agreements with Daly City, San Bruno, and Cal Water to store 61,000 acre feet of water (approximately 20 billion gallons)
- Develop capacity to pump 7.2 million gallons per day over 7.5 years
- Pump only stored water (an operating committee would be created to monitor the volume of stored and pumped project water)

Project Description



- Construct up to 16 well facilities (including pipelines, etc.)
- Disinfect water per state Department of Public Health requirements
- Provide other treatment if needed (e.g., manganese)
- Connect to Daly City, San Bruno, Cal Water or SFPUC drinking water systems (depending on location).

Ensuring a High Quality Drinking Water



Groundwater Safety

- Groundwater will be in compliance with all California Department of Public Health requirements
- In addition, groundwater will be disinfected before entering the municipal drinking water supply



For over 100 years, groundwater from the Westside Basin has been used for irrigation and drinking water purposes. The cities of Daly City, South San Francisco, and San Bruno currently use groundwater from the Basin as part of their drinking water supply.

Ensuring a high quality drinking water supply

- Monitoring programs will be established to ensure the continued safety and quality of groundwater supplies
- In most cases, groundwater will be blended with imported surface water from the Regional Water System

Sample Well Facility (with Enclosure)



Environmental Review Schedule



- Notice of Preparation – June 24, 2009
- Public Scoping Meeting – July 9, 2009
- Scoping Period Ends – July 28, 2009
- Public Review of Draft EIR – Summer 2010
- Release of Final EIR – Mid 2011
- Certification of Final EIR – Mid 2011



PUBLIC COMMENT



Comment Session Ground Rules

- Submit speaker cards to speak
- Wait until your name is called
- Speak into the microphone and state your name
- Summarize comments verbally and provide more detail in writing
- Use comment forms for more extensive input



CLOSING REMARKS

Where to Send Comments



Scoping comments accepted through July 28, 2009

Send by email to: diana.sokolove@sfgov.org

Send by fax to: (415) 558-6409

Send by U.S. mail to:

*San Francisco Planning Dept
Attn: Bill Wycko, ERO
Groundwater Storage and Recovery
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103*

For More Information



About the Environmental Review Process:

*Diana Sokolove, San Francisco Planning Department, Major
Environmental Analysis Division*

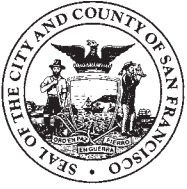
(415) 575-9046, diana.sokolove@sfgov.org

*The Notice of Preparation is available online at
www.sfgov.org/planning/mea*

About the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery
Project

Michele Liapes, SFPUC

(415) 554-3211, mliapes@sfgov.org



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Public Scoping Meeting
Proposed Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
South San Francisco, CA - July 9, 2009

AGENDA

7:00 PM

Introductions - Diana Sokolove, San Francisco Planning Department

Presentation:

- **Environmental Review Process Overview** - Diana Sokolove, San Francisco Planning Department
- **Project Overview** - Greg Bartow, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Public Comment

Closing Remarks

Glossary

SFPUC: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

MEA: Major Environmental Analysis Division, San Francisco Planning Department

CEQA: California Environmental Quality Act

WSIP: Water System Improvement Program

GSR*: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

EIR: Environmental Impact Report

**The GSR was formerly called the Groundwater Conjunctive Use Project*

Documents Currently Available

The following document is available by calling (415) 575-9046 or at [www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/planning/NOP\(1\).pdf](http://www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/planning/NOP(1).pdf)

- GSR Notice of Preparation of an EIR

The following documents are available by calling (415) 554-3211 or at www.sfwater.org/msc_main.cfm/MC_ID/13/MSC_ID/427

- GSR Fact Sheet

- 2008 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report, Westside Basin

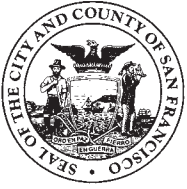
For More Information

Planning Department Web Site: www.sfgov.org/site/planning

SFPUC Web Site: www.sfwater.org

For GSR Project: Michele Liapes at SFPUC, (415)554-3211 or mliapes@sfwater.org

For EIR: Diana Sokolove at SF Planning, (415) 575-9046 or diana.sokolove@sfgov.org



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Public Scoping Meeting
Proposed Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
South San Francisco, CA - July 9, 2009

SPEAKER CARD

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Affiliation:

Street Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Email:



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Public Scoping Meeting
Proposed Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
South San Francisco, CA - July 9, 2009

SPEAKER CARD

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Affiliation:

Street Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Appendix E
Written Comments Received During Scoping
Process



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE *of* PLANNING AND RESEARCH
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



CYNTHIA BRYANT
DIRECTOR

Notice of Preparation

June 25, 2009

To: Reviewing Agencies

Re: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
SCH# 2009062096

Attached for your review and comment is the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Responsible agencies must transmit their comments on the scope and content of the NOP, focusing on specific information related to their own statutory responsibility, within 30 days of receipt of the NOP from the Lead Agency. This is a courtesy notice provided by the State Clearinghouse with a reminder for you to comment in a timely manner. We encourage other agencies to also respond to this notice and express their concerns early in the environmental review process.

Please direct your comments to:

Diana Sokolove
City and County of San Francisco
Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103-2479

with a copy to the State Clearinghouse in the Office of Planning and Research. Please refer to the SCH number noted above in all correspondence concerning this project.

If you have any questions about the environmental document review process, please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Assistant Deputy Director & Senior Planner, State Clearinghouse

Attachments
cc: Lead Agency

**Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

SCH# 2009062096
Project Title Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
Lead Agency San Francisco, City and County of

Type NOP Notice of Preparation
Description NOTE: Review per lead.

The Project would provide potable surface water to the cities of Daly City and San Bruno and the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) (Collectively referred to as Partner Agencies), to be used by these agencies in lieu of pumping groundwater during normal and wet years. The Partner Agencies currently use groundwater as one of the sources of their drinking water supply. The supply would be partially replaced by surface water supplies from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) regional water system. The reduction of pumping by Partner Agencies would increase groundwater storage within the South Westside Groundwater Basin. Stored groundwater would be pumped during periods of insufficient surface water supplies: (i.e., dry years).

Lead Agency Contact

Name Diana Sokolove
Agency City and County of San Francisco
Phone 415-575-9046 **Fax**
email
Address Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
City San Francisco **State** CA **Zip** 94103-2479

Project Location

County San Mateo
City Daly City, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Burlingame
Region
Cross Streets Various (16 sites)
Lat / Long
Parcel No. Various
Township **Range** **Section** **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways 280, 101, 82, 380, 1, 35
Airports SFO, San Carlos
Railways BART, Caltrain
Waterways Various
Schools Various
Land Use Various

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Geologic/Seismic; Noise; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Schools/Universities; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Cumulative Effects

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Department of Fish and Game, Region 3; Public Utilities Commission; Native American Heritage Commission; Department of Health Services; Caltrans, Division of Aeronautics; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 4; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Loans and Grants; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 2

Date Received 06/25/2009 **Start of Review** 06/25/2009 **End of Review** 07/28/2009

Resources Agency

Resources Agency
Nadell Gayou

Dept. of Boating & Waterways
Mike Sotelo

California Coastal Commission
Elizabeth A. Fuchs

Colorado River Board
Gerald R. Zimmerman

Dept. of Conservation
Rebecca Salazar

California Energy Commission
Dale Edwards

Cal Fire
Allen Robertson

Office of Historic Preservation
Wayne Donaldson

Dept of Parks & Recreation
Environmental Stewardship Section

Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Jon Yego

S.F. Bay Conservation & Dev't. Comm.
Steve McAdam

Dept. of Water Resources
Resources Agency
Nadell Gayou

Conservancy

ish and Game

Dept. of Fish & Game
Scott Flint
Environmental Services Division

Fish & Game Region 1
Donald Koch

Fish & Game Region 1E
Laurie Harnsberger

Fish & Game Region 2
Jeff Drongesen

Fish & Game Region 3
Robert Floerke

Fish & Game Region 4
Julie Vance

Fish & Game Region 5
Don Chadwick
Habitat Conservation Program

Fish & Game Region 6
Gabrina Gatchel
Habitat Conservation Program

Fish & Game Region 6 I/M
Gabrina Gatchel
Inyo/Mono, Habitat Conservation Program

Dept. of Fish & Game M
George Isaac
Marine Region

Other Departments

Food & Agriculture
Steve Shaffer
Dept. of Food and Agriculture

Dept. of General Services
Public School Construction

Dept. of General Services
Anna Garbeff
Environmental Services Section

Dept. of Public Health
Bridgette Binning
Dept. of Health/Drinking Water

Independent Commissions/Boards

Delta Protection Commission
Linda Flack

Office of Emergency Services
Dennis Castrillo

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
State Clearinghouse

Native American Heritage Comm.
Debbie Treadway

Public Utilities Commission
Leo Wong

Santa Monica Bay Restoration
Guangyu Wang

State Lands Commission
Marina Brand

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)
Cherry Jacques

Business, Trans & Housing

Caltrans - Division of Aeronautics
Sandy Heshard

Caltrans - Planning
Terri Pencovic

California Highway Patrol
Scott Loetscher
Office of Special Projects

Housing & Community Development
CEQA Coordinator
Housing Policy Division

Dept. of Transportation

Caltrans, District 1
Rex Jackman

Caltrans, District 2
Marcelino Gonzalez

Caltrans, District 3
Bruce de Terra

Caltrans, District 4
Lisa Carboni

Caltrans, District 5
David Murray

Caltrans, District 6
Michael Navarro

Caltrans, District 7
Elmer Alvarez

Caltrans, District 8
Dan Kopulsky

Caltrans, District 9
Gayle Rosander

Caltrans, District 10
Tom Dumas

Caltrans, District 11
Jacob Armstrong

Caltrans, District 12
Chris Herre

Cal EPA

Air Resources Board

Airport Projects
Jim Lerner

Transportation Projects
Douglas Ito

Industrial Projects
Mike Tollstrup

California Integrated Waste Management Board
Sue O'Leary

State Water Resources Control Board

Regional Programs Unit
Division of Financial Assistance

State Water Resources Control Board
Student Intern, 401 Water Quality Certification Unit
Division of Water Quality

State Water Resources Control Board
Steven Herrera
Division of Water Rights

Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
CEQA Tracking Center

Department of Pesticide Regulation
CEQA Coordinator

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCCB)

RWQCCB 1
Cathleen Hudson
North Coast Region (1)

RWQCCB 2
Environmental Document Coordinator
San Francisco Bay Region (2)

RWQCCB 3
Central Coast Region (3)

RWQCCB 4
Teresa Rodgers
Los Angeles Region (4)

RWQCCB 5S
Central Valley Region (5)

RWQCCB 5F
Central Valley Region (5)
Fresno Branch Office

RWQCCB 5R
Central Valley Region (5)
Redding Branch Office

RWQCCB 6
Lahontan Region (6)

RWQCCB 6V
Lahontan Region (6)
Victorville Branch Office

RWQCCB 7
Colorado River Basin Region (7)

RWQCCB 8
Santa Ana Region (8)

RWQCCB 9
San Diego Region (9)

Other

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 # 2009068096

Project Title: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

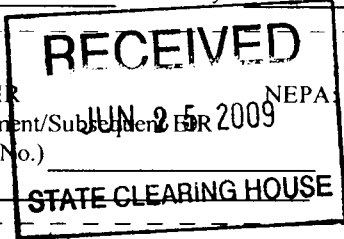
Lead Agency: San Francisco Planning Department, City and County Contact Person: Diana Sokolove
Mailing Address: 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 Phone: (415) 575-9046
City: San Francisco Zip: 94103-2479 County: San Francisco

Project Location: County: San Mateo City/Nearest Community: Daly City Co. San Francisco, San Bruno, Burlingame
Cross Streets: Various Zip Code: _____

Lat. / Long.: _____ ° _____ ' _____ " N / _____ ° _____ ' _____ " W Total Acres: 0.3-1.2 ea. at 16 sites
Assessor's Parcel No.: Various Section: _____ Twp.: _____ Range: _____ Base: _____
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: 280, 101, 82, 380, 1, 35 Waterways: Various
Airports: SFO, San Carlos Railways: BART, Caltrain Schools: Various

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 _____ FONSI



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 Water Supp

Development Type:

Residential: Units _____ Acres _____ Water Facilities: Type Production Wells MGD Up to 7.2
 Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ Transportation: Type _____
 Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ Mining: Mineral _____
 Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ Power: Type _____ MW _____
 Educational _____ Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____
 Recreational _____ Hazardous Waste: Type _____
 Other: _____

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 Wildlife
 Coastal Zone Noise Solid Waste Growth Inducing
 Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous Land Use
 Economic/Jobs Public Services/Facilities Traffic/Circulation Cumulative Effects
 Other _____

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Various

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

The Project would provide potable surface water to the cities of Daly City and San Bruno and the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) (collectively referred to as Partner Agencies), to be used by these agencies in lieu of pumping groundwater during normal and wet years. The Partner Agencies currently use groundwater as one of the sources of their drinking water supply. The supply would be partially replaced by surface water supplies from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) regional water system. The reduction of pumping by Partner Agencies would increase groundwater storage within the South Westside Groundwater Basin. Stored groundwater would be pumped during periods of insufficient surface water supplies (i.e., dry years). (see continuation sheet)

Note: The state Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g., Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

WRITTEN COMMENT #2

~~STATE OF CALIFORNIA—BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY~~

~~ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor~~

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

111 GRAND AVENUE
P. O. BOX 23660
OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
PHONE (510) 622-5491
FAX (510) 286-5559
TTY 711



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

July 13, 2009

BAG0044
SM - 280/82 - VAR
SCH#2009062096

Ms. Diane Sokolove
City and County of San Francisco
Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Ms. Sokolove:

Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery - Notice of Preparation (NOP)

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Department) in the environmental review process for the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project. The following comments are based on the Notice of Preparation.

As lead agency, the San Francisco Planning Department is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to State highways. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, and implementation responsibilities as well as lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures and the project's traffic mitigation fees should be specifically identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Report. Any required roadway improvements should be completed prior to issuance of project occupancy permits. An encroachment permit is required when the project involves work in the State's Right of Way (ROW). Therefore, we strongly recommend that the lead agency ensure resolution of the Department's concerns prior to submittal of the encroachment permit application; see the end of this letter for more information regarding the encroachment permit process.

Traffic Impact Study (TIS)

The Department is primarily concerned with impacts to the State Highway System. The proposed project is located adjacent to State facilities. Please ensure that the environmental analysis evaluates the traffic impacts on State facilities by applying the following criteria to determine if a TIS is warranted:

1. The project will generate over 100 peak hour trips assigned to a State highway facility.

Ms. Diane Sokolove /City and County of San Francisco
July 13, 2009
Page 2

2. The project will generate between 50 to 100 peak hour trips assigned to a State highway facility, and the affected highway facilities are experiencing noticeable delay; approaching unstable traffic flow (level of service (LOS) "C" or "D") conditions.
3. The project will generate between 1 to 49 peak hour trips assigned to a State highway facility, and the affected highway facilities are experiencing significant delay; unstable or forced traffic flow (LOS "E" or "F") conditions.

In addition to evaluating peak hour trips for the facility, project vehicle trips and hours of operations should be discussed to determine traffic impacts on roadways. Anticipated street routes for construction vehicles should be identified as well.

We recommend using the Department's "Guide for the Preparation of Traffic Impact Studies" for determining which scenarios and methodologies to use in the analysis. It is available at the following website address:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/operationalsystems/reports/tisguide.pdf>

Cultural Resources

If construction activities are proposed within the State's ROW, the Department requires documented results of a current archaeological record search from the Northwest Information Center (NIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System before an encroachment permit can be issued. Current record searches must be no more than five years old.

The Department requires the records search, and if warranted, a cultural resource study by a qualified, professional archaeologist, to ensure compliance with NEPA (if there is federal action on the project), CEQA, Section 5024.5 of the California Public Resources Code (for state-owned historic resources) and Volume 2 of the Department's "Standard Environmental Reference" available at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/index.htm>). Work subject to these requirements includes, but is not limited to: lane widening, channelization, auxiliary lanes, and/or modification of existing features such as slopes, drainage features, curbs, sidewalks and driveways within or adjacent to State ROW.

Transportation Permit

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State facilities requires a transportation permit issued by the Department. To apply, a completed transportation permit application with the determined specific route(s) for the shipper to follow from origin to destination must be submitted to the address below.

Office of Transportation Permits
California DOT Headquarters
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

See the following website link for more information:

[http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/permits/.](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/permits/)

Ms. Diane Sokolove /City and County of San Francisco

July 13, 2009

Page 3

Encroachment Permit

Any work or traffic control within the State ROW requires an encroachment permit issued by the Department. Traffic-related mitigation measures will be incorporated into the construction plans during the encroachment permit process. See the following website link for more information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/>

To apply for an encroachment permit, submit a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, and five (5) sets of plans which clearly indicate State ROW to the address at the top of this letterhead, marked ATTN: Michael Condie, Mail Stop #5E.

Water System Improvement Projects

We encourage the San Francisco Planning Department to coordinate with our Project Manager, Howard Reynolds, at 510-286-7252 for all San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) Projects.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Lisa Courington of my staff at (510) 286-5505 or via email at lisa.ann.courington@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



LISA CARBONI
District Branch Chief
Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791



July 28, 2009

Mr. Bill Wycko
Environmental Review Officer
San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

REGIONAL GROUNDWATER STORAGE AND RECOVERY PROJECT

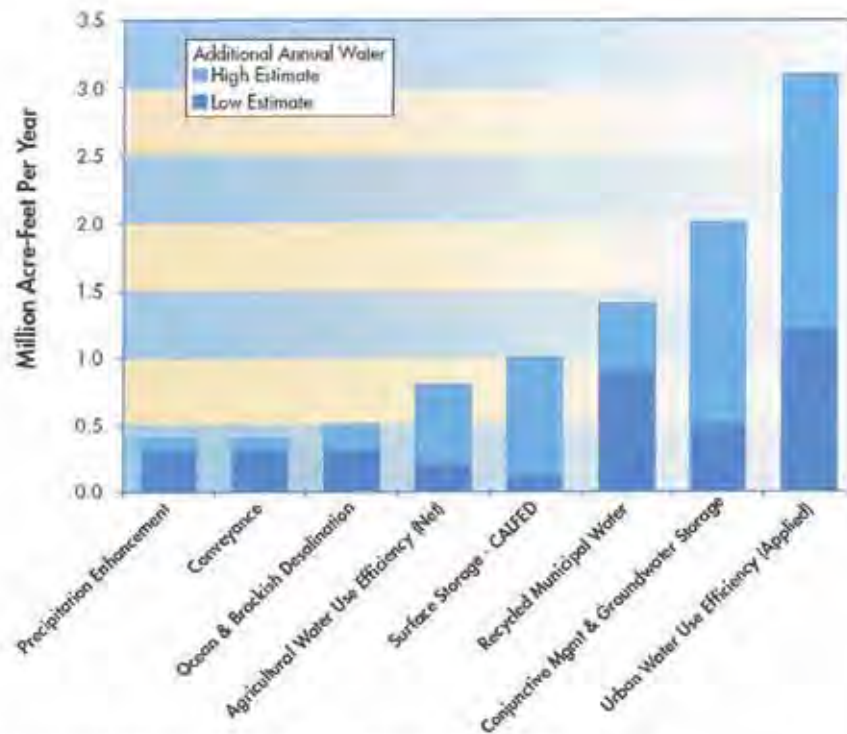
Dear Mr. Wycko:

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) appreciates the opportunity to express support for the concept of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC) Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project. DWR is aware SFPUC is currently asking for public comments on the above referenced project as SFPUC will soon begin preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). It is understood specifically that the EIR will document potential impacts resulting from the use of the South Westside Groundwater Basin (basin) as an underground storage reservoir by storing water in the basin during wet periods for subsequent recapture during dry periods.

The intent of this letter is not to comment specifically on any technical aspects of SFPUC's project but rather to recognize the importance of SFPUC's groundwater storage project and other similar groundwater storage projects that meet the State of California's future water supply needs.

The State of California faces a number of challenges to meet its water supply needs in the future, a growing population, changing land use, and environmental and legal restrictions on diversions from the Delta and Colorado River, not to mention the decreasing snow pack and changed hydrology that will result from climate change. A number of approaches will be needed to meet future demands, including water conservation, recycled water, and desalination. As illustrated below, DWR has identified conjunctive management and groundwater storage as one of the resource

management strategies in the California Water Plan Update 2005 for making new water supplies available to meet future 2030 year water demands. In fact, conjunctive management and groundwater projects are projected to play a relatively large role in meeting future demands. Groundwater storage projects will provide flexibility as well as water supply reliability improvements on the local, regional, and statewide levels and may equate to an increase in supply up to 2 million acre-feet per year.



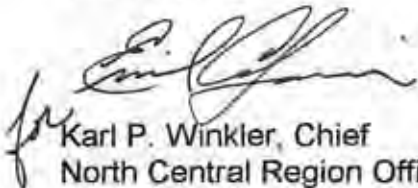
Source: California State Water Plan Update 2005

Mr. Bill Wycko
July 28, 2009
Page 3

DWR strongly supports and has been working aggressively for the last decade to implement additional groundwater storage through locally driven projects such as SFPUC's project. For this reason, DWR will continue to support and look for potential opportunities to work with SFPUC, other state agencies, and project stakeholders to develop successful groundwater storage projects to meet California's water needs. Furthermore, DWR looks forward to the opportunity to review SFPUC's project as outlined in a future EIR.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Trevor Joseph of my staff at (916) 376-9619.

Sincerely,


for Karl P. Winkler, Chief
North Central Region Office

City of San Mateo

Planning & Building Department

455 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City, California 94063
650/363-4161 Fax: 650/363-4849

Mail Drop PLN122
plngbldg@co.sanmateo.ca.us
www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/planning

RECEIVED

July 23, 2009

JUL 24 2009

CITY & COUNTY OF S.F.
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
M.E.A.

Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer
San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

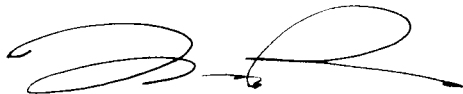
Dear Mr. Wycko:

**SUBJECT: Comments on the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC)
Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the SFPUC Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project. Of the various locations noted in the proposal, two sites located in Broadmoor are within the Unincorporated San Mateo County jurisdiction. As such, the SFPUC is required to submit a project description to the San Mateo County Planning Department for review and determination of General Plan conformity pursuant to Government Code Section 65402.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Melissa Ross at 650/599-1559 or via email at mross@co.sanmateo.ca.us. Thank you again for the opportunity to review and provide comments on the above referenced project and please continue to include the County Planning Department in the processing of the project.

Sincerely,



Melissa Ross, Planner II

MR:pac – MART0573_WPN.DOC

cc: Lisa Grote, Community Development Director
Jim Eggemeyer, Community Development Deputy Director
Steve Monowitz, Long Range Planning Manager



TOWN OF COLMA

1198 El Camino Real • Colma, California • 94014-3212
Tel 650-997-8300 • Fax 650-997-8308

City Council

Joanne F. del Rosario
Mayor

Joseph Silva
Vice Mayor

Diana Colvin
Council Member

Helen Fiscaro
Council Member

Rae P. Gonzalez
Council Member

City Officials

Laura Allen
City Manager

Robert L. Lotti
Chief of Police

Roger Peters
City Attorney

Richard Mao
City Engineer

Andrea Ouse
City Planner

Brian Dossey
Director of Recreation
Services

Lori Burns
Human Resources Manager

July 28, 2009

Mr. Bill Wycko
Environmental Review Officer
1650 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA. 94103

RE: *Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Programs, Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Scoping Meeting – Written Comments*

Dear Mr. Wycko,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project. Attached are several concerns and questions that the Town of Colma has in regards to the project.

Please contact Brad Donohue, Deputy Director of Public Works at 650-757-8895 or bdonohue@colma.ca.gov or myself at 650-997-8318, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Laura Allen
City Manager

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
Roger Peters, City Attorney
Andrea Ouse, City Planner
Rick Mao, City Engineer
Diana Sokolove, SF Planner-Senior Planner

The Town of Colma believes that the following questions are relevant to the environmental impacts of the proposed project, as well as reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures relating to the project, and therefore should be analyzed in the proposed Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project.

1. What municipalities are located in the overlying lands of the South Westside Groundwater Basin? In particular, is the Town of Colma located in the overlying lands?
2. What rights do the overlying municipalities, including the Town of Colma, and the residents of and property owners within such municipalities have to the use of groundwater in the South West Groundwater Basin (SWGB)? Under California law, an overlying landowner has the right to reasonable use of groundwater located in an underlying basin, subject to reasonable use by other overlying landowners. In addition, landowners may have other rights to the use of groundwater, consisting of appropriative rights (where the landowner has appropriated water from the basin) and prescriptive rights (where the landowner has used the groundwater with knowledge by other groundwater users).
3. Assuming that the overlying municipalities, including the Town of Colma, the residents of and property owners within such municipalities have the right to use groundwater from the SWGB, based on any of the rights described above, would the project have any effect on such groundwater rights, and if so, what effects would be reasonably likely to occur? In particular, would the storage of water in the SWBG during wet periods have any reasonably-foreseeable effects on the Town of Colma and its residents to the use of the groundwater during such periods, and if so, what would be the effects? Would the recapture of water from the SWBG during dry periods have any reasonably-foreseeable effects on the Town of Colma and its residents to the use of the groundwater during these periods, and if so, what would be the effects?
4. If the project has an adverse effect on the Town of Colma, its residents and property owners to the use of groundwater in the SWBG, what provision, if any, does the City of San Francisco, through its planning department or other agencies, plan to take to avoid or minimize such adverse effects? Does the City of San Francisco plan to design the project in a way that avoids or minimizes such effects, and if so, how? If not, does the City of San Francisco plan to provide compensation to those whose rights have been lost or reduced? Does the City of San Francisco plan to take any other action to prevent or minimize the loss or reduction of such rights?

5. The project description in the Notice of Preparation states that California Water Company would provide the water "in its South San Francisco service area" Does this service area include the Town of Colma, including residential areas located in the Town of Colma? If not, does the project have an adverse environmental effect by reducing the availability of water supplies provided by California Water Company to the Town of Colma and its residents, thus requiring the Town of Colma and its residents to acquire water from other sources? What other sources are available to the Town of Colma and its residents under such circumstances?
6. It is stated that SF Water (SFPUC), Daly City, San Bruno and Cal Water will be the administrative board overseeing the management of the Westside Basin. Please clarify how that was arranged; does the SFPUC intend to include representatives from the neighboring jurisdictions, public representatives and representatives from already existing irrigators (Cemeteries and golf courses)? Why or why not?
7. What will be the purview of the administrative board? Will there be regulations and administrative rules that will govern both the Board and the SWGB? What type and form of notice and how much time will be given to jurisdictions and direct users of the Basin to review and comment on any administrative regulations that may be proposed?
8. How will the baseline data for existing users, such as irrigators, be determined? For existing irrigators who use groundwater for their agriculture or recreational needs, has it been calculated what their daily/monthly and yearly needs are currently. Has there been an assessment of their future needs, for example the expansion of a cemetery site and what impacts that may have (With the expansion more irrigation will be required). Will the current and future water rights of an established pumper be preserved by their current standard? Does the board (Assuming there will be an oversight committee) have a right to dictate how much water can be pumped and will there be limits?
9. When existing wells need to be replaced, what kind of jurisdiction do the water providers have in the replacement procedures? Currently this is permitted by the County, will there be another approval process that will have oversight in this request?
10. Establishing the various base line quantity numbers that has been posted in the Notice of Preparation is critical to current and future assessments. Please provide the data that establishes the bases of:
An estimate of how much water is currently being stored.
How it was determined that 61,000 acre foot of groundwater storage is available in the West Side Basin?
The 7.2 million gallons a day that would be pumped out in dry years, how was that determined?

How long will it take for the aquifer to be replenished or brought to the desired levels.

11. Is the water in the SWGB to be used for the purposes of supplying residential, commercial, agricultural and recreational needs of those who reside over the basin or are there plans to export the water to communities beyond the underlying limits of the SWGB? If so, will this affect the ability of existing users to access more of the resource in the Basin? Will those jurisdictions that are not Partner Agencies be able to review any agreement made with customers not directly over the Basin?
12. Is there a plan to assemble an agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) between the irrigators, water providers and legislative bodies in each jurisdiction to define the various limits and protections for current and future activities?
13. To replenish the aquifer to the assessed amounts stated in various publications (61,000 acre foot), will this harm or potentially damage whatever is above the basin? In turn when the water table is drawn down, will it potentially cause damage?
14. Will any contaminants that lie in stasis above the water table be disturbed with the possible infiltration of groundwater and will the raising of the groundwater table causing contamination of the water?
15. It was stated in the Scoping Meeting (Public Meeting in SSF) that the aquifer is replenished by rain, streams and irrigation through ground pecculation. Since irrigation is very similar to rain and rain has a positive effect on replenishing the water table, have irrigation uses been factored into the calculations in replenishing the water table?
16. The project description has been impermissibly piecemealed by omitting the test wells that will be constructed and operated as part of the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project. In so far as the Project is already defined and proceeding forward to environmental review, it is not tenable to maintain that the test wells are to collect data for a project that may or may not be proposed in the future. Clearly, here the test wells and rest of the Project are all part of the same reasonably foreseeable "project" under CEQA. Thus, the construction impacts of the test wells should be described. How the test wells will be operated should also be discussed. For instance, will excessive rates of pumping be used to test the stability of the underlying aquifers, and will groundwater levels be "drawn down" to evaluate subsurface hydrogeological conditions? Will this result in a cone of depression affecting nearby groundwater users? Also, what will be done with the quantities of water pumped by the test wells?

17. The project description must include information on distribution system extensions necessary to connect Project facilities to existing distribution lines. Where will these lines be placed, and what aesthetic and construction impacts would result? Will there be lengthy street closures or closures of on-street parking along pipeline rights-of-way, affecting traffic, parking, and emergency response, and will economic impacts on local businesses result in indirect impacts on the physical environment?

18. The NOP mentions that "the Westlake Pump Station in Daly City may need to be upgraded and treatment facilities may need to be added to several well facility sites." Pursuant to CEQA, the environmental impacts of both of these additional Project components should be addressed in the EIR (i.e., the full possible extent of the Project's impacts must be analyzed).

BAWSCA

Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency

July 31, 2008

Mr. Bill Wycko
Environmental Review Officer
San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Subject: Case No. 2005.0164E – Response to Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an EIR for the SFPUC Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

Dear Mr. Wycko,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the following comments from the Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency (BAWSCA). BAWSCA represents the interests of the 26 water utilities, including an investor-owned utility and a university, that purchase water on a wholesale basis from the San Francisco Regional Water System. These agencies, in turn, provide water to 1.7 million people, businesses and community organizations in Alameda, Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. These comments are in response to the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery project dated June 24, 2009. They are intended as input to the scope and focus of the project.

The comments below follow the report organization and do not reflect the level or priority.

1. Section 5.2 – Project Objectives

The EIR should repeat the clarification made on Page 1, Footnote 1 whenever the 8.5 year design drought cycle is discussed.

2. Section 5.3 – Proposed Project

- The EIR should clarify what rules the SFPUC and Participating Pumpers have agreed to that will govern the operation of the proposed project during wet, normal, and dry periods as well as the development of additional groundwater capability to meet future local water supply reliability needs. The EIR should present the detailed operational strategy for the proposed project, including the individual facilities, along with a detailed hydrologic and environmental impact analysis of the proposed project and associated facilities based upon the known operational strategy.
- The EIR should address the potential for other users of the basin, who are not participating in this project, to affect the overall storage level in the basin and the amount of water potentially available for withdrawal under this project. The EIR should discuss what mechanisms can be implemented to protect the Program Storage against withdrawal by other non-participating pumpers.

3. **Section 5.3.1 – Groundwater Storage and Recovery**

- The NOP states “This new dry-year water supply would be made available to both the Partner Agencies and SFPUC wholesale customer under the terms of the Shortage Allocation Plan between the SFPUC and its wholesale customers.” The EIR should clarify exactly how this new dry-year water supply would be incorporated into that Plan. If the intent is that the available Program Storage, as quantified by the SFPUC Storage Account, will be taken into consideration by the SFPUC when determining how much water is available for delivery to customer and whether a shortage condition exists, then the EIR should provide this clarity.
- The EIR should address how the Program Storage and associated project facilities might be used during an emergency, what rules would be applied to such operations, and who the beneficiaries would potentially be.

4. **Section 5.3.2 – Production Wells and Associated Facilities**

- The EIR should discuss the reason(s) for providing disinfection facilities at each well as disinfection is not necessarily required under Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.
- The EIR should specify the type of disinfection method to be used (chlorine or chloramines) and discuss any blending impacts or water quality compatibility issues.

5. **Section 5.3.4 – Operations and Maintenance**

- The EIR should provide the water supply availability criteria to be used to determine the conditions of a “normal”, “wet”, and “dry” year associated with the proposed conjunctive use operation. Also, the definition of “excess surface water” that determines the amount of reduced groundwater pumping in normal and wet years needs to be provided.
- The EIR should define the methods to determine the amount of groundwater in the storage account at any point in time. Also, the basis for estimating underground losses of stored water that is not subsequently available for recapture needs to be explained.

6. **Section 6.0 – Permits and Approvals Required**

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) should be added to the list of permitting agencies.

7. **Section 9.1.3 – Hydrology and Water Quality**

- It is indicated in the documentation for this project that Drinking Water Source Assessments will be performed during pre-design. Will these assessments be available for use in the EIR analysis?
- The EIR should include a groundwater recovery assessment.
- The EIR should discuss the lake level management plan for Lake Merced.
- The EIR should include the site-specific water quality testing data which is required in the pre-design.

- The EIR should include an assessment to determine the ability to meet water quality goals when blending under the planned operational scheme. Project documentation indicates this will be verified from water samples collected from the test wells in the pre-design phase. Will there be sufficient information available at the time of the EIR analysis to confirm that blending is a viable method to achieve water quality goals?
- The EIR should provide the details of the long term monitoring program which will be used to assess changes in local groundwater quality and levels within the South Westside Groundwater Basin as a whole. This program should include the development of a best practices plan to protect the groundwater basin if not already developed.
- Is there any plan for using recycled water in the groundwater basin? If so, then an assessment of potential impacts of this practice should be performed.

8. Section 9.2 – Alternatives

If there are alternatives that consider different well locations than those listed in Table 1, the EIR should discuss the siting criteria used to select an alternative well site.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments on the Notice of Preparation dated June 24, 2009 regarding the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery project. If you have any questions, please contact me at (650) 349-3000.

Sincerely,



Nicole M. Sandkulla, P.E.
Senior Water Resources Engineer

cc: G. Bartow, SFPUC Project Manager
A. Jensen, BAWSCA
R. McDevitt, Hanson Bridgett
D. Newkirk, Newkirk Environmental
T. Roberts, Terry Roberts Consulting
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DOUGLAS E. COTY

July 28, 2009

Mr. Bill Wycko
Environmental Review Officer
San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Regional Groundwater Storage and
Recovery Project – Scoping Comments

Dear Mr. Wycko:

This law firm represents the Green Hills Country Club, the Lake Merced Golf Club, the Olympic Club, and the San Francisco Golf Club (the Clubs) with regard to certain water-related matters, including the Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project (Project) being proposed by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. This letter constitutes scoping comments by the Clubs for the anticipated environmental impact report (EIR) that will be prepared for the Project.

The Clubs are interested in the proposed Project because they each pump groundwater from the South Westside Basin Groundwater Basin (Aquifer) for a portion of their irrigation water supply, a recognized beneficial use of the available groundwater resource. As overlying property owners, the Clubs each have the legal right to pump that amount of water reasonably needed for their use for irrigation of their property, and their rights are protected against injury by California law. The Clubs recognize the efforts being made by the SFPUC to improve water supplies and water management for the utilities and communities in the region, including increased use of groundwater resources. The Clubs do not oppose the proposed Project, but believe that it should be the subject of full evaluation in the EIR before any portion of it is approved by the SFPUC. The Clubs' comments set forth below should be among the matters taken into account in preparing the EIR.

As the Clubs understand the proposed Project, the SFPUC will deliver imported Hetch Hetchy surface water supplies to municipal water utilities in Daly City, San Bruno, and other communities which pump all or a portion of their water supply from the Aquifer, in an effort to take the place of groundwater during normal and wet years. Approximately 5.4 million gallons per day (mgd) of surface supplies will be substituted for the approximately 6.7 mgd of groundwater that is currently extracted from the Aquifer by the municipal utilities. Irrigation well users will not get substitute supplies.

Bill Wycko
Scoping Comments – Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
July 28, 2009
Page 2

In dry years, the SFPUC would plan on extracting up to 7.2 mgd from the presumably fuller Aquifer, in addition to the 6.7 mgd that would be extracted by the municipal utilities which are the SFPUC's "partners" in the proposed Project. In other words, although current extractions from the Aquifer in dry years are at the rate of approximately 6.7 mgd, if the Project is approved and fully implemented, a total of 13.9 mgd of groundwater will be pumped. The SFPUC plans are for this higher rate of pumping to be made possible by removal of the increment of additional water that remained in the Aquifer rather than being pumped during the normal to wet years when surface water is provided to the municipal partners. This form of storage and recovery of water from a groundwater basin is commonly called "in-lieu recharge" or "conjunctive use."

Overall, the Clubs' understanding is that the SFPUC's fundamental Project idea is to utilize approximately 60,000 acre-feet (AF) of the estimated 70,000 AF of available groundwater storage in the Aquifer. In addition, the SFPUC apparently wishes to "recover" the estimated 15,000 AF which it asserts has been "stored" during a "pilot study" of this in-lieu process; that study began in approximately 2002. The Clubs understand that the proposed Project includes construction of up to sixteen new extraction wells from 19 preferred sites, which will be spread from Daly City to Millbrae, generally along El Camino Real (Hwy 82). No injection or recharge "spreading" of groundwater is planned as part of this Project. The Project will also include a number of monitoring wells, some of which have already been constructed.

Approximately three test wells will apparently be constructed in 2009-2010, and the SFPUC staff has indicated they will not be part of the EIR. Instead those test wells are deemed by the SFPUC to be categorically exempt from the need to do more detailed environmental documentation. However, the Clubs understand that the test wells will be constructed so as to function as operational wells (and will be at planned extraction well locations), so they will be more fully examined as part of the Project CEQA process. The Clubs believe that it is appropriate to include the test wells in the EIR so that they cannot be placed in full operation until the EIR is certified and the Project is approved.

The Clubs see the following as potentially important issues that should be addressed in the EIR:

1. Protection of Existing Water Rights – The EIR needs to address protection of existing overlying rights and protection of any existing overlying rights that are not currently utilized due to the use of recycled water for irrigation where that is done in areas served by the Aquifer. If the SFPUC seeks to recover the 15,000 AF they have already "stored," the EIR should indicate how the interests of

Bill Wycko

Scoping Comments – Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

July 28, 2009

Page 3

overlying owners will be protected—i.e., how will the SFPUC assure other pumpers that their water rights will not be impaired by this excess pumping?

2. Protection of Water Quality - Both extremes of this situation (high water levels and low water levels in the Aquifer) can negatively impact water quality. Higher water levels may mobilize minerals and potential contaminants that have been previously stationary. Conversely, the potential for water levels to decline, even temporarily, as a result of the dry year pumping may negatively impact water quality by concentrating contaminants and minerals. There may also be potential for mixing of waters (and minerals) that may not otherwise have occurred, which could be a cause for concern and should be analyzed..

3. Potential Impacts on Wells – Since historic pumping by the municipal utilities (and to a more limited degree by irrigators) has lowered water levels in the Aquifer, one challenge of the Project and especially the EIR is to analyze the potential impacts of refilling the Aquifer in the event of a series of wet or normal years. There is potential for negative impacts to the production wells of pumpers, including the Clubs, particularly during dry years. The Clubs understand that the initial modeling that has been done suggests that only a few municipal wells (1930's-vintage California Water Service Company wells) are expected to be impacted, but that modeling did not address impacts on irrigators. Should water levels be depressed below the screened intervals of the well casings, there is a possibility of long-term well damage. Energy costs for irrigation users of the Aquifer should also be analyzed. Adverse impacts on private wells may require mitigation by the SFPUC, and this needs to be analyzed and disclosed.

4. Location of Wells (Well Interference) - The locations of the new extraction wells proposed by the SFPUC, and any new wells planned by their municipal partners, need to be fully disclosed and analyzed, and included in the draft EIR, with detailed maps. The potential for direct impacts from the effects of the extraction wells is real and needs careful analysis. The results of the analysis to be determined by mutual interference modeling needs to be fully disclosed and analyzed in the EIR and the mitigation plan.

5. Available Aquifer Storage – In all aquifer storage and recovery projects, and particularly in the case of an in-lieu project such as this, there is always the possibility that the ratio of "stored" to future extracted water is not actually or even close to 1:1. There is always the potential for new users. There is also the potential that the "stored" water is simply lost (i.e., the stored water may not stay within the Aquifer, or at least within that portion of it utilized). The actual "usable" available storage may also not be accurate (i.e. the 70,000 AF estimate).

Bill Wycko

Scoping Comments – Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project

July 28, 2009

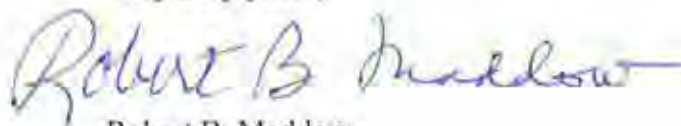
Page 4

This issue is fraught with the potential for dispute, as many groundwater users experienced in the long fight over the Santa Maria Basin. Careful environmental and technical analysis of the actual storage capacity and the effects of its use are needed before the proposed Project is approved. None of the interested parties would be benefited if inadequate analysis leads to a project that results in conflict and controversy, particularly if it leads to the possibility of a basin adjudication.

6. Cumulative Impacts – The EIR needs to fully analyze the impacts of the proposed Project and other groundwater-related projects in the area, including but not limited to the SFPUC's proposed Lake level restoration project for Lake Merced, the project to pump groundwater at production rates from the North Westside Basin, and the variety of recycled water projects proposed in various portions of the lands overlying the Aquifer. Stormwater management projects being considered in the area, particularly by Daly City, also need to be taken into account, particularly to the extent they may involve detention basins. All of these related types of projects should be considered as elements of a comprehensive integrated water resources management approach to deal with the many challenges facing the SFPUC and the other water agencies in the area

The Clubs appreciate the opportunity to submit these comments on the proposed Project during the scoping phase. The Clubs hope to have the opportunity to participate in future phases of the Project, including possibly serving on an advisory committee of groundwater users if one is formed. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me or Douglas E. Coty at the address and telephone number shown above.

Very truly yours,



Robert B. Maddow

RBM:b

cc: Clubs
Joshua D. Milstein, SF City Attorney's Office
Copy sent via e-mail to diana.sokolove@sfgov.org
Copy sent via fax to (415) 558-6409

"Mondy Lariz" <mlariz@comcast.net>

07/28/2009 04:17 PM

Please respond to

<mlariz@comcast.net> To
<diana.sokolove@sfgov.org>
cc

bcc

Subject

Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project Scoping Comments

By email to diana.sokolove@sfgov.org

Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer
San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission St., #400
San Francisco, CA 94103

July 28, 2009

Re: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project Scoping Comments
--- Case No. 2005.0164E

Dear Mr. Wycho:

I was dismayed to find no mention of Lake Merced in the above referenced document.

Rather than supply additional comments I will simply say that I agree with the comments made by Mr. Cadagan for the Committee to Save Lake Merced. Thank you for considering these comments and working to ensure an adequate CEQA document and project.

Sincerely,

For California Trout
Mondy Lariz
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Subject
Regional Groundwater Storage, etc. Case No. 2005.0164E

Committee to Save Lake Merced
13225 Sylva Lane
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By Fax to diana.sokolove@sfgov.org

Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer
San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission St., #400
San Francisco, CA 94103

July 28, 2009

Re: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project Scoping Comments
--- Case No. 2005.0164E

Dear Mr. Wycho:

What follows are the comments of the Committee to Save Lake Merced (the "Committee") on the June 24, 2009 Notice of Preparation (and Project Description and related materials) of an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project (the "Project"). The Committee is a coalition of users of Lake Merced formed in 1993 to address the declining water levels in the lake. The Committee has since 1993 remained active in the efforts to permanently reverse those declining water levels and anticipates remaining active until a final resolution of the lake level issue is reached. Thus, our comments here are primarily directed at matters that relate to Lake Merced water levels. However, we anticipate that one or more organizations concerned with issues affecting the Tuolumne River will also comment on the scope of the EIR for the Project. We are firm supporters of the goals of those organizations and in no fashion do we intend that our comments be inconsistent with the goals of those concerned with the health and welfare of the Tuolumne River.

The Project is a conjunctive use project and, as the NOP points out, was listed as the "Conjunctive Use Project" in the SFPUC's Water System Improvement Program and the related Program Environmental Impact Report. The Committee is fully supportive of conjunctive use of water, but also mindful of the old adage that "the devil is in the details". In this case it can't be determined if there is a devil in the details because there are far too few details in the project description found in the NOP. Some of the more important matters that need to be in the project description before meaningful environmental analysis can be done appear in the numbered paragraphs below.

The primary purpose of an EIR is to "identify significant effects on the environment of a project". The NOP lists in Section 9.1 some of the environmental issues to be addressed, including land use; geology, etc; hydrology and water quality; biological resources; cultural resources; traffic, etc; noise and vibration; and recreational resources. Surprisingly, nowhere in Section 9 of the NOP (or elsewhere in the project description or related material presented at the July 9 scoping meeting) is mention made whatsoever of "Lake Merced" or the "Tuolumne River". It is in those two bodies of water that the potentially truly significant negative environmental effects of the Project might materialize. Being specifically interested in Lake Merced, the Committee notes that it is fairly well acknowledged that a significant contributing factor to the environmentally damaging decline in lake levels during the 80's was excessive pumping from the Westside Basin aquifer. That resulted in an overdraft condition in the aquifer. The Committee does not find comfort in the material currently available that excessive aquifer pumping and resultant aquifer overdraft might not result from operation of the Project thereby causing significant and unnecessary harm to the environment.

It is fundamental to CEQA that an EIR must be prepared with "a sufficient degree of analysis to provide decision makers with information which enables them to make a decision which intelligently takes account of environmental consequences." CEQA Guidelines ¶ 15151. No citation should be needed for the proposition that an EIR cannot meet that test if the description of the project that is the subject of the EIR is fundamentally inadequate. It is possible that SFPUC plans to amplify the project description after the deadline for scoping comments has passed. That would seem inconsistent with the spirit of the scoping process and, in this case, the requirement that at least one scoping meeting be held in connection with projects of statewide, regional or areawide significance. CEQA Guidelines ¶ 15082(ç)(1). In other words, what is the point in having a mandatory scoping procedure if the project description in existence at the time of the scoping meeting and during the scoping comment period is so lacking in basic information?

Based on the foregoing, and taking into the specific comments below on the inadequacy of the detail in the project description, the Committee respectfully submits that the NOP should be withdrawn at this time and reissued only when an adequately detailed project description is submitted by the SFPUC.

A second important purpose of an EIR is to identify alternatives to the project. One possible alternative (maybe better characterized as a "supplement") would be to add as a project feature the injection of stormwater and/or recycled water to the aquifer. Upon informal preliminary inquiry in this regard we were told that geological conditions

in the area do not lend themselves to effective use of injection wells. This issue needs to be examined (and discussed in the EIR) in much greater detail, including consideration of using the soon-to-be-made-public groundwater model to determine optimum locations for injecting stormwater and/or recycled water.

We submit the following specific comments, most of which are consistent with our belief that the existing project description is inadequate to allow for meaningful CEQA review in an EIR.

1. The project description lacks definitions of critical terms such as "excess surface water" (§1.0; p.1), "dry, normal and wet" years (throughout the project description); "sufficient surface water supplies" (§5.3.1; p.9).

2. The project description lacks adequate information regarding the aquifer in question to give meaning and context to the stated project purposes (§5.2; p.8). It is stated more than once (e.g. §5.3.1; p.10) that storage in the aquifer will be increased by 61,000 AF "eventually". But neither the total capacity or current storage volume in the aquifer (or relevant portion of the larger Westside Basin aquifer) is given. This project relates to just the South Westside Groundwater Basin which is a part of the larger Westside Groundwater Basin. An earlier study of the entire Westside Groundwater Basin estimated that "on the order of 75,000 acre-feet of available storage" would be available for possible conjunctive use. Luhdorff and Scalmanini, Update of the Conceptualization of the Lake-Aquifer System: Westside Ground-Water Basin, April 2004. These numbers may possibly be reconcilable, but it would be essential for those doing the current environmental study to have up-to-date information on total capacity of the South Westside Groundwater Basin, its current storage situation, and unused capacity for future conjunctive use storage.

3. Related to paragraph 2 immediately above is that fact that SFPUC has plans for groundwater development in the North Westside Groundwater Basin. The current project description should spell out how these two seemingly closely related projects are being integrated.

4. Many of the answers to the specific issues raised above may ultimately be found in the "groundwater storage and recovery agreement" cryptically mentioned in §5.3.1 (p.10) and slightly more prominently mentioned in footnote 5 to §5.3.4 (p.20). If that agreement is intended to spell out critical questions such as the missing definitions and even more basic questions ---- such as whether pumping in dry years may occur before recharge has occurred ---- then that agreement should be prepared and publicly disclosed before preparation of the EIR. (As noted above, the scoping process should occur after, not before, those critical details are revealed.)

5. The Committee cannot keep current on evolving CEQA law regarding the need to consider climate change in EIRs under CEQA. Regardless of the current state of the law, in this instance it seems essential that climate change be considered in detail given that the project is partially based on the premise that there will be undefined "excess" surface water (presumably referring to Tuolumne River water --- 85% of SFPUC's surface supply) available in the undefined "normal and wet years".

Respectfully Submitted,

Committee to Save Lake Merced

By s/ Jerry Cadagan
 Jerry Cadagan

cc. CalTrout
 Tuolumne River Trust
 Restore Hetch Hetchy
 SFPUC
 BAWSCA



July 28, 2009

Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer
San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission St., #400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project Scoping Comments

Dear Mr. Wycko:

The Tuolumne River Trust appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project (Case No. 2005.0164E).

The purpose of the Project is to further the use of the South Westside Groundwater Basin as an underground storage reservoir by storing water in the basin during wet periods for subsequent recapture during dry periods. The dry year water supply would be made available to the cities of Daly City and San Bruno, the California Water Company in its South San Francisco service area, and SFPUC wholesale water customers.

In general, the Tuolumne River Trust supports the concept of cooperative management of surface water and groundwater to optimize the water demand and supply balance. However, we have concerns that this project could harm the Tuolumne River by increasing diversions in normal and wet years.

Need to Study Impacts on the Tuolumne River

Figure 5 in the Notice of Preparation (Source of Water Supply for Partner Agencies) suggests that the SFPUC would provide an additional 5.4 million gallons of surface water per day (mgd) to its customers in normal and wet years to enable them to reduce groundwater pumping by an equal amount. The EIR needs to identify the source(s) of this additional surface water. It also should define wet, normal and dry years. Assuming most of the additional 5.4 mgd is expected to come from the Tuolumne River, the impacts of increasing diversions should be studied in the Project EIR.

Currently, 60% of the Tuolumne River is used for agricultural and urban uses, and even more water is diverted, causing significant impacts to the river ecosystem. For example, the population of Chinook salmon has declined from more than 100,000 individuals per year prior to dam building, to 18,000 in 2000, to less than 500 in 2008. In its comment letter on the Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) DPEIR dated October 1, 2007, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) stated that lack of adequate

instream flows was the primary cause of the decline in anadromous fish. Diverting more water from the Tuolumne would only exacerbate this problem.

The WSIP PEIR attempted to address the impacts on salmon and steelhead of diverting more water from the Tuolumne, however, the analysis was wholly inadequate. The Tuolumne River Trust and other conservation organizations did not issue a legal challenge to the PEIR because we did not want to delay the seismic upgrades to the Hetch Hetchy Water System.

New information about potential impacts to the Tuolumne River from increasing diversions should be included in the CEQA analysis for the Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project. For example, the SFPUC is currently conducting a study of biological resources in the stretch of the Tuolumne downstream of the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir to meet a condition of the 1987 Kirkwood Powerhouse Agreement. Because the study was not completed in time to be included in the WSIP PEIR, it is important that the results of this study be considered as soon as possible. This study is expected to be completed by the end of 2009.

On January 15, 2009, CDFG submitted comments on the San Joaquin Pipeline System Project. They stated:

“We are concerned, however, that the addition of a new pipeline segment will provide conveyance capacity for increased diversions from the Tuolumne watershed. “To contribute toward meeting the overall program objectives of the WSIP, the SFPUC has designed the SJPL System Project to meet current and future water demand” (Pg. 1-2, DEIR). This implies the SJPL will be integral either now or in the future for conveying additional water supplies which would likely include diversions of about two million gallons per day (mgd) over existing conditions from the Tuolumne River. Be advised that for any activity that will divert or obstruct the natural flow...DFG may require a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA), pursuant to Section 1600 et seq. of the Fish and Game Code, with the applicant.”

CDFG went on to say:

“In those documents (CDFG comments on the WSIP PEIR), we described in detail the critical and dire condition of native salmonids in the Tuolumne River. We thoroughly outlined the relationship between in-stream flows and native salmonid productivity, as well as the need for decreased, rather than increased, Tuolumne River diversions to sustain native salmonid populations at *high risk of extinction*. Increased diversions of two mgd would also likely worsen conditions for other fish species in the Tuolumne River, and would likely add to cumulative impacts to water quality of the San Joaquin River, that may further impact sensitive species including federally threatened steelhead (see Zimmerman et al. 2008), State and federally endangered Delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*), federally threatened southern distinct population segment (DPS) green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*), and the State candidate longfin smelt (*Spirinchus thaleichthys*), currently petitioned for endangered status. DFG continues to respectfully request SFPUC consider all other

potential options for meeting increased customer demand until and after the year 2018.”

These comments should be addressed in the Project EIR for the Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project.

It should be noted that wet years do not result in “wasted” water. Wet years can provide better flows for juvenile salmon and steelhead, enabling them to get flushed out into the Bay and Ocean in higher numbers. In big water years, such as 1982/83 and 1997/98, the two reservoirs on the Tuolumne River filled to capacity, causing spillage over the dams. As a result of the increased instream flows, the numbers of adult salmon and steelhead returning three years later increased dramatically. However, in 1994, despite the relative abundance of water, most of the River’s flow was captured in the two reservoirs to fill them after several years of drought (see attached graph). As a result, the number of returning adult salmon three years later was much smaller than would otherwise have been expected.

The EIR for the Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project should study the impacts of diverting additional water from the Tuolumne on fish populations even in wet and normal years.

Furthermore, requirements for instream flows in the lower Tuolumne are likely to increase as a result of the FERC relicensing process that will begin in 2011 and be completed in 2016.

A recent FERC order on a rehearing request for the 1995 FERC Settlement Agreement acknowledged the existence of steelhead in the lower Tuolumne and the need for them to be addressed. It found that interim measures may be required prior to relicensing. It also determined that within four years an instream flow of 4,000 cfs in the spring would be needed for study purposes and that the instream flow study, including a plan for a temperature model, be developed by MID and TID in consultation with NMFS, FWS and CDFG.

This, and future FERC actions, must be considered in the CEQA analysis for the Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project.

Need to Study the Potential for Using Stormwater Runoff and/or Recycled Water to Enhance Recharge of the Groundwater Basin

In response to CDFG’s request that “SFPUC consider all other potential options for meeting increased customer demand,” the EIR for the Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project should study the potential for using stormwater runoff and/or recycled water to enhance the recharge of the groundwater basin. This would enable a higher sustainable rate of groundwater use in normal and wet years, thus reducing or eliminating increased diversions from the Tuolumne River.

We believe our concerns are shared by the SFPUC Commission and the San Francisco Planning Commission. SFPUC Resolution No. 08-0200, which approved the WSIP on October 30, 2008, states:

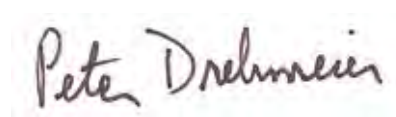
“Further resolved, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission shall set aggressive water conservation and recycling goals, shall bring short and long-term conservation, recycling and groundwater programs on line at the earliest possible time, and shall undertake every effort to reduce demand and any further diversions from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission watersheds...”

In a letter dated December 18, 2008 to SFPUC President, Ann Moller Caen and SFPUC General Manager, Ed Harrington, the San Francisco Planning Commission wrote:

“As you know, the Tuolumne River is a precious resource and the City and County of San Francisco should continue to protect it. Thus, the Commission urges the SFPUC to continue to find alternative ways to provide water supply to the service area that do not involve withdrawing additional water off the Tuolumne River.”

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Drekmeier". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on the page.

Peter Drekmeier
Bay Area Program Director

Attachments

CDFG WSIP DPEIR comments
CDFG letter dated January 15, 2009
1994 stream flow graph
FERC order on rehearing request
SFPUC Resolution #08-0200
SF Planning Dept. letter dated December 18, 2008

cc: CDFG
SFPUC
SF Planning Commission



RESTORE HETCH HETCHY
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Please reply to: PO Box 1886
Twain Harte CA 95383-1886
July 28, 2009

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Mike Marshall

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Mr. Bill Wycko
Environmental Review Officer
Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project Scoping
Comments
San Francisco Planning Department
Sent by email to diana.sokolove@sfgov.org submitted at 3:20 PM

Subject: South Westside Groundwater Basin EIR Scoping

Dear Mr. Wycko:

Restore Hetch Hetchy appreciates the opportunity to provide scoping input for the SFPUC WSIP Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project EIR, Case No. 2005:0164E.

The use of this aquifer for domestic water supply during the design drought is good conjunctive-use, but the concept of replacing the present well water being pumping with surface supply to allow replenishment naturally during normal and wet years without listing the source of that surface water gives the impression that other watersheds will suffer impacts, which are not going to be addressed in this EIR. This is a serious omission that the EIR must address. Because you did not mention the specific source of the “surface water, when available” in your current Notice or Description, immediately makes those involved with the SFPUC source watersheds think the worst—that more water will be drawn from these watersheds for this project. The fear is that offsetting replenishment surface flow were not presented nor mitigation provided for in your department’s 2008 PEIR for the WSIP, Case No. 2005.0159E referenced in your Description. They would want those sources to be acknowledged and their impacts shown and mitigation provided for in this project EIR. It would be a mistake not to do so if those assumptions are true.

To calm everyone we ask that you present a water balance in this EIR stating the source of this replacement water proposed and giving a

www.hetchhetchy.org

PO Box 565, San Francisco, California 94104-0565 * 415.956.0401

Restore Hetch Hetchy is a California non-profit corporation, tax ID # 77-0551533,
exempt from state and federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Contributions to **Restore Hetch Hetchy** are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Tuolumne River at Moccasin in 2018 on a five-year rolling average; the same from Alameda Creek watershed to the Sunol Water Treatment Plant; from the Peninsular watersheds to Tracy WTP; from groundwater pumping inputs; purchases from other water suppliers; amount of Tuolumne River water put into and recovered from San Antonio Reservoir; amount of Tuolumne River diversion put into and recovered from Crystal Springs Reservoir; amount of Tuolumne River water put into and recovered from Pulgas Reservoir; amount traded to and from other water agencies (e.g. EBMUD); amount purchased from other agencies and delivered through the South Bay Aqueduct; the amount rejected from each of the two WTP as part of their normal operation; amount rejected at Livermore Lab water treatment facility; amount rejected by backwash from well water filtration; the amount sold to BAWSCA including "surface water, when available" "in lieu of pumping ground water" for this aquifer project as a separate item; sales within the City of SF; that sold to Lawrence Livermore Lab; that sold to GE nuclear power generation near Sunol; amount sold to or purchased from other government agencies not already included; evaporation from WTPs and storage; transmission losses; losses from meter failure in SF (delivered but not billed or over billed); accretions; water main flushing; fire fighting use and hydrant testing; and system operating spills and releases. The amount sold to GCSD and that served to Moccasin and Early Intake should be stated as separate diversions. Input flows will equal sales and outputs. The amount of 223 mgd total sales goal by 2018 was stated to your Planning Commission for the PEIR on Oct 30, 2008 by SFPUC General Manager, Ed Harrington, during the decision meeting for Case No. 2005.0159E. That amount has never appeared in print and this is the place for it to be stated and explained. That water balance will let everyone know where the surface water replacement flow is coming from for this project. Our expectation is that this water balance will show the well water replacement flow is part of the 223 mgd five-year rolling average goal for 2018.

A second reason we ask for this water balance is for you to explain how the goal of total sales got from 217.3 mgd (calculated from Figure 2.4 on page 2-18 of the DPEIR) to 223 mgd that the Commission accepted. Two mgd of the increase was noted in the WSIP Revision supplement (Chapter 13, Table 13.2, in the Phased WSIP column at page 13-13), but the purpose or reason for it was never given in print, nor was the other 3.7 mgd additional Tuolumne River diversion explained in print that was added by the General Manager just before October 30. This extra amount also needs to be explained. This EIR is the place to explain these increases as well as the source for the 4.5 mgd replacement surface (flow calculated from Figure 5 page 21 of this Description). Is the 4.5 mgd replacement flow part of the 223 mgd rolling average total sales as we

expect? Or do you plan to purchase this replacement water from another source? A water balance will answer all these questions and restore our faith in your EIR process.

Although Lake Merced is just north of the study area of the South Westside Groundwater Basin, please discuss the "potential for flow from shallow aquifer/lake system toward the underlying

Page 2, RHH Scoping Input to Case No. 2005.0164E

aquifer from which nearby production wells withdraw water" in the South Westside Groundwater Basin south of Lake Merced (quote from DPEIR page 5.6-15 paragraph two). Also discuss using recycled water, and urban storm runoff after the first flushing rain as sources to raise the level in Lake Merced for this recharge purpose.

The DPEIR lists several golf courses located atop this aquifer that are successfully using recycled water for irrigation (DPEIR page 5.6-8). Discuss the impact on aquifer recovery from conversion to using recycled water for additional golf courses and other irrigated landscapes located over this aquifer that still pump from this aquifer or use system water for irrigation.

Discuss the rate of aquifer refilling as related to less pumping and use of recycled water for irrigation above the aquifer.

Discuss what would be necessary to recharge more of the 75,000 acre feet vacant storage available in this aquifer for drought use (DPEIR p 5.6-25) and the time to accomplish refilling.

Explain how the high nitrate and manganese concentrations in water from this aquifer will be handled during drought when about 7.2 mgd will be added to the diminished surface supply (volume reference is from Section 5.3.2 of this Description and the minerals noted are in section 5.6.1.8 in DPEIR). Will wellhead treatment be used to accomplish reduction of these two chemicals or will blending with system water take care of these problems?

If this is a "Regional" Project, why is the North Basis not included?

Please acknowledging this submission from us at jdmack@jps.net Please mail the author a hard copy of this DEIR and FEIR when each is available.

Sincerely,

Bob Hackamack, P.E.
Chair Water, Power and Restoration Committee

Copy: BAWSCA
Committee to Save Lake Merced
SFPUC
Tuolumne River Trust

Page 3, RHH Scoping Input to Case No. 2005.0164E

305 Fw RHH submissions to Regional Groundwater Storage Recovery Project scoping
From: Diana Sokolove [diana.sokolove@sfgov.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2009 5:36 PM
To: Pat Collins; Carol Kielusiak; schau@rmcwater.com; Lori Wider
Subject: Fw: RHH submissions to Regional Groundwater Storage & Recovery Project scoping

FYI

----- Forwarded by Diana Sokolove/CTYPLN/SFGOV on 07/28/2009 05:35 PM -----

"Bob & Jean
Hackamack"
<jdmack@jps.net>

07/28/2009 05:22
PM

"Diana Sokolove"
<diana.sokolove@sfgov.org>

To

"mike marshall"
<mike@hetchhetchy.org>, "Bob
Hackamack" <jdmack@jps.net>

cc

Subject
RE: RHH submissions to Regional
Groundwater Storage & Recovery
Project scoping

Diana: Thanks for your reassuring response that my comments reached you before the deadline. You can tell from the typos in the subject line that I was worried that things might go wrong.

And thanks for your question about a few missing words at the bottom of page 1. Yes two lines dropped off. They are: "detailed water balance for the SFPUC delivery system as a whole. It should contain, as a minimum, how much the diversion goal is from the". Bob H

-----Original Message-----

From: Diana Sokolove [mailto:diana.sokolove@sfgov.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2009 4:12 PM
To: Bob & Jean Hackamack
Cc: Bob Hackamack; 'mike marshall'
Subject: Re: RHH submissions to Regional Groundwater Storage & Recovery Project scoping

Greetings,

Thank you for your comments. In reviewing the comments, it appears as though a few words or sentence may be missing in the transition from page one to page 2. Can you let me know? I combined the files into one Adobe Acrobat file (attached) in an effort to help you answer the question.

(See attached file: Restore Hetch Hetchy_072809.pdf)

Regards,
Diana

305 Fw RHH submissions to Regional Groundwater Storage Recovery Project scoping

Diana Sokolove, Senior Environmental Planner City and County of San Francisco
Planning Department Major Environmental Analysis Division 1650 Mission Street, Suite
400 San Francisco, CA 94103
t: 415.575.9046
f: 415.558.6409
e: diana.sokolove@sfgov.org

"Bob & Jean
Hackamack"
<jdmack@jps.net>

07/28/2009 03:19
PM

<diana.sokolove@sfgov.org>

To

cc

"'mike marshall'"
<mike@hetchhetchy.org>, "Bob
Hackamack" <jdmack@jps.net>

Subject

RHH submissions to Regional
Groundwater Storage & Recovery
Project scoping

Bill wycko: Attached are two files comprising Restore Hetch Hetchy scoping
input for Case No. 2005:0164E. Bob H(See attached file: RHH S Westside
Groundwater scoping p 1, 7-28-09.doc)(See attached file: RHH S Westside
Groundwater Scoping p 2 & 3, 7-28-09.doc)

Appendix F
Scoping Meeting Sign-In Sheet



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Public Scoping Meeting
Proposed Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
South San Francisco, CA - July 9, 2009

SIGN-IN SHEET

(Please print)

NAME	AFFILIATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
Peter Drekmeier	TRT	111 New Montgomery St., #205 SF 94105	650-248-8025	Peter@Tuolumne.org
Matt Holt	MWH	2121 N. California Blvd Suite 600, Walnut Creek CA 94596		
Kndy Tan	SSR	315 Maple Ave S.S.R. CA 94080	(650) 829-6667	
James Carlson		1299 El Camino Real Colma 94014	755 4700	jcarlson@EmanuelSF.org



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Public Scoping Meeting
 Proposed Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
 South San Francisco, CA - July 9, 2009

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(Please print)

NAME	AFFILIATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
MARK ADRIANO	City of SSF	400 GRAND AVE SSF	650-877-8500	
Steve Davis	City of San Bruno	216 Lypress Ave	650-616-7075	
Gary Patis	City of SSF	550 N Canal SSF	650-877-8550	
PAUL PERKOVIC	MONTANA WATER & SANITARY DISTRICT	P.O. BOX 374449 MONTANA, CA 94037-1449	415-370-3897	PAUL PERKOVIC @YAHOO.COM
MR & MRS Pedro Gonzalez	City Council	400 GRAND AVE	877-8500	
DAVID CAMPA	City Council	397 IMPERIAL WAY DC CA 94015	650 992-1165	
BOB MADSON	GOLF COURSES	ASIC SUZANNE GAMMA	925 933 7777	MADSON@BPMNJ.COM



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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 Proposed Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
 South San Francisco, CA - July 9, 2009

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(Please print)

NAME	AFFILIATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
Lina Stephens	League of Women Voters	119 Shipley Ave Daly City 94015		
Piet Coum	NO. PENNING CO.	396 IMPERIAL # 305 Daly City 94015		
LY TENGION	PRIVATE CITIZEN	637 SPRUCE AVE SSF 94080		
Pradeep Gupta	SSF Ping Coum	68 Nursery Way SSF CA 94080	650-794-1417	
PATRICK SWEETLAND	CITY OF DALY CITY	153 LAKE MERCED BLVD DALY CITY CA 94015	650-991-8201	PSWEETLAND@DALYCITY.ORG
Wayne Ross		609 Theresa Dr SSF CA	650-871-8194	
VICTOR WIN	CITY OF (CITIZEN) DALY CITY	56 MAYFIELD AVE DALY CITY 94015		



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NAME	AFFILIATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
Andrea Ouse	Town of Colma	1190 El Camino Real Colma, CA 94014	650 957-2590	andrea.ouse@colma.ca.gov
Brad Doherty	Town of Colma	1188 El Camino Real Colma, CA 94014	650 757-8888	brad.doherty@colma.ca.gov
Trevor Joseph	DWR	3500 Industrial Blvd West Sacramento	916-376 9619	tjoseph@water.ca.gov
Lidia	SIF	449 Forest View	650-588 3704	
Jeanette Agosto	SOSF	276 Country Club Dr	589-7874	
Jim Stark	LAKESIDE PINES IMP. CLUB	124 Country Club Dr SIF	731-9600	jesplon@aol.com
Ernestina M. Gatto	Colma	816 Maddux Dr Colma		



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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 South San Francisco, CA - July 9, 2009

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NAME	AFFILIATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
Melissa Ross	SAN MATEO CO. PLANNING DEPT	455 COUNTY CENTER, 2ND FL RENOVOO CIM, CA 94063	(650) 599-1559	MROSS@CO-Sunmated.ca.us
Martha Ross		609 THURMA DRILL S.S.F. CA 94020	(650) 891-8144	Tina 1956 @ AOL.COM
Kathryn Slater-Carter		PO 370321 MONTANA, CA 94057	650 346-5255	Kathryn.s.c @gmail.com
Steve Leonard	Black + Veatch	38 Woodpark Redwood City	625 3242756	Leonard.S @BV.com
Audrey Park	SFO Planning + ENV. AFFAIRS	PO BOX 8716 SF CA 94128	650.821. 7844	audrey.park @flysfo.com
JAMES GRUBIN		2104 Adeline DR. BGRAME 94010	344-3556	JAGTRMG @ATT.NET
Elizabeth Fleger	EK I	1870 Ogden Drive Burlingame CA 94010	9100 650-292-9100	efleger@ ekiconsult.com