A draft environmental impact report (EIR) has been prepared by the San Francisco Planning Department in connection with this project. A public notice for the draft EIR was originally posted on April 10, 2013. Notice is hereby given the public comment period has been extended by two weeks until 5:00 p.m. on June 11, 2013. The Draft EIR is available for public review and comment on the Planning Department’s SFPUC Negative Declarations and EIRs web page (http://tinyurl.com/puccases). CDs and paper copies are also available at the Planning Information Center (PIC) counter on the first floor of 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco. Referenced materials are available for review by appointment at the Planning Department’s office on the fourth floor of 1650 Mission Street (call 415-575-9035 or email timothy.johnston@sfgov.org).

Project Description:
The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is proposing a project to increase water supply reliability during dry years and in emergencies, by increasing water storage in the South Westside Groundwater Basin during wet and normal years for subsequent recapture during dry years. The proposed project consists of the construction and operation of 16 new groundwater production wells and water treatment facilities to recover the stored groundwater.

The SFPUC is proposing this project in coordination with its partner agencies, which include the cities of Daly City and San Bruno, and the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) in its South San Francisco service area (collectively referred to as Partner Agencies). During normal and wet years, the Partner Agencies would reduce their groundwater pumping to increase the amount of groundwater in storage through natural recharge during these periods. During normal and wet years, the volume of groundwater in the South Westside Groundwater Basin would increase due to natural recharge and reduced groundwater pumping by the Partner Agencies. During dry years, the Partner Agencies and the
SFPUC would pump the stored groundwater using 16 new well facilities. This new dry-year water supply would be blended with water from the regional water system, and would thereby increase the available water supply to all regional water system customers.

The Draft EIR found that implementation of the proposed project would lead to significant unavoidable construction-related land use character, noise, and aesthetics impacts and, potentially, operations-related well interference impacts. The well facility sites contain no known hazardous materials as defined under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

Public comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on June 11, 2013. This deadline provides a two week extension from the original comment period provided for in a Notice of Availability posted on April 10, 2013. Written comments should be addressed to Sarah B. Jones, Acting Environmental Review Officer, San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. Comments received at the public hearing and in writing will be responded to in a Response to Comments document.

If you have any questions about the environmental review of the proposed project, please call Timothy Johnston at (415) 575-9035.