



NOTICE OF INTENT

TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

DATE: April 29, 2016
TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Marin Municipal Water District
220 Nellen Ave., Corte Madera, CA 94925
SUBJECT: Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the North Marin Line Stabilization Project – Lagunitas

Comment Period: This is to advise that the Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD), serving as lead agency, has prepared an Initial Study (IS) of Environmental Impact to: (1) identify potential environmental impacts that might result from the proposed project; (2) determine whether any such environmental impacts can be mitigated to a level of insignificance in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines; and (3) determine whether a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is the appropriate level of CEQA review for the proposed project.

MMWD is forwarding the IS/Proposed MND to appropriate agencies and interested parties for review and comment in compliance with the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR), sections 15063(g) and 15071. As mandated by state law, the minimum public review period for this document is 20 days.

Prior to project approval, MMWD will consider all written comments regarding the Proposed MND that are received by 4:30 p.m. on May 31, 2016, as required in the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Section 15074(b).

The Proposed MND and supporting studies are available for review at MMWD's office located at 220 Nellen Ave., Corte Madera, CA. Please contact Dain Anderson at MMWD by mail at the above address, by email at danderson@marinwater.org, or by phone at 415-945-1586.

Adoption of MND by MMWD: Adoption of the Proposed MND will be considered at the regularly scheduled meeting of the MMWD Board of Directors on June 7, 2016, at the district office, 220 Nellen Ave., Corte Madera, CA. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Location: The proposed project would be located at two existing pipeline crossings of San Geronimo Creek in Lagunitas, California, APNs (Site 1, near 7440 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard) 168-222-06, 168-222-01, 168-222-02, 168-222-04, and 168-222-09 and (Site 2, near 7349 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard) 170-062-17, 170-062-25 and 170-041-09.

Title and Description: North Marin Line Stabilization Project. The district is proposing to replace two existing water transmission pipeline crossings over San Geronimo Creek near the unincorporated community of Lagunitas, California.

The North Marin Line (NML) was constructed in 1957 to convey raw water from the district's Kent Lake to the San Geronimo Treatment Plant. Water from Nicasio Reservoir was added to flows in the NML after the completion of Seeger Dam in 1961. The pipeline's alignment generally follows an old railroad grade.

The NML's two crossings of San Geronimo Creek are 34-inch American Concrete Cylinder Pipe (ACCP) pipe, with unrestrained bell and spigot joints. The pipe is supported on concrete trestles installed in the creek bottom. District engineers have determined that the two crossings are seismically unsound in the event of a significant event, thereby jeopardizing the flow of raw water for treatment and subsequent distribution to the approximately 190,000 people who reside within the district's service boundaries.

The proposed project would replace the existing 34-inch ACCP trestle-supported pipeline crossings with 36-inch welded steel pipes installed within single span (without the need for mid-span trestle support) steel trusses.

The existing pipe emerges from the ground through the San Geronimo creek banks, approximately 2- to 4-feet below the top of bank. The proposed replacement pipes would emerge from the ground approximately 20-feet back of the creek's top-of-bank. The new pipe segments would rise approximately 2- to 3-feet above the adjacent ground surface before crossing the creek. The intent of elevating the pipeline and steel truss' profile above the top-of-bank is to keep construction activities outside of the creek's top-of-bank.

The new pipes would be aligned with an offset of several feet from the existing pipes. The offset is necessary to allow the new pipes to be installed without needing to first take the existing crossings out of service, except for the final tie-in of the new to the existing pipeline.

Determination: MMWD has prepared an Initial Study, and on the basis of that study, has determined that the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, but that there would not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been agreed to by the project proponent. A Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared.

Figure 1: Location Map



SOURCE: Google Earth/MMWD 2016

