

San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

DATE: April 24, 2023

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lance Eckhart

BY: Emmett Campbell, Sr. Water Resources Planner

SUBJECT: **County Line Rd Recharge Basin and Turnout Project Proposal for California Environmental Quality Act Compliance**

RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Albert A. Webb and Associates for a not-to-exceed amount of \$111,800.00 to perform and complete CEQA for the County Line Rd Recharge Basin and Turnout Project.

BACKGROUND

The County Line Rd Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project) is a joint project between San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, South Mesa Water Company, and San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency to design and construct facilities that will convey imported water from the State Water Project to a proposed recharge facility in the City of Calimesa. The water to be recharged in this facility would directly support the Yucaipa Groundwater Sustainability Plan in achieving groundwater sustainability.

The design for the facilities has been ongoing, and a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Grant application for this project was submitted at the end of 2022. The next step for this project is to start and complete the CEQA documents. Albert A. Webb and Associates has been selected to assist with the completion of the CEQA-related matters for this project.

ANALYSIS

On February 23, staff solicited proposals from three firms with expertise in CEQA. Out of the three, two responded with a proposal. SGPWA staff, with the help of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District staff, reviewed the proposals and found that both firms were qualified to do the work. One proposal was \$123,236.35. The other proposal was from Albert A. Webb and Associates (Webb) for \$102,600.00. In addition to being lower in cost, the Webb proposal included additional meetings for consultation with local Tribes as required under CEQA.

After making the selection for the Webb proposal, staff requested that an additional scope item be added. This scope item is to assist Staff with completing the CEQA Exemption under the Governors Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13, and is listed under "Task 1" of the proposal. The cost of this task is \$9,200.00. The original proposal is listed as "Task 2". If the State approves the exemption, then there would be no need for completing "Task 2," and CEQA for this project would be completed. If the State does not approve this project's exemption, Webb would move forward with the proposed "Task 2". If the

exemption is successful, it will save the Agency time related to the CEQA process and would save the Agency \$102,600.00.

On March 28th, 2022, the Governor signed an Executive Order that included a provision that would suspend CEQA for groundwater recharge projects under Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge or the Department of Water Resources SGMA Grant. Since this project falls under a Department of Water Resources SGMA Grant, the exemption under this executive order may be feasible.

FISCAL IMPACT

The General Fund Budget provides for this expense in the “General Engineering, CEQA, ERI, Etc.” line item under the “Consulting and Engineering Services” category for the FY 2022-23. \$150,000 was budgeted for this item, and nothing has been used as of March, 2023. Whether the cost for this contract is the minimum of \$9,200, or the full amount, the billing for the contract will extend into the next fiscal year. In either case, the amount that will be paid for this contract in the current fiscal year would be well within budget.

ACTION

The Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Albert A. Webb and Associates for a not-to-exceed amount of \$111,800.00 to perform and complete CEQA for the County Line Rd Recharge Basin and Turnout Project.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Albert A. Webb and Associates Proposal
2. Governors Executive Order N-7-22
3. County Line Road Recharge Project CEQA



015846

Corporate Headquarters
3788 McCray Street
Riverside, CA 92506
951.686.1070

Palm Desert Office
74967 Sheryl Avenue
Palm Desert, CA 92260
951.686.1070

Murrieta Office
41870 Kalmia Street #160
Murrieta, CA 92562
T: 951.686.1070

March 13, 2023
Revised April 19, 2023

Mr. Emmett Campbell
Senior Water Resources Planner
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

Transmitted via email: ecampbell@sgpwa.com

RE: Countyline Recharge Basin and Turnout Project
Proposal for California Environmental Quality Act Compliance

Dear Mr. Campbell:

Thank you for the opportunity to present this proposal to provide California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis for the proposed Countyline Recharge Basin and Turnout Project. **On April 18, 2023 you notified our office that WEBB was selected for this Project, however San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency is interested in pursuing a Suspension of CEQA pursuant to Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13. Therefore, we have modified this Proposal to include another Task which would include WEBB's review and support in filling out the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Self Certification forms. (New items added to this revised proposal appear in bold).**

PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

We understand San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) is working with the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD) and South Mesa Water Company (SMWC) as members of the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency (Yucaipa SGMA) to jointly provide a project that will further the objectives of the Yucaipa Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

To provide reliable sources of water to disadvantaged communities, SGPWA will be the Lead Agency under CEQA to create a project that takes State Water Project (SWP) water and conveys it to a new groundwater recharge basin. The proposed recharge basin is located within the City of Calimesa on property that SGPWA owns.

Based on information provided to WEBB, we understand the Project to be evaluated in the forthcoming CEQA document includes the following components:

- New turnout facility located under the driveway/lawn of an existing residence at southwest corner of Bryant Street and Countyline Road;
- Utilize an existing pipeline within Countyline Road at Bryant Street owned by SMWC for 5,075 linear feet (lf) west to 4th Street;
- Construction of a new pipeline for 656 lf in 4th Street;
- Construction of a new recharge basin on approximately 7-acre site located at APN 411-150-027;
- Roadway improvements to Buena Vista Court at connection to recharge basin;



www.webbassociates.com

- Land division of APN 411-150-027 so SGPWA can convey 1-acre of property to SMWC; and
- Utilize existing groundwater monitoring wells network to monitor recharge basin efficacy.

Given these project components, we understand the following agencies will be considered Responsible Agencies (**bolded**) under CEQA:

- The **Department of Water Resources (DWR)** will have to issue an encroachment permit to allow access to the East Branch Extension (EBX). DWR may also issue grant funding through Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program.
- The **City of Calimesa** will have to approve the street improvements to Buena Vista Court.
- **SBVMWD** will construct and own the new turnout at EBX line and may be the recipient of the SGM Grant from DWR.

We also understand from SGPWA that potential grant funding may be sought for this project that would utilize State Revolving Funds or other sources that would require the need for a “CEQA Plus” analysis which addresses federal cross cutters. We have therefore provided a scope and budget to prepare a “CEQA Plus” document.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Task 1: Self-Reporting Form – Suspension of CEQA per Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13

Per Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13, recharge projects under the State Groundwater Management Grant Program can apply for a suspension of CEQA. In order to qualify, SGPWA will need to fill out an on-line Self Reporting Form documenting project details such as a project description, project benefits, details of amount of recharge expected, how the project will mitigate groundwater conditions during drought, as well as construction details. WEBB can assist SGPWA with the Project Description development, but SGPWA will have most of the other details needed to complete the Form. Therefore, this task would include up to 38 hours of WEBB staff/support time. Should additional hours be needed, we can discuss budget augmentations that might be needed to continue work. If the Self Reporting Form is accepted and approved by DWR, then Task 2 below would not be needed.

Task 2: CEQA and CEQA Plus Compliance Services

“CEQA Plus” Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, Final MND, NOD

Once the Technical Studies outlined below are completed, and using the SGPWA preferred format, WEBB will prepare an IS/MND with explanatory text for all topical issue areas, in compliance with the requirements of CEQA, the 2023 State CEQA Guidelines. WEBB will utilize information provided by the SGPWA and the engineering team to provide a detailed project description. The Project Description will

be finalized once the Design Report has been approved by the SGPWA which will also serve as the main milestone needed to prepare the Initial Study.

To satisfy the SGPWA's goal of having documentation available for any SRF or similar grant program, WEBB will also ensure the CEQA document is a "CEQA-Plus document" addressing the federal cross-cutting regulations listed below. WEBB will add a section to the Initial Study checklist to address the following federal requirements:

- Federal Endangered Species Act,
- National Historic Preservation Act,
- Clean Air Act,
- Coastal Zone Management Act,
- Farmland Protection Policy Act,
- Flood Plain Management,
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act,
- Protection of Wetlands, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act,
- Safe Drinking Water Act,
- Sole Source Aquifer Protection,
- Coastal Barriers Resources Act,
- Environmental Justice, and
- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

WEBB will produce electronic copies of the Screencheck CEQA Plus IS/MND for SGPWA review and approval; we have included two (2) rounds of revisions per the SGPWA (assumes last/second round of revisions being quick review by the SGPWA to ensure changes were made). WEBB will prepare the Notice of Completion (NOC) and Document Transmittal Form and Notice of Intent (NOI) on behalf of the District. WEBB will handle all the CEQA postings with the State Clearinghouse and County Clerk as well as disseminate the NOI (not the full IS/MND) to up to 20 interested parties per the District's distribution list via FedEx. The SGPWA will post the NOI within a local newspaper and provide one copy of the IS/MND for the public to review. The SGPWA will post the CEQA Plus IS/MND and all technical studies on their website during the public review period.

We expect mitigation measures will be identified to reduce potential impacts to less than significant and therefore, a mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) will be required per Section 15097 of the State CEQA Guidelines. The MMRP will consist of a matrix that identifies, for each impact category (e.g., air quality, noise), mitigation measures, timing for implementation, the party responsible for implementation, and the method of reporting or monitoring to be used. WEBB will prepare a screencheck MMRP for SGPWA review and incorporate one round of revisions.

WEBB will review and prepare responses to comments received during the 30-day public comment period and prepare the Final IS/MND incorporating response to comments, final MMRP and technical

appendices. This task includes preparation of responses from no more than five commenting agencies/individuals and no more than 20 individual comments that require answers other than “comment noted.”

All documents will be provided electronically to the SGPWA for its use and reproduction for any public hearings. WEBB will attend one public meeting on the CEQA Plus IS/MND.

WEBB will prepare the Notice of Determination (NOD) for the SGPWA to sign within five days of adoption of the Final MND. WEBB will post the NOD with County Clerk and State Clearinghouse on behalf of the SGPWA. WEBB will pay the NOD Filing fees on behalf of SGPWA and bill SGPWA as expenses above the costs included below.

CEQA Project Management/Coordination (Time and Materials)

This task includes coordination not only with SGPWA, but also the other Agencies involved in this Project including the city of Calimesa, Department of Water Resources, SBVMWD and SMWC. This task includes creating and maintaining a detailed CEQA schedule for the Project, and for regular check-ins with SGPWA. All meetings are assumed to be virtual, and no more than biweekly meetings expected. Our budget for this task is based on a total of 60 hours. If 60 hours is exceeded, additional authorization will be required before incurring more effort for this task.

Technical Studies

Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Analysis

WEBB will prepare an Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas (AQ/GHG) Analysis in accordance with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) requirements for a single design of the project. WEBB will prepare a list of assumptions and data required to complete the calculations and provide to SGPWA to fill out. If all required data is not available and additional research or coordination is needed to complete the emissions estimates, additional effort may require a contract augment. The analysis will: 1) calculate emissions from construction and operation activities using the SCAQMD's CalEEMod (version 2022.1.1.6) program; 2) prepare a regional significance threshold analysis as well as a localized significance threshold analysis using the LST Look Up Tables per SCAQMD requirements; 3) compare project construction emissions to the SCAQMD draft GHG thresholds; and 4) analyze model results and incorporate mitigation measures, as appropriate, into the computer model. The results will be summarized in a technical memorandum to be appended to the IS/MND and include project-related emissions, identification of potential impacts from the project, and recommend mitigation measures to reduce those impacts, as appropriate. Our analysis will also address any federal cross cutters needed for the CEQA Plus analysis within the body of the CEQA document.

In addition, WEBB will also calculate the energy consumption from construction activities associated with the proposed project. Calculations will be presented in tables and included as an appendix to the CEQA document. This scope includes revisions from one round of minor SGPWA comments that are editorial in nature.

Cultural Resources Assessment

WEBB will team with Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) to provide the cultural resources assessment for the Project. Æ's scope will be compliant with the needs of the CEQA Plus analysis mentioned above and will comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Æ's scope of work will include the following tasks:

Cultural Resources Tasks

- While the Project is located in Riverside County, the records search limits (half-mile-wide buffer of the Project area) extend into San Bernardino County. Therefore, Æ will complete cultural resource literature and records searches at both the Eastern Information Center (EIC) housed at the University of California, Riverside, and the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), housed at California State University, Fullerton. We assume the total combined fee for EIC and SCCIC records searches will not exceed \$1,500.00. The current turnaround time for the EIC and SCCIC literature and records search is approximately 6 weeks.
- Æ will contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a search of the Sacred Lands Files. The NAHC is experiencing delays in response time. The current turnaround time for the NAHC search is 6-8 weeks. Æ also will follow up by contacting Tribes/individuals identified by the NAHC with local Traditional Use Areas that may have information regarding Native American cultural resources within the vicinity of the Project. Æ will initiate contact by emailed letter and followed by email or telephone.
- Æ will provide general assistance to the SGPWA in support of their Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) Native American consultation efforts. While the SGPWA is responsible for sending AB 52 letters to the tribes, Æ will assist by preparing draft letters for the SGPWA to send. Æ's Project Manager (Joan George) will attend up to two (2) virtual meetings with the SGPWA and interested tribes. We assume that each meeting will last no more than 2 hours in length and that SGPWA will be responsible for preparing the administrative record of the consultations (i.e., taking notes at the meeting and preparing and distributing minutes). In addition, Æ will provide non-confidential electronic copies of the draft cultural resource technical report and associated records search results, and the SLF search to interested tribes.
- After we have received the records search results from the EIC and SCCIC, one of Æ's qualified archaeologists will conduct an intensive pedestrian field survey of the Project area (approximately 6.9 acres and 1,116 linear feet). Æ's survey transect spacing will range from 10 to 15 meters (30 to 50 feet) insofar as possible and the ground surface of all landforms with likely intact and significant cultural resources, if any, also will be examined. Additionally, Æ's archaeologist will investigate any unusual contours, soil changes, distinctive vegetation patterns, features (e.g., road cuts, ditches, and stream cuts), and other potential cultural site markers. For the cultural resource survey, Æ is not responsible for landowner permissions and access to the Project area. Safe access must be ensured by the SGPWA. For the purposes of this price estimate, we assume no subsurface testing and no standing structures or other cultural resources requiring documentation, updates, or evaluation are present in the Project area.

Æ's updated companywide health & safety policy is now being implemented, although the public health concerns continue to cause fluid, everchanging circumstances. Prior to fieldwork, Æ will prepare a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) for the Project. Project fieldwork will be allowed only when all appropriate health & safety precautions are possible and followed.

Following completion of the field investigation, Æ will prepare a report of our findings to CEQA-Plus standards. This report will describe the Project, cultural setting, desktop and field investigation methods, survey results, and management recommendations. The report will also incorporate the results of the records searches from the EIC and SCCIC as well as communications with the NAHC and local Native American Tribes. Æ assumes one round of minor comments will need to be addressed following the SGPWA's review of the draft technical report and no major revisions will be required. Æ's draft report will be submitted electronically in MS Word format for ease of review; our final report will be submitted electronically as a PDF file. After the SGPWA has approved the report, Æ will submit one hardcopy of the final report to the EIC and one PDF copy (on a thumb drive) to the SCCIC.

Paleontology Tasks

- According to the County of Riverside (2009) paleontological sensitivity map, the entire Project area is ranked Undetermined. Æ will request museum records searches at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLAC) and the Western Science Center (WSC) for recorded paleontological resource localities within and in the vicinity of the Project boundary. The Project area and local region are located on two USGS topographic quadrangle maps; therefore, we assume the total records search fee will not exceed \$900.00. The current turnaround time for the NHMLAC and WSC records searches still is generally 2 weeks, although the length has varied significantly over the past year. Under this task, we also will complete reviews of online paleontological records at the University of California Museum of Paleontology (UCMP) and the Paleobiology Database.
- Æ's paleontology staff will supplement museum collections records by completing a review of published and unpublished geologic mapping and literature to further characterize the geology and paleontology of the Project area.
- Upon receipt of the museum records search results and completion of the desktop study, Æ's qualified vertebrate paleontologist will conduct a pedestrian field survey of the Project area. The purpose of the field survey will be to visually inspect the ground surface for exposed paleontological resources within the Project area and to evaluate geologic exposures in and adjacent to the Project area for their potential to include significant paleontology in the subsurface. For the paleontological survey, we anticipate no discoveries of paleontological resources (i.e., significant or insignificant) requiring documentation or evaluation will be identified during the field survey.

As a health and safety precaution, we plan for our paleontologist to conduct the paleontological resource field survey concurrently with the archaeologist's cultural field survey. As with the cultural survey, Æ is not responsible for landowner permissions and access to the Project area. The

paleontologist will utilize the same JHA prepared for the archaeological survey. Therefore, no additional efforts are assumed for health and safety during the paleontological survey.

- Following completion of the field survey, Æ will draft a Paleontological Resource Assessment (PRA) to document the desktop and field findings and to provide Project-specific recommendations. The report will include GIS maps depicting areas where monitoring or mitigation are recommended (if applicable). All paleontological work will be conducted in accordance with the SGPWA's guidelines and will meet the requirements of CEQA-Plus. Æ's draft PRA will be submitted electronically in MS Word format for ease of review; we assume comments to address, if any, will be minimal prior to finalization. Æ will submit our final PRA electronically as a PDF file. No hardcopies will be prepared or submitted.

EXCLUSIONS

- Biological studies will be needed to support the CEQA and CEQA Plus documentation. We understand SGPWA will contract directly with a biologist to provide these Studies to WEBB. It is assumed in our cost estimate and scope that all biological studies will be completed during the appropriate survey seasons and that all necessary biological mapping, impact analysis as well as mitigation measures, conducted by SGPWA's consultant, will be provided to WEBB in a timely manner and are both CEQA and CEQA Plus compliant. Any jurisdictional resources will be quantified in the biological studies as well, and if regulatory water permitting is needed, that will be the responsibility of SGPWA. It should be noted that the biological studies will also need to be federally compliant in order to support SGPWA's future funding options.
- A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment and a geotechnical analysis (addressing soil conditions, seismicity) will be provided to WEBB for use in the CEQA analysis.
- Noise analysis will be conducted by WEBB utilizing qualitative analysis based on construction equipment list provided by SGPWA; no noise-specific study is included in our scope.
- No expenses, such as postage or mileage is included in the scope of services above. Should these services be needed they will be billed as expenses above the cost estimate included herein.

Services not specifically listed above are not included in the scope of work for this project. During the project, if the District or WEBB identifies other services are required, a specific proposal will be prepared and submitted by WEBB to the SGPWA for authorization.

SCHEDULE

Once contract authorization is completed, a detailed schedule will be prepared addressing the CEQA process. **The following is the estimate duration to complete Task 2 if an MND and CEQA Plus document is needed.** Overall schedule and timeframe for whole CEQA process can take 9 to 14 months, depending on availability of data, agency responsiveness and timeliness of reviews, which are not included in the timeframes outlined below.

Task – Key Milestones	Estimated Duration by Task
Project Description Development	2 months
Technical Studies	6 months

Mr. Emmett Campbell
San Geronio Pass Water Agency
March 13, 2023
REVISED April 19, 2023
Page 8 of 8

Initial Study/CEQA Plus Document Preparation	4 months
Agency reviews of CEQA Document	3 months
Public Review	30 days
Response to Comments/Final MND	2 months

BUDGET

Our budget for the services outlined above is **provided below for each Task and each Task will be billed on a Lump Sum, percent complete basis monthly except for the Project Management and Coordination Task which will be billed as Time and Materials not to Exceed.**

Task 1: CEQA Suspension: Self-Reporting Form Support

Assistance to SGPWA on Self Reporting Form \$9,200
Task 1: Total \$9,200

Task 2: CEQA and CEQA Plus Compliance Services

CEQA Plus Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Screenchecks) \$45,000
CEQA Noticing/Public Review coordination (no postage) \$3,700
Final MND (does not include NOD filing fees) \$10,400
Project Management & Coordination (T&M) \$15,300
Subtotal \$74,400

Technical Studies

Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Analysis/Energy \$6,500
Cultural Resources \$21,700
Subtotal \$28,200

Task 2: Total \$102,600

We appreciate the opportunity to be of continued service to SGPWA and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at 951-686-1070.

Sincerely,

ALBERT A. WEBB ASSOCIATES



Stephanie Standerfer
Vice President

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-7-22

WHEREAS on April 12, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021, I proclaimed states of emergency that continue today and exist across all the counties of California, due to extreme and expanding drought conditions; and

WHEREAS climate change continues to intensify the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment, and economy, and California is in a third consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in continuing drought in all parts of the State; and

WHEREAS the 21st century to date has been characterized by record warmth and predominantly dry conditions, and the 2021 meteorological summer in California and the rest of the western United States was the hottest on record; and

WHEREAS since my October 19, 2021 Proclamation, early rains in October and December 2021 gave way to the driest January and February in recorded history for the watersheds that provide much of California's water supply; and

WHEREAS the ongoing drought will have significant, immediate impacts on communities with vulnerable water supplies, farms that rely on irrigation to grow food and fiber, and fish and wildlife that rely on stream flows and cool water; and

WHEREAS the two largest reservoirs of the Central Valley Project, which supplies water to farms and communities in the Central Valley and the Santa Clara Valley and provides critical cold-water habitat for salmon and other anadromous fish, have water storage levels that are approximately 1.1 million acre-feet below last year's low levels on this date; and

WHEREAS the record-breaking dry period in January and February and the absence of significant rains in March have required the Department of Water Resources to reduce anticipated deliveries from the State Water Project to 5 percent of requested supplies; and

WHEREAS delivery of water by bottle or truck is necessary to protect human safety and public health in those places where water supplies are disrupted; and

WHEREAS groundwater use accounts for 41 percent of the State's total water supply on an average annual basis but as much as 58 percent in a critically dry year, and approximately 85 percent of public water systems rely on groundwater as their primary supply; and

WHEREAS coordination between local entities that approve permits for new groundwater wells and local groundwater sustainability agencies is important to achieving sustainable levels of groundwater in critically overdrafted basins; and

WHEREAS the duration of the drought, especially following a multiyear drought that abated only five years ago, underscores the need for California to redouble near-, medium-, and long-term efforts to adapt its water management and delivery systems to a changing climate, shifting precipitation patterns, and water scarcity; and

WHEREAS the most consequential, immediate action Californians can take to extend available supplies is to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels by implementing the commonsense measures identified in operative paragraph 1 of Executive Order N-10-21 (July 8, 2021); and

WHEREAS to protect public health and safety, it is critical the State take certain immediate actions without undue delay to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the drought conditions, and under Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the drought conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The orders and provisions contained in my April 21, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021 Proclamations remain in full force and effect, except as modified by those Proclamations and herein. State agencies shall continue to implement all directions from those Proclamations and accelerate implementation where feasible.
2. To help the State achieve its conservation goals and ensure sufficient water for essential indoor and outdoor use, I call on all Californians to strive to limit summertime water use and to use water more efficiently indoors and out. The statewide Save Our Water conservation campaign at [SaveOurWater.com](https://www.SaveOurWater.com) provides simple ways for Californians to reduce water use in their everyday lives. Furthermore, I encourage Californians to understand and track the amount of water they use and measure their progress toward their conservation goals.
3. By May 25, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) shall consider adopting emergency regulations that include all of the following:
 - a. A requirement that each urban water supplier, as defined in section 10617 of the Water Code, shall submit to the Department of Water Resources a preliminary annual water supply and demand assessment consistent with section 10632.1 of the Water Code no later than June 1, 2022, and submit a final annual water

supply and demand assessment to the Department of Water Resources no later than the deadline set by section 10632.1 of the Water Code;

- b. A requirement that each urban water supplier that has submitted a water shortage contingency plan to the Department of Water Resources implement, at a minimum, the shortage response actions adopted under section 10632 of the Water Code for a shortage level of up to twenty percent (Level 2), by a date to be set by the Water Board; and
- c. A requirement that each urban water supplier that has not submitted a water shortage contingency plan to the Department of Water Resources implement, at a minimum, shortage response actions established by the Water Board, which shall take into consideration model actions that the Department of Water Resources shall develop for urban water supplier water shortage contingency planning for Level 2, by a date to be set by the Water Board.

To further conserve water and improve drought resiliency if the drought lasts beyond this year, I encourage urban water suppliers to conserve more than required by the emergency regulations described in this paragraph and to voluntarily activate more stringent local requirements based on a shortage level of up to thirty percent (Level 3).

- 4. To promote water conservation, the Department of Water Resources shall consult with leaders in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors to develop strategies for improving water conservation, including direct technical assistance, financial assistance, and other approaches. By May 25, 2022, the Water Board shall consider adopting emergency regulations defining “non-functional turf” (that is, a definition of turf that is ornamental and not otherwise used for human recreation purposes such as school fields, sports fields, and parks) and banning irrigation of non-functional turf in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors except as it may be required to ensure the health of trees and other perennial non-turf plantings.
- 5. In order to maximize the efficient use of water and to preserve water supplies critical to human health and safety and the environment, Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended, with respect to the directives in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Order and any other projects and activities for the purpose of water conservation to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought, and any permits necessary to carry out such projects or activities. Entities that desire to conduct activities under this suspension, other than the directives in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Order, shall first request that the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency make a determination that the proposed activities are eligible to be conducted under this suspension. The Secretary shall use sound discretion in applying this Executive Order to ensure that the suspension serves the purpose of accelerating conservation projects that are necessary to address impacts of the drought, while at the same time

protecting public health and the environment. The entities implementing these directives or conducting activities under this suspension shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.

6. To support voluntary approaches to improve fish habitat that would require change petitions under Water Code section 1707 and either Water Code sections 1425 through 1432 or Water Code sections 1725 through 1732, and where the primary purpose is to improve conditions for fish, the Water Board shall expeditiously consider petitions that add a fish and wildlife beneficial use or point of diversion and place of storage to improve conditions for anadromous fish. California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 1064, subdivisions (a)(1)(A)(i)-(ii) are suspended with respect to any petition that is subject to this paragraph.
7. To facilitate the hauling of water for domestic use by local communities and domestic water users threatened with the loss of water supply or degraded water quality resulting from drought, any ordinance, regulation, prohibition, policy, or requirement of any kind adopted by a public agency that prohibits the hauling of water out of the water's basin of origin or a public agency's jurisdiction is hereby suspended. The suspension authorized pursuant to this paragraph shall be limited to the hauling of water by truck or bottle to be used for human consumption, cooking, or sanitation in communities or residences threatened with the loss of affordable safe drinking water. Nothing in this paragraph limits any public health or safety requirement to ensure the safety of hauled water.
8. The Water Board shall expand inspections to determine whether illegal diversions or wasteful or unreasonable use of water are occurring and bring enforcement actions against illegal diverters and those engaging in the wasteful and unreasonable use of water. When access is not granted by a property owner, the Water Board may obtain an inspection warrant pursuant to the procedures set forth in Title 13 (commencing with section 1822.50) of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure for the purposes of conducting an inspection pursuant to this directive.
9. To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:
 - a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability

Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or

- b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

10. To address household or small community drinking water shortages dependent upon groundwater wells that have failed due to drought conditions, the Department of Water Resources shall work with other state agencies to investigate expedited regulatory pathways to modify, repair, or reconstruct failed household or small community or public supply wells, while recognizing the need to ensure the sustainability of such wells as provided for in paragraph 9.
11. State agencies shall collaborate with tribes and federal, regional, and local agencies on actions related to promoting groundwater recharge and increasing storage.
12. To help advance groundwater recharge projects, and to demonstrate the feasibility of projects that can use available high water flows to recharge local groundwater while minimizing flood risks, the Water Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards shall prioritize water right permits, water quality certifications, waste discharge requirements, and conditional waivers of waste discharge requirements to accelerate approvals for projects that enhance the ability of a local or state agency to capture high precipitation events for local storage or recharge, consistent with water right priorities and protections for fish and wildlife. For the purposes of carrying out this paragraph, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division, and Chapter 3 (commencing with section 85225) of Part 3 of Division 35 of the Water Code and regulations adopted pursuant thereto are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought. This suspension applies to (a) any actions taken by state agencies, (b) any actions taken by local agencies where the state agency with primary responsibility for the implementation of the directives concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b). The entities implementing these directives shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.
13. With respect to recharge projects under either Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge or the Department of Water Resources Sustainable

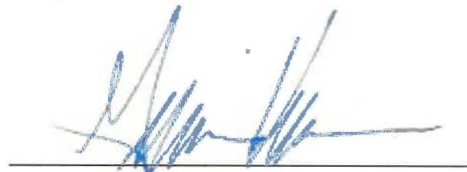
Groundwater Management Grant Program occurring on open and working lands to replenish and store water in groundwater basins that will help mitigate groundwater conditions impacted by drought, for any (a) actions taken by state agencies, (b) actions taken by a local agency where the Department of Water Resources concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b), Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought. The entities implementing these directives shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.

14. To increase resilience of state water supplies during prolonged drought conditions, the Department of Water Resources shall prepare for the potential creation and implementation of a multi-year transfer program pilot project for the purpose of acquiring water from willing partners and storing and conveying water to areas of need.
15. By April 15, 2022, state agencies shall submit to the Department of Finance for my consideration proposals to mitigate the worsening effects of severe drought, including emergency assistance to communities and households and others facing water shortages as a result of the drought, facilitation of groundwater recharge and wastewater recycling, improvements in water use efficiency, protection of fish and wildlife, mitigation of drought-related economic or water-supply disruption, and other potential investments to support short- and long-term drought response.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 28th day of March 2022.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D.
Secretary of State

County Line Rd Recharge Project CEQA



Discussion Topics



PROJECT OVERVIEW



A NEED FOR CEQA



RECOMMENDATION

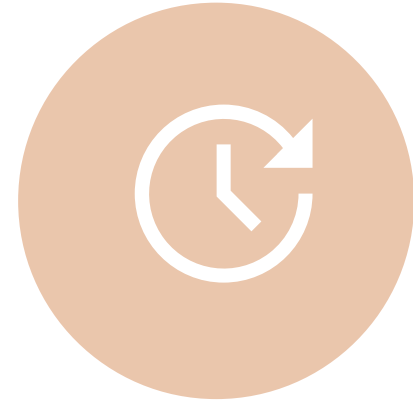
Discussion Topics



PROJECT OVERVIEW



A NEED FOR CEQA



RECOMMENDATION

SBVMWD Service Area

SGPWA Service Area

Source: Eric USDA FSA, Ben Community Maps Contributors, Linda Linda University, City of Yuma, County of Riverside, County of San Bernardino, California State Air Quality Clearinghouse, Microsoft, Ben HERE, Garmin, sales@openlayers.org, the MIM/USDA, USDA, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, the US Census Bureau, USDA, the Ben Power, San Diego Geographic, and the US Open Community.

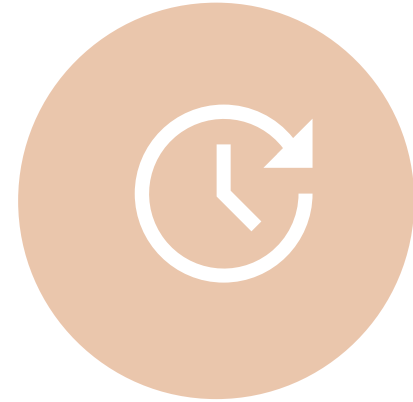
Discussion Topics



PROJECT OVERVIEW



A NEED FOR CEQA



RECOMMENDATION

CEQA needs to be completed for this project before construction can occur

- Staff solicited proposals from three qualified Firms to perform the CEQA related work
- Two proposals were received
- Both proposers were very qualified to complete this work
- One proposal was \$123,236.35
- The other proposal, from Albert A. Webb and Associates was \$102,600.00

Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13

- Signed by the Governor on March 28, 2022
- Purpose is to exempt CEQA for recharge projects that are under either a Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge or the Department of Water Resources Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant
- The grant that was applied for in Dec, 2022 is a DWR SGMA Grant so this project would qualify
- Staff requested that Webb add an additional task to assist with SGPWA staff through this process

Executive Order N-7-22, Action 13

- The proposal was amended with a new task (Task 1) the original scope is listed as Task 2
- Task 1 would cost \$9,200.00; Task 2 still costs 102,600.00
- If the Exemption is successful, then Task 2 would not need to be completed
- If the exemption is unsuccessful, then Task 2 will move forward
- The total contract amount would be \$111,800.00

Discussion Topics



PROJECT OVERVIEW



A NEED FOR CEQA



RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation

- The Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Albert A. Webb and Associates for a not-to-exceed amount of \$111,800.00 to perform and complete CEQA for the County Line Rd Recharge Basin and Turnout Project.