

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

For the

Ventura County El Rio South-Central Sewer Collection Design

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded a Wastewater Infrastructure Grant to Ventura County for the final design of a sewer collection system El Rio South-Central area. This design includes preparation of topographic mapping, ortho-photos, construction drawings, contract specifications, and geotechnical engineering.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

Ventura County has proposed to install about 83,610 linear feet of new sewage collection pipeline in the El Rio area in order to terminate the use of septic tanks in the area, which can pollute local drinking water wells. This project is necessary to comply with an enforcement action brought by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) to bring the water wells into compliance with State and federal standards. In addressing requirements under NEPA, the Environmental Assessment (EA) described the entire project ordered by the RWQCB, including the El Rio West portion. The project covered by this grant, however, is limited to the El Rio South-Central area, which involves about 27,000 linear feet of new pipe.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES AND CONDITIONS

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, EPA has prepared an EA that examines the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. After considering a wide range of regulatory, environmental (both natural and human) and socio-economic factors, the EA did not identify any significant impacts to the environment that would result from the implementation of this project.

PUBLIC REVIEW

The EA is on file, along with other project materials, and is available for public inspection at the EPA Region 9 office in San Francisco, California. Copies of the EA are also available for public review at The Oxnard Library at 251 S. A Street, Oxnard, CA, 93030, (805) 385-7500, the County of Ventura Waterworks Office at 7150 Walnut Canyon Road, Moorpark, CA 93020 (805) 584-4829, and the Public Works Agency, 800.S Victoria Ave., Ventura CA 93003. In addition, the EA will be posted on the EPA Region 9's website at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/elrio/index.html>

To obtain additional information about the project, please contact Doug Liden by email at: liden.douglas@epa.gov or by calling (415) 972-3406.

Interested persons, including those who disagree with this proposal, may submit comments to EPA Region 9 within 30 calendar days from the date this document is issued. No administrative action will be taken on this proposed project prior to the expiration of this comment period, which ends June 4, 2003. Comments, via letter, fax or email, should be sent to Doug Liden at the address listed below.

Doug Liden (WTR-4)

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After EPA assesses any comments received, those comments, EPA's responses, and this FNSI will be forwarded to the Regional Administrator for review and signature. If the Regional Administrator signs this FNSI, it will not be recirculated for review but will be available to any individual upon request.

FINDING

After review of the EA and any comments received, EPA has determined that the proposed project will not have a significant impact on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared for this project.

Wayne Nastri
Regional Administrator

Date