

WALTON WATERLINE AND STORAGE TANK PROJECT – PIPELINE ALIGNMENT MODIFICATIONS

Mitigated Negative Declaration Addendum

Prepared for
City of Yuba City

May 2009

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SECTION 1

Background and Purpose of the Addendum

1.1 Background

The City of Yuba City Public Works Department (City) was the lead agency in developing the Walton Waterline and Storage Tank Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND). On January 15, 2008, the City filed a Notice of Completion (NOC) with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (State Clearinghouse), published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration, and released the Draft IS/MND for a 30-day public review period. The Draft IS/MND was distributed to federal state, and local agency representatives, and other interested individuals. Additionally, a Public Notice was published in the Appeal Democrat on January 22, 2008, announcing the availability of the Draft IS/MND for public review in compliance with CEQA. In accordance with Section 15105(b) CEQA Guidelines, the public review and comment period began on January 15, 2008 and ended on February 14, 2008.

The 2008 IS/MND described and evaluated the environmental impacts associated with the construction of approximately 15,500 feet of 30-inch diameter water main, approximately 4 million gallon (mg) water storage tank, a 7,000 gallon per minute (gpm) booster pump station and associated infrastructure, and an optional groundwater well with treatment facility to augment the water supply for a portion of the City of Yuba City referred to as Hillcrest Water System (HWS) Region 2/3 (**Figure 1-1**).

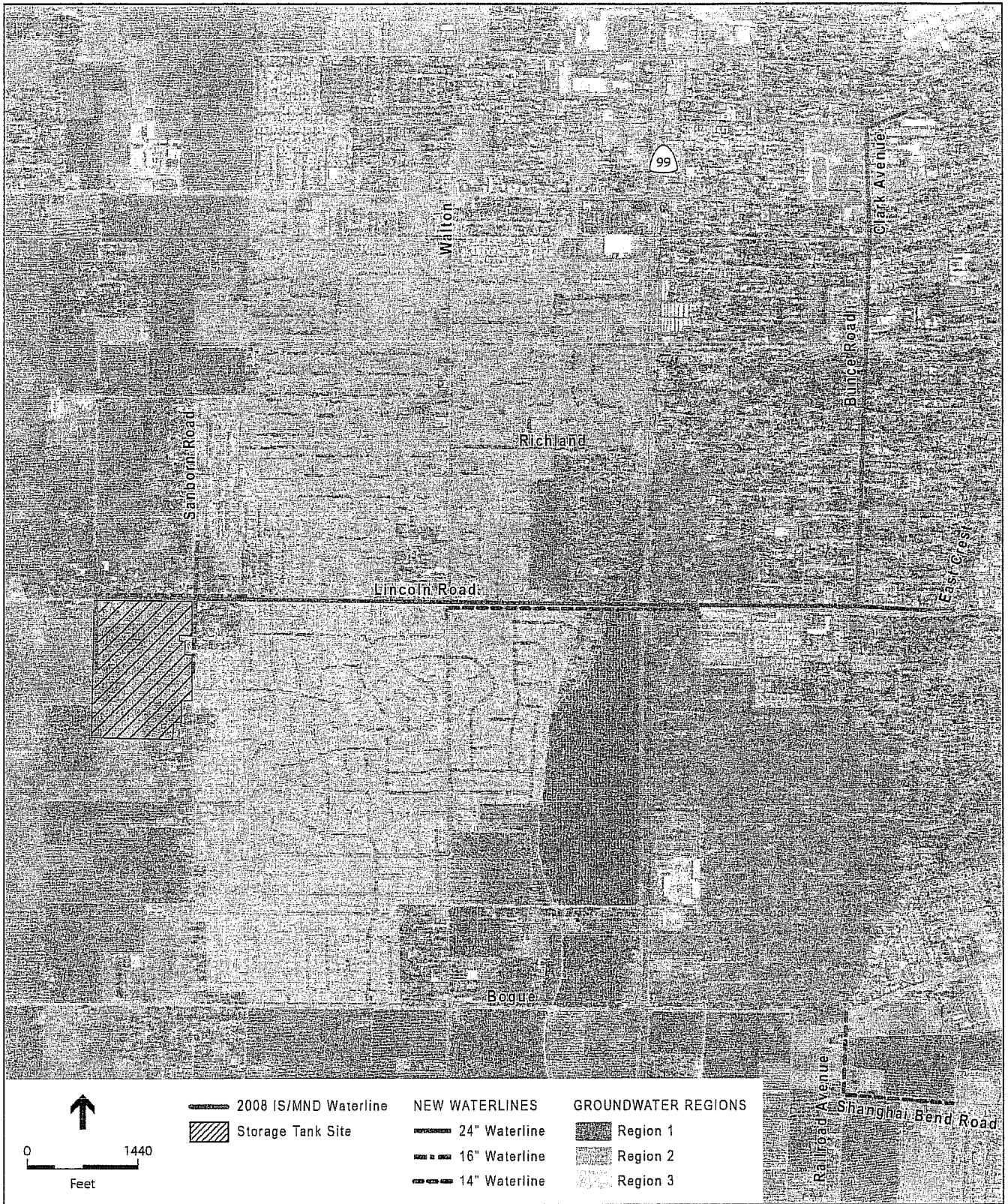
1.2 Purpose of this Addendum

The CEQA Guidelines (Sections 15162 and 15164) require that a lead agency prepare an addendum to a MND if some changes or additions to the environmental evaluation of a project are necessary but none of the following occurs:

1. There are no substantial changes in the project which require major revisions to the MND or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects;
2. There are no substantial changes with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which require major revisions to the MND; or
3. No new information of substantial importance, which could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time of MND adoption, shows any of the following:
 - i. the project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the MND,
 - ii. the project will result in impacts substantially more adverse than those disclosed in the MND,

- iii. mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponent declines to adopt it, or
- iv. mitigation measures or alternatives that are considerably different from those analyzed in the MND would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponent declines to adopt it.

The purpose of this Addendum is to evaluate the modified project and to demonstrate that the new proposed water line segments do not trigger any of the conditions described above; therefore, an Addendum is appropriate.



SOURCE: NAIP, 2006; and ESA, 2009

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Figure 1-1
2008 IS/MND and Revised Pipeline Alignments

SECTION 2

Description of the Changes to the Walton Waterline and Storage Tank Project

2.1 Previous Project Overview

The previous proposed project is analyzed in Section of the 2008 IS/MND. **Figure 1-1** of this Addendum shows the layout of the project components as analyzed in the 2008 MND in addition to the Modified Project facilities. Refer to Section 2.0 of the 2008 IS/MND for a discussion of impacts of the 2008 project in the following areas: Aesthetics, Agriculture Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation/Traffic, and Utilities and Service Systems.

2.2 Modifications to Project Facilities

The City is proposing to modify the 2008 IS/MND proposal that includes construction of a 30-inch diameter water main, up to 4 million gallon water storage tank, 7,000 gpm booster pump station, groundwater well option, and associated infrastructure, and a groundwater well with treatment facility to augment the water supply for a portion of the City of Yuba City referred to as Hillcrest Water System (HWS) Region 2/3. The Modified Project includes augmenting the existing groundwater supply for HWS Region 1 with surface water, which has similar groundwater quality issues as HWS Region 2/3, and includes the installation of several new smaller diameter waterlines to provide for local water service delivery, supply redundancy, and fire flow reliability.

The project objectives and need for the Modified Project are consistent with the 2008 IS/MND, the City General Plan and its EIR, and the 2004 Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP). Specifically, the 2004 WSMP notes that groundwater wells in HWS Region 1 have poor water quality when compared to the City surface water supply (WSMP 2004, p. 1-2, 2-12, 3-2). It also notes that while the existing groundwater distribution system in HWS Region 1 meets design level pressure and velocity criteria for average day and maximum day demands, under peak conditions with all pumps activated in each region, the ability to support fire-flow is inconsistent.

The 2004 WSMP concluded that in addition to groundwater quality issues, the existing groundwater distribution systems for HWS Region 1 are inadequate to deliver the recommended fire-flow. Recommendations include enlarging the pipe alignments and increasing system redundancy (e.g. providing a looped system) (WSMP, 2004). As such, implementation of the Modified Project would reduce or eliminate the amount of treatment required to bring area water supply up to federal water

quality standards and provide the area water system with adequate water supply to address system shortfalls to meet peak demand and fire flow requirements.

2.2.1 Modifications to Pipeline Alignments

In addition to the inclusion of HWS Region 1 into the proposed water service area, the Modified Project would include the addition of a new 14-inch waterline parallel to the proposed 30-inch main on Lincoln Road from Phillips Road to Walton Avenue and a new 16-inch waterline along Lincoln Road from the vicinity of Krentz Lane to Ohleyer Road. Waterlines outside of the previous IS/MND study area include a new 16-inch waterline north and south of Lincoln Road on Sanborn Road in the vicinity of the proposed storage tank site, a 24-inch line on Lincoln Road from Bunce Road to Eastcrest Court, and a 14-inch waterline from Shanghai Bend Road west to Railroad Ave and north to Bogue Road (**Figure 1-1**). All proposed improvements associated with the Modified Project would be located within existing right-of-ways.

2.2.2 Construction Methods

The 2008 Draft IS/MND described the construction of the proposed waterline and storage tank and the proposed modifications to the project will not change the construction methods or type of equipment required. Construction of the new waterline segments will be installed concurrent with the installation of the proposed 30-inch main. The proposed construction techniques for the Modified Project will include the basic groups and specific equipment as described in the **Table 2-1** below. The size of the construction crews will not change from the 2008 IS/MND and would consist of 1 Foreman, 3 Equipment Operators, 1 truck driver, and up to 5 laborers including flaggers depending upon traffic control needs.

TABLE 2-1
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT LIST

Segment Description	Construction Method	Construction Equipment
30" water main	Open - Cut	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 330 Size Excavator • 950 Wheel Loader • 312 Back hoe with compactor wheel • Asphalt pneumatic wheel roller • 20 Ton dump truck
Gilsizer Slough/State Route 99 Crossings	Bore and Jack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 225 RPM Excavator • 220 HP Tractor Trailer • 50 Ton Hydraulic Crane (20 ft swing radius, mounted on a 24 ft truck) • 200 HP jacking diesel engine • 20 Ton dump truck
Storage Tank, Booster Pump, and Groundwater Well	Limited Grading and Building Pad Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 Ton Crane • 330 Excavator • 950 Wheel Loader • 312 Backhoe • ½ Ton Trucks • 30 Ton Dump Trucks • Pneumatic Wheel Roller

SECTION 3

Analysis of the Potential Environmental Effects

The 2008 IS/MND evaluated the following environmental issues: Aesthetics, Agriculture Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation/Traffic, and Utilities and Service Systems. These issues are re-evaluated in this Addendum for the Modified Project. This evaluation determines whether, with the proposed modifications to the project would result in any new significant impacts or substantially more severe impacts than identified in the 2008 IS/MND. The 2008 IS/MND (Section 2.0, Environmental Checklist and Discussion) describes the criteria used in determining the significance of environmental impacts. All mitigation measures identified in the 2008 IS/MND are carried forward in this Addendum and apply to the Modified Project.

3.1 Aesthetics and Visual Resources

Section 2.1 of the 2008 IS/MND describes the aesthetic character of the project area. Implementation of the Modified Project would alter the pipeline route outside of the existing study area north and south of Lincoln Road in the vicinity of the proposed storage tank site, on Lincoln Road from Bunce Road to Eastcrest Court, and from Shanghai Bend Road west to Railroad Ave and north to Bogue Road. Short-term impacts during construction would occur in slightly different locations but would have the same duration as previously analyzed. New roadways that would be affected include a small portion of Sanborn Road north of Lincoln Road in the vicinity of the proposed storage tank site, a portion of Lincoln Road from Bunce Road to Eastcrest Court, and Shanghai Bend Road west to Railroad Ave and north to Bogue Road. The Modified Project would not include the installation of any above-ground features. Therefore, mitigation measures identified in the 2008 IS/MND would reduce impacts from the proposed changes to a less-than-significant level.

3.2 Agricultural Resources

Section 2.2 of the 2008 IS/MND describes agricultural features within the project area. The only agricultural resource identified in the IS/MND is the proposed storage tank site and a small portion of the pipeline alignment near the proposed Gilsizer Slough crossing. Impacts to the agricultural resources at these locations under the Modified Project would be the same as those previously analyzed in the 2008 IS/MND. All of the proposed new pipeline segments would be installed within existing right-of-ways and would not permanently affect agricultural resources. Approximately 350-feet of the Railroad Avenue/Shanghai Bend Road waterline segment would run adjacent to an existing orchard and construction activities may result in the removal of several orchard trees along the

southern perimeter of the orchard. Construction activities would be temporary and potential removal of orchard trees would not preclude farming on that parcel and would not permanently convert farmland to a non-agricultural use or conflict with any provisions Williamson Act contract or local Zoning Ordinance. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.3 Air Quality

Section 2.3 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed air quality impacts associated with the previously proposed project design. Similar to the previous design, construction of the Modified Project would result in PM10 and PM2.5 emissions through excavation activities, construction equipment exhaust, haul truck trips, and related construction worker commute trips. The proposed changes associated with the Modified Project would not substantially increase excavation quantities and, therefore, would not worsen PM10 or PM2.5 emissions relative to the IS/MND analysis. Mitigation Measure AIR-1 identified in the 2008 IS/MND would reduce construction related impacts to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.4 Biological Resources

Section 2.4 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed impacts to vegetation and wildlife. The 2008 IS/MND identified significant impacts including potential loss of nesting raptor habitat, impacts to wetlands, and native oak trees. Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3 identified in the 2008 IS/MND would reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant level. On April 24, 2009 a follow-up field survey was performed in response to the proposal of the Modified Project facilities. Prior to the field survey, updated versions of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) lists for the Yuba City, Sutter, Gilsizer Slough, and Olivehurst quads of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map were reviewed. No additional species were identified on either list which had not already been assessed in the biological resources inventory prepared for the 2008 IS/MND. Additionally, no new species or habitats of concern were observed during the field survey. As described above under Agricultural Resources, approximately 350-feet of the Railroad Avenue/Shanghai Bend Road waterline segment would run adjacent to an existing orchard and construction activities may result in the removal of several orchard trees along the southern perimeter of the orchard. The removal of an orchard tree is not considered a significant biological impact because an orchard tree is an intentional planting of trees that are regularly disturbed and maintained for commercial food production. As such, it is concluded that the biological resources and potential impacts and mitigation measures presented in the 2008 IS/MND do not need to be amended.

3.5 Cultural Resources

Section 2.5 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed impacts to Cultural Resources. The 2008 IS/MND identified significant impacts including impacts to unidentified prehistoric or historic subsurface

cultural resources. The implementation of Mitigation Measures CUL-1 and CUL-2 identified in the 2008 IS/MND would reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant level. On April 22, 2009, a cultural resources records search of pertinent survey and site data was completed at the Northeast Information Center, Chico State University (File No. D09-33). The records search performed at the Northeast Information Center did not identify any recorded archaeological resources or historic structures on or near the project site. On May 1, 2009, field reconnaissance was undertaken to survey the location of the Modified Project facilities. The area was surveyed to obtain a general impression of the area's potential to yield significant cultural resource sites and to visually inspect project areas in relation to known archaeological sites. Field reconnaissance identified several standing structures potentially dating to older than 50 years located adjacent to or nearby the Area of Potential Effect for the Modified Project (2073 Railroad Ave, and the residence east of the intersection of Sanborn Road and Patricia Drive). Since the Modified Project involves the placement of underground pipelines within existing right-of-ways, no impact to standing historical structures is anticipated. As such, it was concluded that the cultural resources and potential impacts and mitigation measures presented in the 2008 IS/MND do not need to be amended.

3.6 Geology, Soils, and Seismicity

Section 2.6 of the 2008 IS/MND describes the geologic, seismic, and soil conditions within the project area. Because the pipeline alignment under the Modified Project is in the same vicinity as the facilities evaluated in the 2008 IS/MND, the project area would have the same general topographic characteristics, soil types, and seismic hazards as those previously identified. The 2008 IS/MND identified potentially significant impacts including shrink swell potential of soils. Implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would reduce impacts associated with shrink swell potential to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.7 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Section 2.7 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed potential hazardous materials impacts associated with the previously proposed project design. The 2008 IS/MND identified significant impacts including transport of hazardous materials, potential for an accidental spill, and the increased risk of wildland fire. These were all identified as less than significant with mitigation. The proposed alignment under the Modified Project would be located along land uses consistent with those analyzed in the 2008 IS/MND, primarily residential land uses within the City of Yuba City. With implementation of Mitigation Measures HM-1 and HM-2 in the 2008 IS/MND, impacts would be reduced to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.8 Hydrology and Water Quality

Section 2.8 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed impacts to hydrology and water quality. The 2008 IS/MND identified alteration of existing drainage patterns to result in erosion or sedimentation as a potentially

significant impact that could be mitigated to less than significant levels. The proposed alignment under the Modified Project would be located within the same watershed as facilities previously analyzed in the 2008 IS/MND. The additional waterline segments would be installed beneath the ground surface and would be located within developed areas and existing roadways; therefore, impacts to erosion and sedimentation would be equivalent. Implementation of Mitigation Measures HYDRO-1, HYDRO-2, and HYDRO-3 identified in the 2008 IS/MND, which include establishment of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion, would reduce impacts from the proposed changes to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.9 Land Use and Land Use Planning

Section 2.9 of the 2008 IS/MND describes land uses and consistency with applicable plans and policies. There were no impacts to land use or planning identified in the 2008 IS/MND. The pipeline alignment under the Modified Project would extend through similar land uses, primarily residential areas within local roadways and existing right-of-ways. A portion of the Railroad Avenue/Shanghai Bend Road waterline segment would extend outside the City limits into Sutter County and re-connect with existing facilities located within the southeast portion of the City. Under Government Code section 53091 and 53096 et seq, the City is exempt from County zoning ordinances, building ordinances, and general plans for projects related to construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, treatment, or transmission of water. As such, the Modified Project would not introduce any impacts to land use and planning. There is no impact and no mitigation measures are required. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.10 Mineral Resources

Section 2.10 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed mineral resource impacts associated with the construction and operation of the recycled water distribution system. Impacts were identified as less than significant. The pipeline alignment under the Modified Project would not affect mapped mineral resources. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.11 Noise

Section 2.11 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed noise impacts associated with the construction and operation of the previously proposed project design. Sensitive receptors identified in the area include residential houses, schools, parks, and churches. As analyzed in the 2008 IS/MND, project construction would result in increased short-term noise levels from construction equipment and related traffic. The Modified Project would alter the location of short-term noise disruption, and would result in short-term construction related noise impacts along a small portion of Sanborn Road north of Lincoln Road in the vicinity of the proposed storage tank site, a portion of Lincoln Road from Bunce Road to Eastcrest Court, and Shanghai Bend Road west to Railroad Ave and

north to Bogue Road. As identified in the 2008 IS/MND, construction impacts would be short-term, and mitigated to the degree feasible through implementation of Mitigation Measures NOISE-1 through NOISE-4. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.12 Population and Housing

Section 2.12 of the 2008 IS/MND and Section 2.2.1 of the 2008 Final IS/MND, analyzed impacts associated with population growth and housing associated with the previous project design. The intent of Section 2.2.1 in the 2008 Final IS/MND was to provide a comprehensive response to the issue of growth inducement that was raised by several commenters during the public review period of the 2008 IS/MND. In summary, while the project removes one potential barrier to future growth through the extension of the 30-inch water line west of the project area, the project is consistent with the City's General Plan and its WSMP. The potential growth-inducing impacts of the City's General Plan have already been analyzed in the General Plan EIR and, therefore, the impacts associated with population growth and housing, when viewed within the framework provided by the City's General Plan, are less than significant.

When considering the changes associated with the Modified Project, the project as a whole maintains consistency with the General Plan and WSMP. The proposed new waterline segments serve to add supply redundancy, fire flow reliability, and provide local distribution of surface water that will replace contaminated groundwater supplies. The addition of HWS Region 1 into the project service area is consistent with the goals of the City's General Plan and the WSMP, which have both recommended the conversion of this region from groundwater supplies to surface water as a result of similar groundwater quality constraints that existing within HWS Region 2/3. The Modified Project does not increase the capacity of the proposed storage tank or the 30-inch water line and would serve only to augment existing groundwater users with surface water. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.13 Public Services

Section 2.13 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed impacts to public services associated with the previously proposed project design. There were no impacts to public services in the 2008 IS/MND. The additional pipeline segments under the Modified Project would not affect public services within the area. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.14 Recreation

Section 2.14 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed impacts to recreation with the previously proposed project design. There were no impacts to recreational resources in the 2008 IS/MND. The additional pipeline segments under the Modified Project would not affect new recreational resources within the area.

Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.15 Transportation and Traffic

Section 2.15 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed traffic impacts associated with the project, and identified a significant short-term increases in construction related traffic. Due to the short-term nature of construction, there were no significant long term impacts associated with transportation or traffic identified in the 2008 IS/MND. The additional pipeline segments proposed under the Modified Project would incrementally change the amount of construction and construction-related traffic within local roadways, primarily along Lincoln Road and Clark Avenue/Bunce Road. As identified in the 2008 IS/MND, traffic-related construction impacts would be short-term and mitigated through implementation of Mitigation Measures TRAFFIC-1 through TRAFFIC-3, which include the preparation of a traffic control plan and requirements for contractors to resurface roads to existing conditions as appropriate. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

3.16 Utilities and Service Systems

Section 2.16 of the 2008 IS/MND analyzed public services and utilities impacts associated with the previously proposed project design. There were no significant impacts associated with utilities and service systems identified in the 2008 IS/MND. There was no need identified for new water or wastewater treatment facilities, additional water supply, or additional wastewater treatment capacity. Therefore these impacts are less than significant. The additional pipeline segments proposed under the Modified Project would not affect utilities and service systems, and any utility conflicts would be resolved through project design. Therefore, implementation of the Modified Project would not result in new impacts or increase the severity of the impacts previously identified in the 2008 IS/MND.

SECTION 4

Conclusion

On the basis of the evaluation presented in Section 3, the proposed changes associated with the Modified Project would not trigger any of the conditions, listed in Section 1.2 of this Addendum, requiring preparation of a subsequent or supplemental MND or EIR. This Addendum satisfies the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 and 15162.

References

Environmental Science Associates, 2008. *Walton Waterline and Storage Tank Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration*, prepared for the City of Yuba City, January, 2008.