



Established in 1918 as a public agency
Coachella Valley Water District

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John P. Powell, Jr., President - Div. 3
Franz W. De Klotz, Vice President - Div. 1
Ed Pack - Div. 2
Peter Nelson - Div. 4
Debi Livesay - Div. 5

Officers:

Jim Barrett, General Manager
Julia Fernandez, Board Secretary

Redwine and Sherrill, Attorneys

November 13, 2013

File: 0410.122

County Clerk
County of Riverside
Post Office Box 751
Riverside, CA 92502

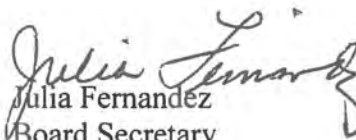
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Subject: Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1

Enclosed are three (3) copies of the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the above project.

The project is located along Dillon Road between the communities of Sky Valley and Indio Hills in Riverside County, California.

Sincerely,


Julia Fernandez
Board Secretary

Enclosures/as

LS/brd/eac/13/Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1/NOI Itr to CC



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
Post Office Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236
(760) 398-2651

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the staff of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) will recommend the adoption of a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration on the project listed below at a subsequent Board meeting. Any person desiring to comment on the recommendation of CVWD staff may do so verbally or in writing at the above address and telephone number. The public review period during which comments may be received is from the date of this Notice until the end of the business day on December 13, 2013 (30-day period).

Project Title: Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase I

Project Location: The proposed 2.82-mile pipeline is located along Dillon Road between CVWD's Booster Station 03603 (approximately 1,500 feet northwest of Thousand Palms Canyon Road) and Booster Station 04701 (approximately 750 feet southeast of Western Avenue) in an unincorporated area of Riverside County between the communities of Sky Valley and Indio Hills (section 31, township 3 south, range 7 east, San Bernardino Base and Meridian).

Project Description: CVWD proposes the construction of a 2.82-mile section of 18-inch-diameter domestic water transmission main to replace the existing, 8-inch-diameter, asbestos concrete transmission main that connects CVWD's Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701 along Dillon Road between the communities of Sky Valley and Indio Hills, Riverside County. The proposed ductile iron pipeline will be constructed immediately adjacent to the existing, deteriorated pipeline within the Riverside County right-of-way along the north side of Dillon Road. Booster Station 03603 is located on the north side of Dillon Road approximately 1,500 feet northwest of Thousand Palms Canyon Road; Booster Station 04701 is located on the south side of Dillon Road approximately 750 feet southeast of Western Avenue. The pipeline will cross Dillon Road from the north to the south side to connect to Booster Station 04701. The purpose of this project is to construct a more reliable domestic water transmission main to replace the existing, deteriorated 8-inch transmission main from Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701.


Lead Agency: Coachella Valley Water District

Mitigation Measures: Please see the attached Initial Study Checklist/Mitigated Negative Declaration, which includes the Summary of Mitigation Measures.

Finding: Recommend to CVWD's Board of Directors the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration on the above project at a subsequent Board meeting. The Board meetings are held at 9:00 a.m. on the second Tuesdays of the month in the Board Room of the Palm Desert Administration Facility, 75-515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92211, and on the fourth Tuesdays of the month in the Dr. Forbes Auditorium located at 85-995 Avenue 52, Coachella, CA 92236.

Location of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for Review: Coachella Valley Water District 75-515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92211 and on its website: <http://www.cvwd.org>.

Date: November 13, 2013



J. M. Barrett
General Manager

Attachment/as

**INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST/
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

for

**DILLON ROAD TRANSMISSION MAIN
REPLACEMENT –
PHASE 1**

Coachella Valley Water District

85-995 Avenue 52
Coachella, CA 92236

Contact:

Luke Stowe
Senior Environmental Specialist
lstowe@cvwd.org
760-398-2651

NOVEMBER 2013

File: 0410.122



Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1

File: 0410.122

CEQA Environmental Checklist Form

1. Project Title: Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1
2. Lead Agency Name and Address: Coachella Valley Water District, Post Office Box 1058, Coachella, California 92236
3. Contact Person and Phone Number: Luke Stowe, Senior Environmental Specialist, (760) 398-2651
4. Project Location: The proposed 2.82-mile pipeline is located along Dillon Road between the Coachella Valley Water District's (CVWD's) Booster Station 03603 (approximately 1,500 feet northwest of Thousand Palms Canyon Road) and Booster Station 04701 (approximately 750 feet southeast of Western Avenue) in an unincorporated area of Riverside County between the communities of Sky Valley and Indio Hills (section 31, township 3 south, range 7 east, San Bernardino Base and Meridian).
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: Coachella Valley Water District, Post Office Box 1058, Coachella, California 92236.
6. General Plan Designation: The proposed project site is designated as "Open Space - Rural" per the Riverside County General Plan, October 2003.
7. Zoning: The proposed project site zoning is designated as "R-R Rural Residential" per the Riverside County Land Information System.
8. Description of Project: CVWD proposes the construction of a 2.82-mile section of 18-inch-diameter domestic water transmission main to replace the existing, 8-inch diameter, asbestos concrete transmission main that connects CVWD's Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701 along Dillon Road between the communities of Sky Valley and Indio Hills, Riverside County. The proposed ductile iron pipeline will be constructed immediately adjacent to the existing, deteriorated pipeline within the Riverside County right-of-way along the north side of Dillon Road. Booster Station 03603 is located on the north side of Dillon Road approximately 1,500 feet northwest of Thousand Palms Canyon Road; Booster Station 04701 is located on the south side of Dillon Road approximately 750 feet southeast of Western Avenue. The pipeline will cross Dillon Road from the north to the south side to connect to Booster Station 04701. The purpose of this project is to construct a more reliable domestic water transmission main to replace the existing, deteriorated 8-inch transmission main from Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701.
9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: The proposed 2.82-mile transmission main is proposed along a portion of Dillon Road right-of-way located between the communities of Sky Valley and Indio Hills. The topography slopes gently southward and contains Sonoran Creosote Bush Desert Scrub habitat dominated by scatterings of creosote bush with sandy-to-rocky open areas. Two residential units are located adjacent to the proposed alignment along the north side of Dillon Road along the eastern terminus of the pipeline project. The Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage Conservation Area boundary, associated with the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP/NCCP), is located immediately adjacent to the pipeline alignment in the portion of the project west of Western Avenue. The background at the

Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1

project site consists of the San Bernardino Mountains and San Jacinto Mountains to the west, the Little San Bernardino Mountains and Joshua Tree National Park to the north, the Indio Hills to the east, and the Coachella Valley Preserve, the expansive Coachella Valley floor, and the Santa Rosa Mountains to the south.

10. Other agencies whose approval is required: Riverside County

Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1

DILLON ROAD TRANSMISSION MAIN REPLACEMENT – PHASE 1
Photos Taken September 26, 2013



Looking East - Dillon Road Proposed Transmission Main Alignment Near Booster Stn. 03603

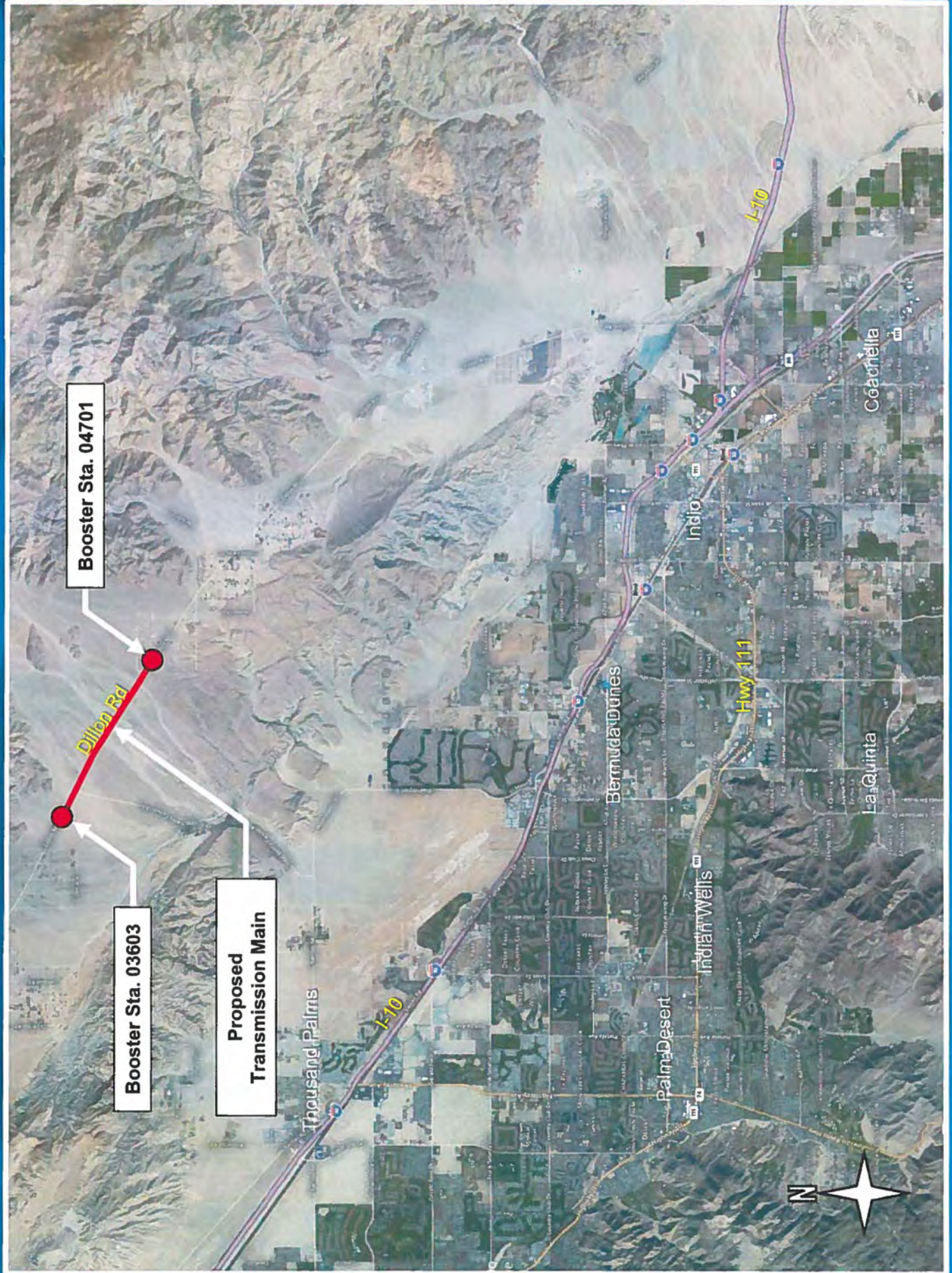


Looking West – Dillon Road Proposed Transmission Main Alignment; Mid-Section of Project



Looking East – Dillon Road Proposed Transmission Main Alignment; Booster Stn. 04701 on Right

Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1



Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project. Please see the checklist below for additional information.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture and Forestry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Geology/Soils
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology/Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Use/Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mineral Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Noise
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Population/Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation/Traffic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Utilities/Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required

STATEMENT OF REASONS TO SUPPORT FINDINGS

The proposed project, Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1, will not have a significant effect on the environment or surrounding area.

Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1


Prepared by:  10.30.13
Luke Stowe
Senior Environmental Specialist
Date

Submitted by:  11/4/13
Steve Bigley
Environmental Services Director
Date

Environmental Assessment Committee Determination

Concurrence by:  11/12/13
Julia Fernandez
Chairperson, District's Environmental
Assessment Committee
Date

General Manager Determination

Approved by:  11.12.13
J. M. Barrett
General Manager
Date

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Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) If the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses", as described in (5) below may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

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Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1**

- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
- a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

Issues:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS: Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 V. CULTURAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS: Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement - Phase 1**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY: Would the project;

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING: Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
XII. NOISE: Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING: Would the project:

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES:

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. RECREATION:				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC: Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS: Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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COMMENTS AND ANALYSIS

I. Aesthetics

The proposed 2.82-mile domestic water transmission main will be constructed immediately adjacent to the existing, deteriorated water transmission main located within Riverside County right-of-way along the north side of Dillon Road in a portion of unincorporated Riverside County between the communities of Indio Hills and Sky Valley. The Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage Conservation Area boundary, associated with the CVMSHCP/NCCP, is located immediately adjacent to the north side of the pipeline alignment in the section of the project west of Western Avenue. The topography slopes gently southward and contains Sonoran Creosote Bush Desert Scrub habitat dominated by scatterings of creosote bush with sandy-to-rocky open areas. Two residential units are located adjacent to the proposed alignment along the north side of Dillon Road along the eastern terminus of the pipeline project. The background at the project site consists of the San Bernardino Mountains and San Jacinto Mountains to the west, the Little San Bernardino Mountains and Joshua Tree National Park to the north, the Indio Hills to the east, and the expansive Coachella Valley floor and Santa Rosa Mountains to the south.

Construction activities associated with the proposed water transmission main may include heavy construction equipment, construction vehicles, excavated areas, material stockpiles, and traffic barricades that will be visible along this section of Dillon Road. Construction activities will most likely have a temporary, unpleasant aesthetic effect for the Dillon Road users and nearby residents throughout the construction period of approximately 120 days.

The proposed project will not impact any scenic vistas and is not located along a designated scenic road. Any additional light sources or glare created as a result of the construction of the proposed project will have a minimal effect on the adjacent properties. The temporary effects on aesthetics associated with the proposed water transmission main project are considered less than significant.

II. Agriculture and Forestry

The proposed domestic water transmission main project site is not within or adjacent to any agricultural or forest lands. The nearest forest lands are located at least 20 miles away in the San Bernardino, San Jacinto, and Santa Rosa mountain ranges. The proposed transmission main will not conflict with any existing zoning related to forest, timberland, or timberland zoned as "Timberland Production". Construction and operation activities associated with the water transmission main will not result in a loss of forest land or cause conversion of forest land to a non-forest use. The proposed project will not have a significant effect on agricultural or forest lands.

III. Air Quality

The proposed domestic water transmission main project is located within the Salton Sea Air Basin (SSAB), which includes Imperial County and most of the low desert areas of central Riverside County. The Riverside County portion of the SSAB is regulated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The Coachella Valley portion of Riverside County is designated as a "serious" non-attainment area for ozone (8-hour) and particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter (PM10).

The applicable air quality plans for this CVWD project are the 2012 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) and the Coachella Valley PM10 State Implementation Plan (SIP). The AQMP is designed to satisfy the planning requirements of both the federal and California Clean Air Acts. The AQMP outlines strategies and measures to achieve federal and state standards for healthful

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air quality for all areas under SCAQMD's jurisdiction, including portions of the SSAB. The Coachella Valley PM10 SIP identifies additional strategies and measures to control fugitive dust, specifically in the Coachella Valley.

A project is deemed inconsistent with the applicable air quality plan if it would result in population and/or employment growth that exceeds growth estimated in the applicable air quality plan. This domestic water transmission main project would not induce population or employment growth beyond the levels approved in the AQMP. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of the AQMP.

Disturbance of 5,000 square feet or more of land requires a Dust Control Plan. The proposed project will have a Dust Control Plan that follows the SCAQMD Rule 403 Fugitive Dust Control Requirements within the Coachella Valley. With respect to the Coachella Valley PM10 SIP, the proposed water transmission main project will comply with the dust control requirements of the SIP, and therefore, will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the SIP. In order to not contribute to the PM-10 problem, all dust generated during project construction activities will be controlled using common practices, such as, a dust palliative. Other Best Management Practices (BMPs) shall be implemented during construction activities including routine rinsing of construction vehicles, and keeping roadways clean of soil and dust.

Except for temporary emissions of diesel particulate matter associated with use of heavy diesel equipment during project construction activities, the proposed water transmission main project will not result in significant emissions of toxic air contaminants or nuisance odors. These temporary, construction-related emissions and/or odor impacts would be confined to the immediate vicinity of the proposed project alignment. Air quality near the project site will be carefully monitored and will abide by the regulations set forth by the SCAQMD.

With implementation of the following mitigation measures, there will be no significant effects on air quality associated with the construction and operation of the proposed domestic water transmission main:

Mitigation Measures

- AQ-1** A Dust Control Plan shall be prepared by CVWD and implemented during all construction activities associated with water transmission main project.
- AQ-2** Grading and excavation activities along the project site shall not occur during periods when wind speeds are greater than 25 mph.
- AQ-3** BMPs, such as, routine rinsing of construction vehicles, and keeping roadways clean of soil and dust, shall be implemented during construction activities.

IV. Biological Resources

The biological resources evaluation for the proposed water transmission main alignment included literature/database review and a habitat-level survey of the project site. Prior to conducting field surveys, the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB), containing the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW's) Special-Status species lists, and the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP/NCCP) were queried to identify sensitive plant and animal species that have been observed and recorded in the region. The CNDDDB query and literature research revealed no special-status species with known occurrence within the project site.

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CVWD is a "Permittee" under the CVMSHCP/NCCP which was finalized in October 2008 and intended to preserve and protect 27 species and 21 associated natural communities throughout the Coachella Valley. Preparation of the CVMSHCP/NCCP included extensive wildlife surveys and habitat monitoring work throughout the Coachella Valley to determine the species and natural communities to be covered. By providing comprehensive compliance with federal and state endangered species laws, the CVMSHCP/NCCP not only safeguards the desert's natural heritage for future generations, it allows for more timely construction of public infrastructure and the operation and maintenance of public facilities within the Coachella Valley.

The section of the proposed water transmission main located west of Western Avenue is immediately adjacent to the Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage Conservation Area associated with the CVMSHCP/NCCP. As required, CVWD will implement all identified "Adjacency Guidelines" associated with Conservation Areas under the CVMSHCP/NCCP.

On September 26, 2013, CVWD's Environmental Specialist/Biologist conducted a habitat-level, pedestrian survey along the proposed pipeline alignment. The survey was conducted during the early morning hours to maximize observations of wildlife at the site. A 100' buffer zone was also surveyed beyond the proposed pipeline alignment. Observed plant communities, dominant plants, and observed wildlife species were recorded. In addition, habitat that could support special-status species was characterized.

Habitat north of the Dillon Road right-of-way and proposed pipeline alignment, within the Conservation Area, is predominately creosote bush scrub with native tree species occurring in the buffer zone. Wildlife typically found in this setting include, but are not limited to, coyote (*Canis latrans*), mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), and greater roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*). Bird species observed onsite included raven (*Corvus corax*) and mourning dove. No sensitive species, nor habitat that could support sensitive species, were observed onsite during the course of the survey.

The burrowing owl is a California Species of Special Concern with a broad occurrence rate within the Coachella Valley and is typically associated with the agricultural areas and berms along the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel. It can also occur in disturbed areas where it utilizes the burrows of other wildlife. No Burrowing owls or other special status species were observed during the survey within the project bounds or immediately adjacent to the project alignment. In addition, the site offers no potential habitat, forage, or refugia for listed species due to the high level of development onsite. Although no special-status wildlife species or habitat was observed onsite during the survey, special-status bird species could potentially move through the site and burrowing owls have the potential to occur onsite. Most special status bird species occurrence would likely be transient in nature and would not be affected by activities onsite as there is limited supportive habitat for nesting or roosting; i.e. trees, shrubs, or structures. Prior to any construction activities, CVWD will conduct a pre-construction survey to verify non-presence of burrowing owls and any other sensitive species within the project site.

Table 1 contains a list of vegetation observed on the project site and/or within the surveyed buffer area; Table 2 contains a list of wildlife observed on the project site and/or within the surveyed buffer area.

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Table 1. Observed Vegetation at Project Site

Family	Genus species	Common Name
Cactaceae	<i>Ferocactus cylindraceus cylindraceus</i>	California Barrel Cactus
Asteraceae	<i>Encelia farinose</i>	Brittle Bush
Zygophyllaceae	<i>Larrea tridentata</i>	Creosote Bush
Family	Genus species	Common Name
Fabaceae	<i>Parkinsonia microphyllum</i>	Palo Verde
Fabaceae	<i>Psoralea argemone</i>	Smoke Tree
Polygonaceae	<i>Eriogonum spp</i>	Skeleton Weed

Table 2. Observed Wildlife at Project Site

Family	Genus species	Common Name
Phrynosomatidae	<i>Uta stansburiana</i>	Side-Blotched Lizard
Phrynosomatidae	<i>Aspidozelis tigris</i>	Western Whiptail
Columbidae	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Mourning Dove
Corvidae	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Raven
Leporidae	<i>Sylvilagus audobonii</i>	Desert Cottontail

Based on the field survey results at the project site, construction activities associated with the proposed water transmission main project are not anticipated to result in impacts on special-status plant or wildlife species. BMPs will be implemented to ensure that non-native weeds are not introduced along the project alignment during construction activities. With implementation of the following measures, CVWD's proposed transmission main project will not have a significant effect on any known sensitive species, habitat or wildlife corridors within the project area:

Mitigation Measures

- BIO-1** CVWD will conduct a pre-project biological "sweep" survey along the project site to ensure non-presence of Burrowing Owls and nesting birds.
- BIO-2** As required, CVWD will implement all identified "Adjacency Guidelines" associated with Conservation Areas under the CVMSHCP/NCCP.
- BIO-3** Thoroughly clean all construction equipment prior to mobilizing at project site and before moving offsite to prevent introduction of non-native seeds.
- BIO-4** Avoid undue soil disturbance to areas outside of project footprint.
- BIO-5** Cover all imported/exported soils associated with project construction.

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- BIO-6** Establish staging areas in locations where equipment will not "pick up" non-native seeds.

V. Cultural Resources

Applied Earthworks, Inc. (AE) conducted an archaeological literature and records search at the Eastern Information Center housed at the University of California, Riverside for the project area. The results indicate that seven cultural resources studies have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the project area; one within the project area. One cultural resources site has been recorded within a one-mile radius of the project area; however, no cultural resources have been recorded within the boundaries of the project area.

On September 16, 2013, AE performed an intensive archaeological survey of the project alignment with transect spacing ranging between 10 to 15 meters. No cultural resources of prehistoric or historic nature were identified during the survey.

As part of the cultural resources assessment, AE also requested a search of the *Sacred Lands File* by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC responded on September 6, 2013 indicating that no Native American traditional cultural places were identified within the project site location.

AE has no further recommendations regarding cultural resources management at the project site. With the implementation of the following mitigation measure, the project will not have a significant effect on cultural resources:

Mitigation Measure

- CRES-1** Should a potentially significant archaeological/cultural resource be encountered during construction activities, all work must be halted in the immediate vicinity of the discovery until a qualified Archaeologist can assess the significance of the resource.

VI. Geology and Soils

The mountain ranges surrounding the Coachella Valley, San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains along the southwest, and the Little San Bernardino Mountains along the northeast, are composed primarily of metamorphic and granitic rock. Over millions of years, erosion has filled the valley floor with alluvial and aeolian (wind-transported) materials. Soils within the Coachella Valley range from alluvial gravel and sand, blowsand, and large cobbles in floodplain areas to alluvial sands and clays derived from ancient Lake Cahuilla along the southernmost portions of the valley.

The San Andreas Fault system, including the Banning Fault Zone and the Garnet Hill Fault, traverses the Coachella Valley from North Palm Springs along the northeastern edge and foothills of the valley to the Salton Sea. As such, the proposed transmission main alignment is located within Alquist-Priolo earthquake fault zones with potentially active faults associated with the San Andreas Fault system. These areas would be subject to significant ground shaking and potential liquefaction in the event of movement on the fault. While seismic damage could result in damage to the pipeline, flows would most likely be confined to the pipeline alignment areas and, as such, would not have significant, adverse impacts on adjacent properties.

The proposed transmission main project site is relatively flat, gently sloping from north to south, and is not located in a landslide or mudflow hazard area. There are no unique geologic or physical features present along the proposed alignment. The project site is located inland;

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therefore, tsunamis are not a hazard issue. There are no volcanoes in the project area. All project effects related to geology and soils at the proposed transmission main site are considered less than significant.

VII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Climate change is measured by changes in temperatures, precipitation, wind patterns, and storms. The impacts of climate change are believed to result from an increase in the concentration of certain gases in the atmosphere commonly referred to as "greenhouse gases". Greenhouse gases consist of water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydroflourocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride. Some greenhouse gases emissions, such as carbon dioxide, occur in the atmosphere through natural processes as well as a result of human activities; fluorinated gases are created and emitted solely through human activities. Scientists believe atmospheric temperatures can be impacted by the concentration of these gases by "trapping" heat in the earth's atmosphere since these greenhouse gases absorb long-wave radiation emitting from the earth's surface. Some believe that the accumulation of these gases in the earth's atmosphere is the cause of the observed increase in the earth's ambient air temperatures in recent decades.

Efforts to address climate change began in the 1980's; many of the activities to address climate change involve reduction in fossil fuel use which is ultimately a function of energy conservation and efficiency.

On December 30, 2009, the California Natural Resources Agency adopted Amendments to the CEQA Guidelines for greenhouse gas emissions, as directed by Senate Bill 97. On February 16, 2010, the Office of Administrative Law approved the Amendments, and filed them with the Secretary of State for inclusion in the California Code of Regulations. The Amendments became effective on March 18, 2010.

With implementation of the mitigation measures below, construction and operation of this transmission main project will not have significant effects related to greenhouse gas emissions:

Mitigation Measures

- GHG-1** The project will consider any and all options to minimize energy consumption, water conservation and solid waste during construction and operation of the transmission main.
- GHG-2** Where feasible, construction activities will utilize motorized equipment/vehicles that are energy-efficient and use alternative (renewable) fuels.
- GHG-3** Construction and operation activities will be performed at the project site in a manner that minimizes waste of materials and implements recycling and reuse, where feasible.

VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

CVWD will follow all applicable safety guidelines during the construction and operation activities associated with the proposed transmission main. The hazards to workers during such activities will be minimized by adherence to required Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards. CVWD will coordinate with the Riverside County to ensure that the appropriate safety measures are implemented to protect workers, as well as, users of the local roadways and adjacent properties during construction activities.

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Traffic control plans will be implemented, as required, and will include signage, safety cones, barriers, and reduced speed limits to ensure that workers, motorists, and pedestrians are protected during construction activities.

Activities involving hazardous materials, including maintenance and/or fueling of vehicles and construction equipment, will be prohibited along or adjacent to the proposed pipeline alignment.

With implementation of the following mitigation measures, construction and operation of the transmission main will not have significant effects related to hazards and/or hazardous materials at the project site:

Mitigation Measures

HAZ-1 Where required, CVWD will coordinate with Riverside County to develop and implement a Traffic Control Plan during construction activities.

HAZ-2 Activities involving hazardous materials, including maintenance and/or fueling of vehicles and construction equipment, will be prohibited at and/or adjacent to the proposed along or adjacent to the project site.

IX. Hydrology and Water Quality

Construction activities along at the proposed transmission main alignment may have a temporary effect on water drainage patterns, direction of water movement, and surface water runoff. Some of the construction activities may have a temporary effect on the amount of surface water available to water bodies in the project vicinity. The project will not cut through any aquifers located at the project site and groundwater quality will not be affected. The project will not result in a substantial increase in the amount of impervious surfaces or an increase in rate or amount of surface runoff. There is some potential for the water transmission main project to expose adjacent properties to a risk of flooding.

All construction activities will incorporate BMPs to minimize erosion, sedimentation and general, good-housekeeping practices to limit potential discharge of pollutants associated with construction vehicles and equipment use. All stormwater and water quality regulations will be followed during project construction activities.

The construction-related effects on hydrology and water quality along the transmission main alignment are expected to be temporary and will not have a significant impact on the project area. With implementation of the following mitigation measures, the proposed transmission main project will not have significant effects related to hydrology and water quality:

Mitigation Measures

WATER-1 Construction and operation activities along the transmission main site will incorporate BMPs to minimize erosion, sedimentation and general, good-housekeeping practices to limit potential discharge of pollutants associated with construction vehicles and equipment use. All stormwater and water quality regulations will be followed during construction/operation activities.

WATER-2 A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan will be prepared by the contractor, approved by CVWD, and implemented during project construction activities.

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X. Land Use and Planning

The proposed 2.82-mile water transmission main will be constructed along the north side of Dillon Road within Riverside County right-of-way adjacent to an existing deteriorated water transmission main in an unincorporated portion of Riverside County between the communities of Sky Valley and Indio Hills. The purpose of this project is to construct a more reliable domestic water transmission main to replace the existing, deteriorated transmission main from Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701. The project site is located in an area designated as "Open Space-Rural" per the Riverside County General Plan, October 2003. The zoning description allows for construction and operation of public domestic water facilities on such lands.

CVWD will ensure that all "Adjacency Guidelines" associated with the CVMSHCP/NCCP are implemented, as required, during the project construction period.

There may be temporary disruptions (excavation, vibration, dust, noise, limited traffic circulation) to the residents located along the transmission main alignment. Coordination with Riverside County will ensure that local traffic impacts remain minimal during construction activities and that the appropriate safety measures are implemented to protect users of the roadways and adjacent lands. The proposed water transmission main project will have a less than significant effect on land use and planning issues.

XI. Mineral Resources

The proposed construction of the Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement – Phase 1 will not result in the loss of the availability of a mineral resource of value in the region. The proposed project will not result in the loss of a mineral recovery site designated on a general plan, specific plan or other land use plan. No loss of valuable mineral resources will occur with the proposed construction and operation of this proposed project. The water transmission main project will have a less than significant effect on mineral resources in the project area.

XII. Noise

A temporary increase in noise levels will occur during some of the construction activities associated with the proposed transmission main project. The two residential units located along the north side of Dillon Road adjacent to the proposed pipeline alignment on the eastern end of the project, may be affected by the temporary increase in noise associated with construction activities. The temporary construction noise will be lessened by the use of engine mufflers on all motorized construction equipment during construction activities. All construction activities will follow noise regulations established by Riverside County. Noise levels along the project alignment will return to the pre-project levels once construction activities have been completed.

With the implementation of the following mitigation measures, the temporary increase in noise levels during construction activities associated with the proposed transmission main project will not be a significant effect:

Mitigation Measures

NOISE-1 Engine mufflers will be used on all construction vehicles and motorized equipment, when possible, to lessen temporary, construction-related noise effects.

NOISE-2 Maintenance activities and schedules associated with the new water transmission main will follow all noise regulations established by Riverside County.

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XIII. Population and Housing

The purpose of the proposed domestic water transmission main is to replace the existing, deteriorated 8-inch transmission main from Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701 with a more reliable transmission main for domestic water service in the Sky Valley and Indio Hills service areas. The proposed project is not a growth-inducing project. The proposed water transmission main will satisfy current domestic water service demands and is consistent with approved local planning. No housing units are proposed, will be removed or otherwise affected by the proposed project. The proposed transmission main will not have a significant effect on the existing population or housing in the project area.

XIV. Public Services

The construction and operation of the proposed domestic water transmission main will not have an adverse effect on or create a need for additional fire protection, police protection, schools, or other governmental services. The purpose of this project is to construct a more reliable domestic water transmission main to replace the existing, deteriorated transmission main from Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701. The proposed transmission main will support domestic water service demands in the Sky Valley and Indio Hills service areas. Additional man-hours from CVWD may be required to adequately operate and maintain the new transmission main; however, the additional man-hours are not expected to be a significant effect on CVWD's daily operations. All adjacent rights-of-way/properties will be returned to their original conditions upon completion of all project construction activities. The proposed transmission main project will have a less than significant effect on public services in the project vicinity.

XV. Recreation

The construction and operation of the proposed domestic water transmission main project will not increase the demand for neighborhood or regional parks, or any other recreational facilities. Nor will the proposed project affect any existing recreational opportunities in the project vicinity. The water transmission main project will not result in a significant effect on recreational facilities or opportunities in the project vicinity.

XVI. Transportation and Traffic

The proposed domestic water transmission main will be located within the Riverside County right-of-way along the north shoulder of Dillon Road. The pipeline will cross Dillon Road from the north to the south side to connect to Booster Station 04701 at the eastern terminus of the project. The construction activities associated with the proposed transmission main will include excavation/trenching, material stockpiles, construction equipment, vehicles, and traffic safety barriers, which may have a temporary adverse effect on local roadway conditions, roadway users along Dillon Road, and the adjacent residential units.

The proposed project is expected to slightly increase heavy truck traffic on the local roadways in the project area during construction activities; however, such truck traffic will not exceed established load limits established by Riverside County and Caltrans. Project construction activities may also require some short-term delays on local roadways. Coordination with Riverside County will ensure that local traffic impacts remain minimal during construction activities and that the appropriate safety measures are implemented to protect construction workers, as well as, users of the roadways. The construction activities associated with the transmission main project are not expected to generate any significant impacts related to transportation or traffic along the project alignment.

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Traffic control plans will be implemented, as required, and will include signage, safety cones, barriers, and reduced speed limits to ensure that workers, motorists, and pedestrians are protected during construction activities.

Access to the driveways to the two, adjacent, private residential units located along the eastern end of the project alignment driveway may be temporarily affected during construction activities. Measures, including signage and postings, will be taken to notify local residents of work schedules and potential effects on access. Once construction activities are completed, the rights-of-way and work areas along the project limits will be returned to their pre-construction conditions. With implementation of the following mitigation measures, the transmission main project will not result in any significant impacts related to transportation or traffic in the project area:

Mitigation Measures

- TRANS-1** CVWD will coordinate with Riverside County to prepare and implement a Traffic Safety Plan, where required.
- TRANS-2** All rights-of-way and work areas along the project site will be returned to their pre-project conditions once construction activities are completed.
- TRANS-3** Measures, including signage, postings, and direct communication, will be taken to notify local residents of work schedules and potential effects on access.

XVII. Utilities and Service Systems

The purpose of this project is to construct a more reliable domestic water transmission main to replace the existing, deteriorated 8-inch transmission main from Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701 to support domestic water service demands in the Sky Valley and Indio Hills service areas. There may be temporary impacts on utilities and service systems located along the project alignment during the construction period. The proposed project does not require any new connections to the existing sewer system; therefore, the project will not affect wastewater treatment services or wastewater treatment capacity.

Where feasible, CVWD and/or the contractor will dispose of recyclable materials at a recycling center.

The temporary effects on utilities and/or service systems along the proposed water transmission main during construction activities are considered less than significant.

XVIII. Mandatory Findings of Significance

a.) CVWD proposes to construct a 2.82-mile domestic water transmission main along the north side of Dillon Road within Riverside County right-of-way. The purpose of this project is to construct a more reliable water transmission main to replace the existing, deteriorated transmission main from Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701 to support domestic water service demands in the Sky Valley and Indio Hills service areas. The proposed transmission main alignment is immediately adjacent to the Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Park Linkage Conservation Area associated with the CVMSHCP/NCCP. CVWD will implement all "Adjacency Guidelines" associated with the CVMSHCP/NCCP, as required, during the project construction period. No state- or federally-listed species or candidate species were observed during a biological survey along the proposed project alignment. The project is not expected to have a significant effect on any known sensitive species, habitat, or wildlife corridors within the

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project area. CVWD will conduct a pre-construction survey to verify non-presence of burrowing owls and any other nesting birds or sensitive species within the project site.

An archaeological records search indicated that seven cultural resources studies have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the project area; one within the project area. One cultural resources site has been recorded within a one-mile radius of the project area; however, no cultural resources have been recorded within the boundaries of the project area. An archaeological pedestrian survey of the project area indicated no new potentially significant prehistoric or historical resources.

Implementation of mitigation measures stated above will minimize the project's potential to degrade the quality of the environment, reduce species and/or habitat, or impact examples of major periods of California's history.

b.) During the construction period, the proposed water transmission main project will have only temporary effects associated with aesthetics, dust, noise, and local traffic circulation. The cumulative effects, if any, of this project combined with other projects proposed in the vicinity are not expected to have a significant effect on the environment or the community. All other construction projects proposed within the project vicinity are also expected to implement similar measures to minimize environmental effects.

c.) The purpose of this project is to construct a more reliable water transmission main to replace the existing, deteriorated transmission main from Booster Station 03603 to Booster Station 04701 in the Sky Valley and Indio Hills service areas. The improvements will satisfy current domestic water service demands and are consistent with approved local planning. No housing units are proposed, will be removed or otherwise affected by the proposed project; therefore, the project will not have a significant effect on the existing population and housing at the project site. There will be some temporary disruption related to project construction (aesthetics, dust, noise, and local traffic circulation). CVWD and the contractor will coordinate with Riverside County to implement measures to minimize these temporary, construction-related effects. With implementation of these measures, the proposed water transmission main project will not have any environmental effects that will cause substantial, adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

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REFERENCES

1. Riverside County General Plan, October 2003 and General Plan Amendments, 2008.
2. Final Subsequent Program Environmental Impact Report for 2010 Coachella Valley Water Management Plan Update, Coachella Valley Water District, November 2011.
3. Coachella Valley Final Water Management Plan, MWH, Coachella Valley Water District, September 2002.
5. Final Coachella Valley Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, September 2007.
6. South Coast Air Quality Management District website, <http://www.aqmd.gov>, visited on October 8, 2013.
7. Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency website, <http://www.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/>, visited on October 10, 2013.
8. Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines, California Burrowing Owl Consortium, April 1993.
9. Phase I Archaeological Assessment of Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement Project, Riverside County, California, Applied Earthworks, Inc., October 2013.
10. Biological Survey Report, Dillon Road Transmission Main Replacement Project, Riverside County, California, Coachella Valley Water District, October 2013.
11. California Natural Diversity Data Base Special Animals List and Special Plants List, July 2000.

SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES
DILLON ROAD TRANSMISSION MAIN REPLACEMENT – PHASE 1

EFFECT	TIMELINE	PROPOSED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<i>Air Quality</i>	Pre-Construction and Construction Period	<i>Dust Control Plan shall be prepared and implemented during project construction activities.</i>	CVWD prepares Dust Control Plan; Contractor responsible for implementation
<i>Biological Resources</i>	Pre-Construction and Construction Period	<p><i>1. Pre-Construction survey will be conducted to verify non-presence of burrowing owls/nesting birds;</i></p> <p><i>2. As required, CVWD will implement all identified "Adjacency Guidelines" associated with Conservation Areas under the CVMSHCP/NCCP</i></p> <p><i>3. Prevention of Introduction of Non-Native Plants (see Bio Section)</i></p>	<p>1. CVWD Environmental</p> <p>2-3. CVWD & Contractor</p>
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	Construction Period	<i>Should an archaeological/cultural resource be encountered during construction activities, all construction work must be halted in the immediate vicinity until a qualified Archaeologist can assess the resource.</i>	Contractor; CVWD Construction Inspector; CVWD Environmental
<i>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</i>	Construction Period	<p><i>1. Project design will consider technologically and economically feasible options to minimize energy consumption, water conservation and solid waste during construction and operation of the proposed project;</i></p> <p><i>2. Where feasible, project will utilize energy-efficient motorized equipment/vehicles and alternative</i></p>	1-3. Contractor; CVWD Construction Inspector; CVWD Engineering

SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES
DILLON ROAD TRANSMISSION MAIN REPLACEMENT – PHASE 1

EFFECT	TIMELINE	PROPOSED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
		<p><i>(renewable) fuels;</i></p> <p>3. Construction activities will minimize waste of materials and implement recycling/reuse where feasible.</p>	
<p><i>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</i></p>	<p>Construction Period</p>	<p>1. Where needed, CVWD will coordinate with Riverside County to develop and implement a Traffic Control Plan during construction activities;</p> <p>2. Activities involving hazardous materials, including maintenance and/or fueling of vehicles and construction equipment, will be prohibited at and/or adjacent to the proposed project alignment.</p>	<p>1-2. CVWD; CVWD Inspector; Contractor</p>
<p><i>Hydrology and Water Quality</i></p>	<p>Construction Period</p>	<p>1. Construction and operation activities at the project site will incorporate BMPs to minimize erosion, sedimentation and general, good-housekeeping practices to limit potential discharge of pollutants associated with construction vehicles and equipment use. All applicable storm water and water quality regulations will be followed during construction/operation activities.</p>	<p>1. Contractor; CVWD Inspector;</p> <p>2. Contractor prepares SWPPP; CVWD approves; Contractor implements</p>

SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES
DILLON ROAD TRANSMISSION MAIN REPLACEMENT – PHASE 1

EFFECT	TIMELINE	PROPOSED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
		<p>2. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan will be prepared and implemented during construction.</p>	
<p>Noise</p>	<p>Construction Period</p>	<p>1. Engine mufflers will be used on all construction vehicles and motorized equipment, when possible, to lessen temporary, construction-related noise effects;</p> <p>2. Construction schedules and activities will follow all noise regulations established by Riverside County.</p>	<p>1-2. Contractor and CVWD Construction Inspector</p>
<p>Transportation and Traffic</p>	<p>Pre-Construction and Construction Period</p>	<p>1. Coordinate with Riverside County to prepare and implement a Traffic Safety Plan for construction;</p> <p>2. All rights-of-way along project alignment will be returned to pre-construction conditions once construction is completed.</p> <p>3. Measures, including signage, postings, and direct communication, will be taken to notify local residents of work schedules and potential effects on access.</p>	<p>1. CVWD Engineering and Contractor;</p> <p>2-3. Contractor and CVWD Construction Inspector</p>