



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Date of Notice September 18, 2025

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

21005190

PROJECT NAME/NUMBER: I-805 & Palm Ave Water Main Break Emergency
COMMUNITY PLAN AREA: Otay Mesa-Nestor Community Planning Area
COUNCIL DISTRICT: 8

LOCATION: The project site is within the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) right-of-way (ROW), below grade along the shoulder of the northbound Interstate 805 freeway. The leaking pipeline, known as the South San Diego Pipeline, was identified approximately 500-feet north from Palm Ave.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of San Diego Public Utilities Department conducted emergency repair work on a broken water main on August 18, 2025 (33-inch diameter steel cylinder rod wrapped water main transmission pipeline). The water main traverses across the freeway in an easterly-to-westerly direction below its finished grade. Emergency repair work occurred between August 18, 2025, and concluded on August 19, 2025, and consisted of trenching/excavation to accommodate for shoring and eventual pipeline repairs. Subsequently, the subject pipeline could not be repaired and was abandoned. Weld-in caps/plugs were installed on both (east and west) sides of the freeway to stop water flow. All trenching/excavation was backfilled with onsite materials and the site was restored to site conditions. No impacts occurred to sensitive biological or cultural resources as no habitat was disturbed and excavation/backfilling activities occurred within previously disturbed soils within Caltrans ROW.

ENTITY CONSIDERING PROJECT APPROVAL: City of San Diego, Public Utilities Department

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: STATUTORILY EXEMPT: 15269(B)&(C) EMERGENCY PROJECTS

ENTITY MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: City of San Diego

STATEMENT SUPPORTING REASON FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: An emergency exemption was based on expert opinion and findings by the Public Utilities Department. Urgent action was necessary to stop the pipeline leak to prevent damage to Caltrans ROW and freeway lanes affected from silt and water as the result of a possible pressurized water release. Furthermore, the project meets the criteria set forth in CEQA Section 15269(b)&(c) which allows for specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency and emergency repairs to publicly owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare.

PROJECT MANAGER: Junnreck Elizaga, Associate Civil Engineer
MAILING ADDRESS: 9192 Topaz Way, San Diego, CA 92123
PHONE NUMBER: (858) 824-6017

On September 18, 2025, the City of San Diego made the above-referenced environmental determination pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This determination is appealable to the City Council. If you have any questions about this determination, contact the Project Manager listed above.

Applications to appeal the CEQA determination to the City Council must be filed with the Office of the Clerk within five (5) business days from the date of the posting of this Notice (**September 25, 2025**). Per the revised Public Notice issued by the Office of the City Clerk on September 28, 2021, appeals to the City Clerk must be filed via e-mail or in-person as follows:

1. Appeals filed via Email: The Environmental Determination Appeal Application Form [DS-3031](#) can be obtained at: <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/development-services/pdf/industry/forms/ds3031.pdf>. Send the completed appeal form (including grounds for appeal and supporting documentation in pdf format) by email to Hearings1@sandiego.gov by 5:00p.m. on the last day of the appeal period; your email appeal will be acknowledged within 24 business hours. You must separately mail the appeal fee by check payable to the City Treasurer to: City Clerk/Appeal, MS 2A, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101. The appeal filing fee must be United States Postal Service (USPS) postmarked) before or on the final date of the appeal.
2. Appeals filed In-Person: The Environmental Determination Appeal Application Form [DS-3031](#) can be obtained at: <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/development-services/pdf/industry/forms/ds3031.pdf>. Bring the fully completed appeal application [DS-3031](#) (including grounds for appeal and supporting documentation) to the City Administration Building— Public Information Counter (Open 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday excluding City approved holidays), 1st Floor Lobby, located at 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101, by 5:00pm on the last day of the appeal period. The completed appeal form shall include the required appeal fee, with a check payable to: City Treasurer.

The appeal application can also be obtained from the City Clerk, 202 'C' Street, Second Floor, San Diego, CA 92101.

This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request.

POSTED ON THE CITY'S CEQA WEBSITE

POSTED: 9/18/25

REMOVED:

POSTED BY: Myra Lee