



Date of Notice: September 16, 2021

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

21002797

PROJECT NAME/NUMBER:	Programmatic Water Transmission Pipelines Condition Assessment
COMMUNITY PLAN AREA:	Citywide
COUNCIL DISTRICTS:	All (1-9)

LOCATION: External leak detection and external inspection of eleven potable water transmission pipelines located throughout the City of San Diego in various Community Planning Areas. External inspections will occur within both developed and undeveloped areas, including environmentally sensitive areas.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project proposes to perform leak detection and external excavation on eleven potable water transmission pipelines (Bonita, Clairemont Mesa Crosstie, Commercial Street, Del Mar Heights, Elliot, Miramar Cross, Miramar Extension, Montgomery, Penasquitos, Rancho Bernardo, and South San Diego). Leak detection and external inspections are necessary to determine existing structural condition, remaining service life, provide recommendations for future rehabilitation, and potential risk associated with failure. Leak detection involves correlators, two-channel electronic devices, that analyze acoustic signals collected from a pair of mounting locations along a piping network; mounting locations along the pipelines include existing valves (i.e. air, blow-off, gate, butterfly), manways, or fire hydrants. The acoustic data is then collected by a pair of correlators processed through an algorithm to determine distance of the leak from each sensor. External excavation includes the excavation of two pre-selected locations along the Elliot and South San Diego transmission pipelines. The Elliot and South San Diego excavation sites are located within undeveloped disturbed areas (bare soil and ornamental vegetation) and will not impact biological resources. Standard mechanical excavation equipment (backhoe, hand tools) will be used to excavate an area 10 feet wide by 10 feet long by 10 feet deep. Temporary staging and stockpiling of materials will be limited to developed/disturbed areas. No impact to archeological or paleontological resources are expected as all excavation would occur over the existing pipelines within previously disturbed soils; however, cultural resource monitoring will be conducted during external excavations to avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive cultural resources. Following completion of the external inspections, all temporarily impacted areas will be restored to pre-impact conditions. Best management practices will be implemented during construction and post-construction as needed.

ENTITY CONSIDERING PROJECT APPROVAL: City of San Diego

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION(S): 15301 (B) EXISTING FACILITIES, 15304 (F) MINOR ALTERATIONS TO LAND, 15306 INFORMATION COLLECTION

ENTITY MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: City of San Diego Public Utilities Department

STATEMENT SUPPORTING REASON FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The City of San Diego conducted an environmental review that determined the project would not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section(s) 15301 (B) Existing Facilities which allows for maintenance of existing public utility facilities, 15304 (F) Minor Alterations to Land which allows operations and maintenance to existing utilities and allows for minor alterations to land including minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored, and 15306 Information Collection which allows for the basic data collection not resulting in a major disturbance to an environmental resource; and where the exceptions listed in CEQA Section 15300.2 would not apply in that no cumulative impacts were identified; no significant effects on the environment were identified; the project is not adjacent to a scenic highway; no historical resources would be affected by the action; and the project was not identified on a list of hazardous waste sites pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

PROJECT MANAGER: Duy Nguyen, Public Utilities Department
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On September 16, 2021 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 CEQA determinations to the City Council must be filed in the office of the City Clerk within 10 business days from the date of the posting of this Notice (September 30, 2021). During the Statewide "Safer-at-Home" directive to reduce the spread of COVID-19, beginning March 19, 2020, appeals to the City Clerk must be filed by email or US Mail as follows:

- 1) Appeals filed via E-mail: Send the appeal by email to Hearings1@sandiego.gov; your email appeal will be acknowledged within 24 hours. The [appeal application can be obtained here](#). 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 postmarked within 5 business days of the date the appeal is filed.
- 2) Appeals filed via US Mail: Send the appeal by US Mail to City Clerk/Appeal, MS 2A, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101. Appeals filed by US Mail must have a United States Postal Service (USPS) postmark by the appeal deadline to be considered valid. The [appeal application can be obtained here](#). You must separately mail the required 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 postmarked within 5 business days of the date the appeal is filed.

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