



## **QUALIFICATIONS SUBMITTAL for MCWD ON-CALL CONTRACT August 16, 2012**

Denise Duffy & Associates (DD&A) offers this Statement of Qualifications to provide on-call environmental services to Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) to extend our existing on-call contract with MCWD. Our ongoing and continual work with MCWD has provided DD&A with an unmatched understanding of the District's projects, issues, constraints, and opportunities. DD&A can provide local and immediately accessible highly qualified staff, thereby allowing for expeditious initiation of individual projects. The following provides additional highlights of DD&A's unique qualifications for this On-Call Contract.

### **DD&A's Relevant Experience and Qualifications Highlights**

- DD&A is a full-service firm with experienced leaders in water supply planning, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation and experts in natural resource regulations, including the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts, Clean Water Act, California Coastal Act, and California Fish and Game Code.
- DD&A possesses a long and diverse history working with the MWCD and with wastewater, potable and recycled water supply projects in the preparation of CEQA, CEQA-Plus (for Federal delegated projects), NEPA, environmental planning and compliance, permitting, mitigation monitoring and reporting plan (MMRP) services, and biological services.
- The CEQA and NEPA water supply experience of DD&A is unparalleled in the area. Our work has been concentrated on almost 30 years in the Central Coast area, with the majority of our work on infrastructure planning projects. DD&A offers a strong knowledge of local planning processes and all environmental legal standards and requirements.
- Our extensive work experience for the District and other projects within the City of Marina, the former Fort Ord, and northern Monterey County region, including successful completion of dozens of water supply, wastewater, and recycled water projects requiring environmental review. A sampling of recent projects includes the following relevant and local projects:
  - Marina Coast Water District's Master Plan and Capital Improvement Program environmental review services.
  - Various Regional Desalination Projects CEQA, NEPA, Endangered Species Act, Coastal Permitting, and overall project constraints analyses.

- Regional Urban Water Augmentation Project (RUWAP) EIR and Addenda (Project level environmental for this recycled water project, including hydrogeologic baseline reporting
  - RUWAP Water Augmentation Pumping Plant approval and MMRP.
  - Ord, North Marina, Armstrong Annexation processing and reporting.
  - Exemptions and Coastal Development Permit Waivers for the infrastructure projects, agreements, hydrogeologic studies and the monitoring wells.
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- Key Senior and highly trained staff members are committed to completing the work on time and for a reasonable fee. Using this Senior staff provides not only continuity with past work by DD&A for the District, but also ensures early start-up on projects and an unequaled understanding of issues, constraints, and opportunities. DD&A's Principal and senior staff have been assisting MCWD with environmental compliance issues for over 15 years and understand the District's procedures and rules. Alison Imamura, DD&A's Project Manager, is certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners and has a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering, with emphases in the area of air quality, water quality, hydrology and civil engineering, and is able to bridge the gap between the legal and technical understandings of each environmental and engineering issue.
  - DD&A's Senior Managers are experienced and actively involved practitioners in environmental and planning document preparation. The actual years of practical EIR and other environmental review preparation experience of our managers exceeds 30 years for the Principal, 20 years for Leianne Humble, 15 years for Alison Imamura, and 13 years for Erin Harwayne (these staff members have spent the majority of their careers working in the Monterey Bay area for DD&A).
  - DD&A staff is immediately available to successfully complete the tasks within the requested timeframe. DD&A has proven we are available to meet locally with little notice and provide quick turnaround as needed for the District.
  - We work closely with MCWD staff and counsel, including providing CEQA, planning, and Board action consultation services for a number of projects in the past years, including Initial Studies, staff reports, CEQA documentation, and noticing.
  - DD&A staff members are supplemented by long standing relationships with key project team consultants. DD&A has had a close working relationship for over twenty years with other consultants assisting the District (e.g. Schaaf & Wheeler, RMC Water and Environment).
  - DD&A staff is skilled in preparing, as well as identifying, the need for permits and obtaining and implementing environmental clearance from a variety of regulatory agencies required for water supply and wastewater projects.
  - DD&A is currently retained by water and wastewater agencies and special districts for on-call environmental and permitting services, as well as specialized project CEQA/NEPA work. Pertinent on-call or large contracts with water agencies include contracts with San Jose Public Works, San Jose Water Company, California American Water Company, East Bay Municipal Utility District, and MCWD.

- DD&A fully understands the complex relationships that exist among agencies participating in water and infrastructure projects in the Monterey County area. We have an excellent rapport with regulatory agencies including the State Department of Public Health, California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

DD&A has full geographic information system (GIS) capabilities and expertise, and can provide air quality and greenhouse gas analysis services in-house, if needed and desired. DD&A also has a full staff of biological experts whose expertise is outlined in the following section. DD&A's Natural Resource Division (NRD) biologists are extremely skilled in the identification of locally-occurring special-status plant and wildlife species and sensitive habitats occurring in the Monterey Bay region. The NRD has been successful in acquiring required State and Federal resource permits for a number of projects on the former Fort Ord and Monterey Peninsula.

- DD&A's full staff of biologists holds current Federal recovery permits for both the California red-legged frog and the California tiger salamander, State Scientific Collection Permits authorizing handling (capture and release) of all mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and freshwater/terrestrial invertebrates. (DD&A is the only local firm with this advantage).
- DD&A skilled biologists have over ten years of hands-on experience working on the former Fort Ord military base, including extensive survey work within areas of the District's potential impact area (representing cost savings to the District), and staff that has received training in recognizing Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) required for survey work in areas of the former military base.
- Biologists at DD&A maintain excellent rapport with regulatory agencies, including the DFG, Service, ACOE, and RWQCB. DD&A biologists are skilled in identifying the need for, as well as preparing applications, obtaining, and implementing, environmental clearance permits from these agencies.
- DD&A biologists have provided pre-construction, construction-phase, and post-construction biological monitoring, including surveys for all locally-occurring special-status plant and wildlife species, for over 15 projects on the former Fort Ord within the last five years.
- DD&A biologists are also highly knowledgeable of CEQA and NEPA, as well as other environmental regulations including the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts, Clean Water Act, California Coastal Act, and California Fish and Game Code.

## Conclusions

DD&A's staff has the needed combination of professional skills, hands-on experience, and expert knowledge required to work effectively with MCWD. In addition, our staff is available and prepared to immediately begin preparation of the required environmental documents with no start-up time delay. We have experience with preparation of clear and concise environmental documents needed for the decision-making process. As evidenced above, we have unmatched experience and qualifications for the relevant services MCWD is seeking.