



City of Marina, State of California
NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PROJECT TITLE: California American Water Slant Test Well Project

APPLICANT: California American Water

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY: City of Marina
211 Hillcrest Avenue
Marina, California 95045

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in the northwest portion of the City of Marina, at the site of the existing CEMEX sand mining facility located in the coastal dunes west of Lapis Road and State Route 1 (Assessor's Parcel Number 203-011-019-000)

CONTACT: Emily Creel, Environmental Planner
1422 Monterey Street, C200
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 543-7095 x6814

REVIEW PERIOD: May 19, 2014 – June 17, 2014

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: California American Water (Cal Am), the project applicant, proposes development and short-term operation of a slant test well, which would extend diagonally under the floor of the Pacific Ocean through the Dune Sand Aquifer, Salinas Valley Aquitard (if present in the project area), and 180-Foot Aquifer or its equivalent unit at the project location (referred to as the 180-FTE). The proposed project includes development of the slant test well facilities, up to four vertical monitoring well clusters to monitor changes in groundwater levels and quality during operation of the slant test well, and related electrical and water discharge infrastructure.

The slant test well insertion point and wellhead vault would be situated approximately 450 feet inland of the mean sea level shoreline, at an approximate elevation of 25 feet above mean sea level. The slant test well would be drilled in a westerly direction at an approximately 19-degree angle from horizontal to a maximum drill length of 1,000 feet. The slant test well facilities would include: the slant test well, wellhead vault, and submersible well pump; water flow measurement and sampling equipment; water disposal facilities, including a discharge pipeline and connection to an existing ocean outfall via a subsurface junction structure; temporary sedimentation tanks; and electrical facilities, including buried 4-inch conduit that would extend approximately 0.38 mile east of the slant test well and connect to an existing PG&E power pole near the entrance of the CEMEX site.

The slant test well would pump water from the Dune Sand and 180-FTE Aquifers for a period of up to 24 months to analyze the geologic, hydrogeologic, and water quality effects of pumping activities at the project site. Water pumped from the aquifers would be discharged into the Pacific Ocean via an existing

ocean outfall pipeline that extends approximately 2 miles offshore and is currently used by the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency for treated wastewater disposal.

At the conclusion of the temporary pumping program, the slant test well, monitoring wells, and all related infrastructure is proposed to be decommissioned in accordance with the regulations of the California Department of Water Resources. The slant test well and all monitoring wells would be removed to a depth of 5 feet below ground surface and sealed with neat cement (or sand-cement) sealing material. The wellhead vault, electrical panel and sampling station, buried electrical conduit, discharge pipe and outfall connection would all be excavated and removed, followed by backfilling and compaction of the excavated vault location and trenches. Disturbed areas would be re-contoured following project decommissioning to restore the surface to its original condition.

Construction, operation, and decommissioning of the project would span a period of approximately 2 to 3 years.

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ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: The City of Marina has prepared a draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) pursuant to Section 15070 of the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Preparation of an MND reflects the City's opinion that any significant adverse environmental impacts associated with the proposed project would be reduced to a less than significant level with the adoption of identified mitigation measures; therefore, the project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Significant but mitigable effects on the environment are anticipated in the following areas: **aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, and utilities and service systems.**

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The draft MND and all documents referenced therein may be reviewed at the City of Marina Community Development Department offices, located at 209 Cypress Avenue, and at the Marina Branch Library, 190 Seaside Circle. The draft MND can also be downloaded from the Community Development Department Planning Services Division's website, at <http://www.ci.marina.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=161>.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The City of Marina is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the draft MND. Comments should be provided prior to the close of the public comment period at 5:00 p.m. on June 17, 2014. Comments may be submitted as follows:

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c/o Emily Creel, Environmental Planner
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ecreel@swca.com
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Note that if you challenge this environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised by you or others in written correspondence or in hearings on the proposed project.