

Appendix A
**Supplemental Water Supply Project
Scoping Report**

C-084856

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East Bay Municipal Utility District

Supplemental Water Supply Project

EIR/EIS Scoping Report

Prepared by Jones & Stokes Associates

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East Bay Municipal Utility District Supplemental Water Supply Project Scoping Report

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Summary

Public involvement in the Supplemental Water Supply Project has been significant since East Bay Municipal Utility District's (EBMUD's) initial commitment to the project in 1995. EBMUD, the City of Sacramento (City), the County of Sacramento (County), and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) have made substantial efforts to solicit public input to the project, and provide the public with updates on the progress of the project, through public hearings, public workshops, small group meetings, community presentations and scoping meetings.

On January 25, 1996, EBMUD issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Folsom South Canal Connection Project, informing agencies and the general public that an EIR was being prepared and inviting specific comments on the scope and content of the document. The NOP also requested participation at public scoping meetings. The NOP included an initial study outlining what were considered the key issues related to the project and discussed the potential environmental impacts of the project.

Subsequently, ongoing discussions between EBMUD, the City and the County led to formulation of a joint project concept that offered a new alternative for achieving the project objectives. Therefore, EBMUD and Reclamation prepared a revised NOP/Notice of Intent (NOI) in April 1997 describing the revised project objectives and alternatives. The NOP/NOI included a brief description of the joint project concept, invited public comment on the scope and content of the EIR/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and announced an additional set of scoping meetings.

Scoping Meetings

EBMUD held three initial scoping meetings in February 1996 to solicit public comments in determining the scope of the Folsom South Canal Connection EIR. Scoping meetings were held in Oakland, Sacramento, and Lodi. Before the meetings, notices were published in local newspapers announcing the time, date, location and purpose of the meetings. Copies of the NOP and initial study were also sent to an extensive mailing list. Each scoping meeting included an overview of the meeting's purpose, the proposed project and alternatives, and potentially significant environmental issues. Attendees were given the opportunity to provide both written and oral comments. A summary of comments received in response to this effort is included as Appendix 1.

The revised NOP/NOI announced five additional public scoping meetings and was also sent to an extensive mailing list. The format for these meetings were similar to the initial meetings and the meetings were sponsored jointly by EBMUD, the County, the City and Reclamation. The dates, locations and attendance at each of these scoping meetings is provided below. The remainder of this scoping report focuses on these more recent scoping meetings.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
April 28, 1997	Sacramento	23
April 29, 1997	Oakland	8
April 30, 1997	Lodi	24
April 30, 1997	Galt	26
May 1, 1997	Sacramento	29

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Publicity

To publicize the meetings, EBMUD mailed approximately 2,000 public meeting notices to interested parties in Sacramento, San Joaquin, Alameda, and Contra Costa counties. In addition, EBMUD coordinated with the City of Sacramento, who mailed an additional 28,000 public meeting notices to residents nearby the proposed alignment alternatives. EBMUD also placed advertisements in local newspapers, including the Sacramento Bee, the Oakland Tribune, the Stockton Record, the Contra Costa Times, the Galt Herald, the Clements-Lockeford News and the Lodi News-Sentinel. News releases were distributed to regional print and broadcast news outlets as well.

Staff

The following representatives of EBMUD, Reclamation, City, County, and consultants participated in the scoping meetings:

John Lampe, EBMUD	Jim Sequeira, City of Sacramento
Kurt Ladensack, EBMUD	Darrell Eck, County of Sacramento
Maria Solis, EBMUD	Jon Goetz, County of Sacramento
Rod Hall, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	Tad Berkebile, County of Sacramento
Cecil Lesley, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	Janet Barbieri, Deen & Black Public Relations

Agenda

The meeting agenda included an overview and update on project alternatives, a summary of the environmental studies and public review process, followed by a public comment period. The following is a summary of the project description given at the meetings. Appendix 2 is a copy of the maps that were disseminated to the public regarding the two primary alternatives under consideration.

EBMUD-Sacramento Joint Water Supply Project

- The City, County and EBMUD have negotiated an agreement to collaboratively study a joint project to take delivery of water from the American River near its confluence with the Sacramento River.
- Under this proposed agreement, water for the County and EBMUD would be pumped from a new intake facility on the American River upstream of the Interstate 5 bridge and conveyed through a new pipeline to the City's E.A. Fairbairn Water Treatment Plant. Water for EBMUD's use would then be conveyed through a new pipeline to the Folsom South Canal and through another new pipeline from the Folsom South Canal to the EBMUD Mokelumne Aqueducts in San Joaquin County. The County would be able to use capacity at the I-5 intake facility, and E.A. Fairbairn Water Treatment Plant, to meet its water needs.
- The City of Sacramento plans to expand the existing E.A. Fairbairn Treatment Plant located on the American River near Howe Avenue. The expansion necessary to meet the water supply needs of the project participants involves an increase in the intake capacity by 100 MGD and an increase in treatment capacity by 200 MGD.
- Utilizing its American River entitlement, EBMUD would receive a minimum of 70,000 acre-feet in the driest years. In other years up to 112,000 acre-feet would be available to EBMUD. The project cost is preliminarily estimated at approximately \$473.5 million — \$311.5 million by EBMUD, \$121.6 million by the City of Sacramento, and \$40.4 million by the County of Sacramento.

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Folsom South Canal Connection Project

- Under this alternative, Reclamation would divert American River contract water into the Folsom South Canal at Lake Natoma for delivery to EBMUD. The water would be delivered to EBMUD from a new or existing turnout and conveyed through a buried pipeline south to EBMUD's Mokelumne Aqueducts in San Joaquin County.
- This project would be operated for EBMUD's benefit, and would not include participation by the City or County of Sacramento.
- There are four potential pipeline alignments under consideration for this alternative.
 - The first would originate at the existing Folsom South Canal turnout near Grant Line Road in southern Sacramento County and extend south to the Mokelumne Aqueducts.
 - The second would originate at a new turnout at the southern Folsom South Canal terminus and extend east and south to the Mokelumne Aqueducts.
 - The third would originate near Twin Cities Road at the Folsom South Canal and extend generally west then south, following much of the same route as the first alternative alignment.
 - The fourth would originate at the contract turnout and extend south and east, and connect to the terminus alignments.

Public Comments

Each meeting was recorded via audio tape, and detailed notes were also taken. In addition, participants were asked to fill out and turn in comment cards. A total of 13 letters were received through the deadline of June 16, 1997 (and six after the deadline). Appendix 3 includes a copy of those letters. All comments received at the 1996 and 1997 scoping sessions and written comments in response to the NOP and revised NOP/NOI are being considered during preparation of the Draft EIR/EIS.

Public Comment Summary

The following is a summary of the comments received through the June 16, 1997 deadline and responses to those comments briefly describing how the issues will be addressed in the EIR/EIS for the project. All comments and questions are categorized by main points of interest. Appendix 4 contains a summary of comments and questions from each scoping meeting.

Potential Project Impacts to the American River, the Sacramento River and the Delta

Questions and concerns were raised regarding potential effects on the American River, the Sacramento River and the Delta, including:

- water flow
- effects of silt
- water quality conditions
- benefits of both projects to these water ways
- potential negative impacts to the biological and ecological systems
- consistency with the Delta Protection Act
- contaminated groundwater in Sacramento County

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How These Issues Will Be Addressed in the EIR/EIS

The potential impacts of the alternatives on water quality will be addressed in the EIR/EIS. The secondary effect of any impacts on ecological systems will also be addressed.

Water Supply Concerns

Questions and concerns were raised regarding the impact of the delivery of EBMUD's contractual water entitlement on the region's water supply, including:

- providing adequate amounts of water to all parties involved, especially in dry years
- providing protections and assurances on the amount of water diverted
- possible effects on the level of Folsom Lake
- potential water transfers to other parties
- effects on Central Valley Project and State Water Project contractors
- reasons for mixing newly treated water from the American River with the untreated water of the Mokelumne
- possible impacts to ranchers if the abandonment of Folsom South Canal was considered

How These Issues Will Be Addressed in the EIR/EIS

The project is intended to ensure reliable supplies of water to all involved parties. Possible effects on Folsom Reservoir water levels and availability of water to other users will also be addressed. The proposal no longer includes treatment of water for EBMUD at the City's E.A. Fairbairn Water Treatment Plant. No part of this proposal would result in the abandonment of the Folsom South Canal. The potential for water transfers will be addressed at a general level of detail (under a discussion of potential cumulative impacts).

Alternatives Analysis Concerns

Questions and concerns were raised regarding the integration of the Supplemental Water Supply Project with other ongoing local and regional efforts, including:

- coordination and consistency with ongoing CALFED efforts to construct a Delta conveyance facility
- use of EBMUD's 1993 Updated Water Supply Management Program (Updated WSMP) EIR as a program-level analysis for the Supplemental Water Supply Project EIR/EIS
- consideration of an alternative involving aquifer storage and recovery should be included

How These Issues Will Be Addressed in the EIR/EIS

The EIR/EIS will include a discussion of the relationship of the Supplemental Water Supply Project to other ongoing efforts, including CALFED. The EIR/EIS for the Supplemental Water Supply Project is not directly tiering off of the updated WSMP EIR. The Supplemental Water Supply Project is an independent project that is intended to allow EBMUD to make use of its existing contractual entitlement to American River water. Information developed as part of the Updated WSMP will be used and incorporated as appropriate.

There is no firm proposal for a groundwater storage and recovery project within San Joaquin County at this time. The EIR/EIS will, under a cumulative impact scenario, evaluate the potential effects of using water in addition to the stated project objectives. It is possible that some of this water could be used in the future as part of such a program.

Potential Pipeline Alignment and Construction Concerns

Questions and concerns were raised regarding the potential pipeline alignments and the construction associated with the two project alternatives under consideration, including:

- the integrity of Discovery Park, especially the visual aesthetics
- the right-of-way requirements along the Central California Traction Railroad
- impacts to property owners along the Folsom South Canal Connection Pipeline Alignment Alternatives
- future pipeline repair and road maintenance
- possible abandonment of the Central California Traction Railroad
- effects of construction on communities
- health and safety factors during construction
- mitigation of economic loss to businesses affected by construction
- possibility of incorporating trails into the pipeline planning process

How These Issues Will Be Addressed in the EIR/EIS

The EIR/EIS will disclose the potential impacts of the project on visual resources, land uses, noise, and disruption to adjacent uses. It is anticipated that the project will incorporate standard measures to reduce these effects and that construction of the project will be closely coordinated with the City and County. While the incorporation of trails along pipeline routes is not part of the proposal, EBMUD may, in the future, be willing to discuss this possibility as part of a separate effort.

Project Costs

Questions and concerns were raised regarding project costs, including:

- amount each participant will contribute to the Joint Project
- potential for project costs to be passed on to the public

How These Issues Will Be Addressed in the EIR/EIS

Project costs, and the distribution of costs, will be presented in the project description of the EIR/EIS.

Public Support

American River Utilization Committee publicly declared support for the EBMUD-Sacramento Joint Water Supply Project. Save the American River Association made a statement that it is pleased with the progress of the EBMUD-Sacramento Joint Water Supply Project and favors the joint partnership with conditions, because there is the potential that all parties may be served well.

How These Issues Will be Addressed in the EIR/EIS

No further consideration of these comments is necessary.