

Notice of Availability of A Draft Environmental Impact Report



West Basin Municipal Water District

To: All Interested Persons and Agencies

Subject: Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Project Title: Ocean Water Desalination Project (SCH # 2015081087)

Lead Agency: West Basin Municipal Water District

Project Location: 301 Vista Del Mar, El Segundo, CA and the surrounding cities of El Segundo, Los Angeles, Manhattan Beach, Hawthorne, Redondo Beach, Gardena, Torrance, Hermosa Beach, and portions of unincorporated Los Angeles County (see Figure 1)

Public Review Period: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 through Friday, May 25, 2018 at 5 P.M.

In accordance with Section 15087 of the State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, this Notice of Availability (NOA) has been prepared to notify responsible and trustee agencies, other public agencies, and any interested parties that West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin), as the Lead Agency, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the proposed Ocean Water Desalination Project (Project) pursuant to CEQA. The EIR provides the responsible and trustee agencies, other public agencies, and interested parties, as well as the public, with information about the potential environmental effects anticipated as a result of the Project.

Project Description: West Basin is investigating the feasibility of the construction and operation of an ocean water desalination facility at two potential sites within the existing El Segundo Generating Station (ESGS). The potential desalination facility would produce 20 million gallons per day (MGD) of drinking water (Local Project) with the potential for a future expansion of the facility to produce up to 60 MGD of drinking water (Regional Project). The Local Project would provide a reliable, local water supply to meet drinking water demands, while increasing drought resiliency and reducing dependency on imported water supplies. Currently, West Basin's only water supplies are imported water provided by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). For the Regional Project, West Basin would look to involve partners to expand the Local Project to produce an additional 40 MGD of drinking water to help meet water demands at a regional scale. This would further reduce dependence on imported water within the MWD service area and improve overall regional supply reliability.

The Project would include construction and operation of ocean water intake and concentrate (brine) discharge infrastructure, an onshore desalinated water treatment facility, and a product water conveyance system. The ocean water intake system would intake raw ocean water through 1-mm (0.04 inch) wedgewire screens. The treatment process would include pre-treatment filtration, reverse osmosis membranes, and post treatment conditioning. The concentrate discharge system would return a blend of concentrated ocean water from the reverse osmosis process and treated backwash to the ocean through a diffuser system for dispersion. The desalinated water conveyance system would deliver drinking water to the local drinking water distribution system. Appurtenant facilities, including pump stations, valves, and meters, would also be constructed and operated as part of the Project.

Anticipated Significant Environmental Effects: The Draft EIR describes the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of the Project. Impacts could occur in the following Environmental Areas: Aesthetics, Lights & Glare; Air Quality; Terrestrial Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Energy; Geology and Soils; Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Land

Use and Planning; Marine Biological Resources; Noise; Public Services; Recreation; Transportation and Traffic; and Utilities and Service Systems. Mitigation measures have been incorporated to avoid or minimize significant impacts to less than significant levels where feasible. The EIR concludes that there is potential for significant and unavoidable impacts related to air emissions during construction and increased noise during pile driving associated with construction activities.

CEQA also requires this NOA to specify if the Project site contains any listed toxic sites. The Project site is identified on the "Cortese List" (Government Code Section 65962.5) as having the potential for soil and groundwater contamination at the site from past uses on site and neighboring sites.

Public Review and Comments: Pursuant to Section 15087 of the State CEQA Guidelines, West Basin is soliciting comments from the public, responsible and trustee agencies, other public agencies, and interested parties regarding the content of the Draft EIR prepared for the Project. The Draft EIR will be used by West Basin when considering discretionary approvals related to the Project. The 60-day public review period begins Tuesday, March 27, 2018 and ends Friday, May 25, 2018 at 5 P.M. Written comments submitted by U.S. mail or email on the Draft EIR must be received by Zita Yu, Ph.D., P.E. at the address shown below. A dedicated "Ocean Water Desalination Project Draft EIR Comment Box" will be available in the lobby of the West Basin office in Carson, Calif. for the public to drop off written comments in-person between 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. Monday through Friday, except for the District holidays. A contact name and return address or email address should be included with your comments.

West Basin Municipal Water District
Attn: Zita Yu, Ph.D., P.E., Project Manager
17140 South Avalon Boulevard
Carson, CA 90746
desalEIR@westbasin.org

Document Availability: The Draft EIR can be viewed at www.westbasin.org/desal. Hard copies of the Draft EIR are available for public review during regular business hours at the locations listed below:

- West Basin Municipal Water District (17140 South Avalon Boulevard, Carson, CA 90746)
- Carson Library (151 East Carson Street, Carson, CA 90745)
- Culver City Julian Dixon Library (4975 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90230)
- El Segundo Public Library (111 West Mariposa Avenue, El Segundo, CA 90245)
- Gardena Mayme Dear Library (1731 West Gardena Boulevard, Gardena, CA 90247)
- Inglewood Public Library (101 West Manchester Boulevard, Inglewood, CA 90301)
- Malibu Library (23519 West Civic Center Way, Malibu, CA 90265)
- Manhattan Beach Library (1320 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266)
- Palos Verdes Peninsula Center Library (701 Silver Spur Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274)
- Redondo Beach Main Library (303 North Pacific Coast Highway, Redondo Beach, CA 90277)
- West Hollywood Public Library (625 N San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069)

Public Meeting: Two public meetings will be held to provide Project information and receive public comments on the Draft EIR. The public meetings will be held as follows:

LOCATION: Richmond Street Elementary School (615 Richmond Street, El Segundo, CA 90245)

DATE: April 25, 2018 (Wednesday)

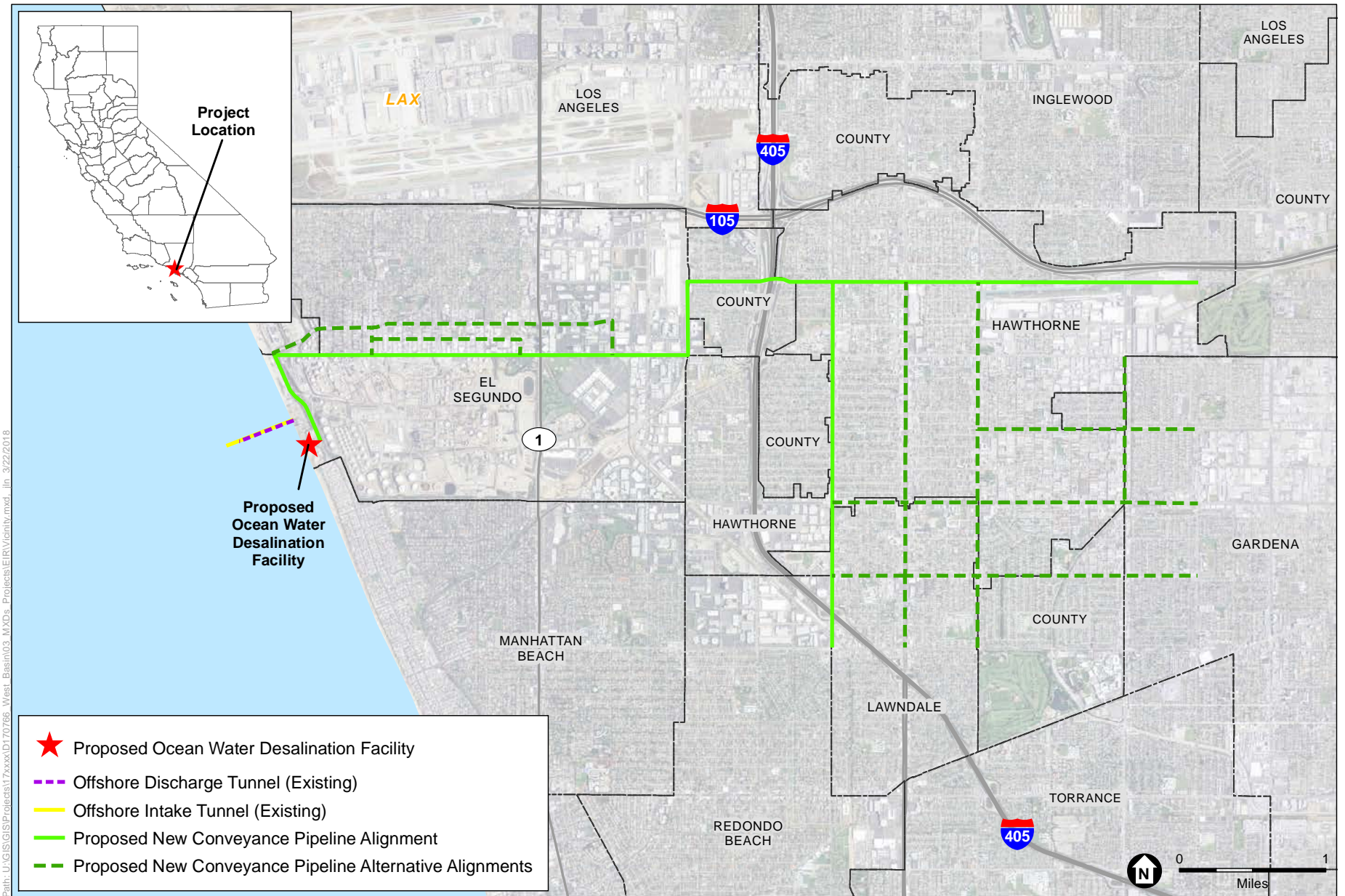
DATE: May 12, 2018 (Saturday)

TIME: 6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

TIME: 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.



Upon 72 hours' notice, West Basin Municipal Water District can provide program information and publications in alternate formats or make other accommodations for people with disabilities. In addition, program documents are available at our main office in Carson (17140 South Avalon Boulevard, #210, Carson, CA 90746), which is accessible to individuals with disabilities. To request accommodations ONLY or for more Americans with Disabilities Act information, please contact our Human Resources Manager and Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 310-660-6228 or by email at hr@westbasin.org, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except for the District holidays.



SOURCE: ESRI

West Basin Ocean Water Desalination Project

Figure 1
Project Location