CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

CALIFORNIA ENVIROMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) ADDENDUM TO:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR CITY OF SANTA BARBARA'S AND IONICS, INCORPORATED TEMPORARY EMERGENCY DESALINATION PROJECT (SB-106-90)
State Clearinghouse No. 9010859
Final EIR Certified March 15, 1991

AND

LONG TERM WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (SB-97-91)
State Clearinghouse No. 91121020
Final EIR Certified May 24, 1994

FOR DESALINATION PLANT CONVEYANCE MAIN PROJECT 525 E. YANONALI STREET (PLN2019-00111)

April 21, 2020

This Environmental Impact Report (EIR) addendum is prepared in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15164. An addendum to a previous EIR may be prepared if only minor changes or additions are necessary to make the prior document adequate for the current project and the changes involve no new significant impacts or impacts substantially greater than previously identified in the EIR.

The CEQA Guidelines provide that an EIR addendum need not be circulated for public review, but is attached to the EIR. The decision-making body considers the addendum together with the certified EIR when making a decision on the current project.

PROJECT STATUS

The Charles Meyer Desalination Plant was built in 1991 as a temporary facility with an original production capacity of 7,500 acre-feet per year (AFY) and a maximum hydraulic capacity of 10,000 AFY. The facility is now operating on a permanent basis as a component of the City's overall water resource portfolio under Coastal Development

Permits approved by the City (CDP1995-00045) and the California Coastal Commission (CDP 4-96-119). Sale of a portion of this facility reduced current production capacity to a maximum of 3,125 AFY, which is also the capacity identified in the environmental analysis and permitting to convert the facility to permanent status in 1996.

PRIOR ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

Two prior EIRs and Addenda (SCH No. 9010859 and 91121020) were prepared in relation to the City's Desalination facility and were certified in March of 1991 and on May 24, 1994, respectively. The EIR prepared for the temporary desalination plant is site- and project-specific (project-level) and the EIR for the long-term water supply is a programmatic analysis of the overall citywide water supply portfolio.

Mitigation measures associated with impacts to aesthetics, water resources, biological resources, noise, hazardous materials/risk of upset, recreation, and cultural resources were incorporated into the desalination plant project as conditions of approval. The Long-Term Water Supply Program also includes impact mitigation related to water quality, noise, and aesthetics/visual resources for implementation of the program's objectives. Both documents concluded that no significant unavoidable effects on the environment would result from the project.

CURRENT PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Desalination Plant Conveyance Main (Conveyance Main) project involves the underground installation of approximately 11,800 linear feet of 24-inch Polyvinylchloride (PVC) potable water pipe in and under existing City streets from the Desalination Plant (located at 525 E. Yanonali St.) to the intersection at Mission Street and Garden Street. At that point, the new pipe would intercept an existing water main. The existing water main would be repurposed to convey water from that point to the Cater Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The Conveyance Main will facilitate the delivery of water to all parts of the City's service area and to the neighboring jurisdiction of the Monetecito Water District under a proposed Water Supply Agreement.

The project also includes the installation of one electrical control panel (4-foot wide x 5-foot tall x 18-inches deep), two vault vent pipes, and approximately fourteen (14) cylindrical Air Relief Valve (ARV) enclosures (typically found throughout the City for operation of the City's water mains). The height of the ARV enclosures would measure approximately 36 inches above grade, and they would have approximate diameters of either 20 inches or 36 inches (as specified for each enclosure location). A Substantial Conformance Determination (SCD) to Coastal Development Permit #CDP1995-00045 will be required for the approximately 800 linear feet of new potable water main and one (1) ARV enclosure to be installed in the Coastal Zone.

Installation: A trench would be excavated along the entire proposed alignment of the new pipeline. The pipe would be installed in the trench and backfilled. Trench length would

be approximately 11,800 linear feet with a width varying from 5 feet to 7 feet. Trench depth would vary from 5 feet to 17 feet (the pipe would be installed in City street rights-of-way). Generally, there are numerous existing utilities already installed underground in the streets including gas, storm drain, sewer, other water lines, etc. The horizontal position of the pipeline was selected based on avoiding conflicts with existing parallel utilities and maintaining a "straight" pipe installation. Beneath the street surface, there are generally multiple utility lines that will run closely and in parallel with the new line and, as such, in the horizontal orientation, the area should be considered previously disturbed.

The depth of the new pipe was selected based on avoiding existing utilities crossing perpendicularly though the street. The new pipe is generally installed 4 feet to 6 feet deeper than these existing utilities. There would likely be new disturbance 4 feet to 6 feet below soil previously disturbed by the installation of existing utilities.

CHANGES IN ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES

There have been no substantial changes in existing environmental conditions since certification of the EIRs in the 1990s. However, in December 2011, the City Council adopted the *Plan Santa Barbara* General Plan[1] update that resulted in a new General Plan Introductory Framework, comprehensively updated Land Use and Housing Elements, and a new set of goals and policies for the remaining elements. The document specifically included an analysis of the City's water supply that was developed in conjunction with the City's Water Commission in preparation for a recommendation to update the 1994 Long-Term Water Supply Program (the program in which the water supply had been managed under for the preceding 17 years). On June 14, 2011, the City Council adopted this updated Long-Term Water Supply Plan (2011 LTWSP).

The "Water Supply and Service" section (Section 15.1.1) of the *Plan Santa Barbara* General Plan Update Program EIR includes significant discussion of the Desalination Plant as a component of the City's overall water portfolio. It is specifically noted that $2.5 million in distribution system improvements that would be required to operate the facility are planned for construction due to their value in improving overall distribution of water throughout the system. Additionally, Water Supply Policy #10 (page 26) of the 2011 LTWSP states:

> ***"Water Supply Reliability**: The City will adequately fund the maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of the water conveyance and distribution infrastructure to provide reliable delivery of the City's water supplies and prevent increased costs from deferred maintenance. In addition to planning for periodic droughts, the City will develop an emergency water supply plan to address catastrophic interruption of water supplies due to earthquake, South Coast Conduit failure, or other*

[1] The corresponding Final Environmental Impact Report and Final EIR Addendum were certified for the *Plan Santa Barbara* General Plan update in September 2010.

> *disaster that could interrupt the City's ability to convey water from the Santa Ynez River for a substantial period of time. The groundwater production capacity identified for drought response will also be maintained for response on short notice to such catastrophic interruptions."*

The current project would fulfill a component of this policy objective by enhancing the City's overall distribution system reliability as it relates to the distributon of desalinated water, as well as facilitating the transfer of water to the Montecito Water District, which will enhance regional water supply reliablity. Based on implementation of the 2011 LTWSP policies, including Policy #10 noted above, the City's water supply was determined to be sufficient to serve anticipated demand for the life-cycle of the *Plan Santa Barbara* General Plan (i.e. through the year 2030).

ANALYSIS OF PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS

A major physical component during construction of the Desalination Plant project was the interconnection of treated freshwater to the City's distribution system (i.e. the water main adjacent to the desalination plant site on Yanonali Street). The desalinated water is injected directly into the City's water distribution system adjacent to the project site.

Although portions of the original facility's desalinated water were allocated to surrounding water districts (e.g. Goleta and Montecito), the volume conveyed would not result in growth inducing effects to these areas. More specifically, as with the City of Santa Barbara, it would be a source component of their overall water supply portfolios that fluctuate with yearly climatological patterns, namely rainfall. Staff determined that the CEQA impact areas most potentially affected by the proposed project revisions are biological, geologic/soils/seismicity, hazardous materials, archaeological resources, historical resources, and flood hazards as discussed below.

Biological: The two previous EIRs concluded that no significant effect to marine or terrestrial biology would occur for construction or normal operation of the Desalination Plant. For the current conveyance main project, the City's Master Environmental Assessment (MEA) identifies a sensitive species point and buffer area for Summer Holly *(Comarostaphylis diversifolia)* that overlaps Garden Street, approximately 75 feet southeast of its intersection with Mission Street. Specifically, Summer Holly is classified as a species of local interest. However, following a field investigation by Public Works staff and the City Arborist in August of 2019, no specimen of Summer Holly was identified in the vicinity of the MEA mapping point. In addition, the temporary project installation work would be conducted within existing urbanized paved areas in City road rights-of- way and involve disturbance of limited area and duration.

Conclusion: No substantial changes to the project, circumstances, or prior information have occurred that introduce a new significant environmental effect or substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant effect to Biological Resources.

Geology, Soils, and Seismicity: No significant adverse effects to Geologic Resources or Hazards were identified in the previous EIRs for the construction or operation phases of the Desalination Plant project. The current project involves installation of new sections of water pipeline and ARV enclosures into an established utility corridor with no potential to exacerbate existing geophysical constraints or risks. According to the MEA, the nearest mapped slope failures are located approximately 2,300 feet north of the intersection of Mission and Garden Streets and would not adversely affect the proposed project. Additionally, the MEA indicates that all components of the project would be located within areas mapped as having low to very low relative landslide potential and slight to moderate erosion potential.

The route of the proposed new conveyance main installation and associated ARV enclosures would not traverse soils with moderate or high radon potential and would not traverse terrain with slopes exceeding 20%. At its closest point to the Pacific Ocean, the project would be over 2,000 feet away from the mean high tide line. Therefore, the project would not be exposed to significant radon, steep slope, or sea cliff retreat hazards. However, the MEA identifies that the entire length of the proposed conveyance main route would potentially be subject to highly expansive soils and areas of potentially shallow to moderately shallow groundwater depth (segment from 525 E. Yanonali Street to the intersection of Garden Street and Victoria Street).

All areas of Santa Barbara County are subject to ground shaking during earthquakes. The portion of the project area within the Coastal Zone is within the mapped tsunami run-up and inland coastal flooding areas (i.e. between the Desalination Plant and the Highway 101 overpass). The proposed portions of new piping extending from the Desalination Plant to approximately the intersection of Ortega and Olive Streets are located within the mapped high liquefaction hazard zone (loss of shear soil strength during groundshaking). No portion of the proposed project is within a seiche hazard area (seismic-induced wave within enclosed water body). *See additional impact discussion in Flood Hazard section below.*

Conclusion: The project involves installation of new sections of water pipeline facilities and has no potential to exacerbate existing seismic-related physical conditions or risks beyond those previously analyzed in the EIRs. The project areas have already been engineered for these constraints by the existing undergrounded utility facilities, and per building code provisions. Appropriate engineering design addressing these conditions in accordance with State standards is required prior to permit issuance for the new mains such that no significant effect would occur.

The Geology and Soils mitigation measures associated with the Desalination Plant EIR would be sufficient and appropriate for the connection point and the portions of the proposed conveyance main installations in the immediate vicinity of the Desalination Plant. These include designing and constructing all facilities in accordance with applicable building codes (Seismic Zone IV), including consideration of seismic,

liquefaction/settlement, tsunami, and other geologic hazards, as identified in the EIR's geologic/geotechnical report and as noted above.

Hazardous Materials Contamination/Risk of Upset: The Desalination Plant EIR mitigation measures were primarily related to the design and operational characteristics of the physical facility at 525 E. Yanonali Street and in conjunction with the adjacent El Estero Wastewater Resource Center (formerly the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant). These included the preparation of a Risk Management Plan for leak monitoring (of chemicals, such as chlorine, used in the wastewater treatment process), automatic shut off valves, personnel training, and other safety precautions as warranted.

For the current project, the proposed conveyance main locations were checked against the State *GeoTracker* database for soil and water contamination. The City Desalination Plant located at 525 E. Yanonali Street is a documented site with soil contamination (T10000007943). The case status is "open for assessment and interim remedial action." Within 1,000 feet of the proposed conveyance main installations, located between 525 E. Yanonali Street and the intersection of Olive Street and De la Guerra Street, there are over 40 prior soil clean-ups from historical uses (e.g., underground fuel tanks, and former dry cleaning, gas station, and car wash locations). Within 1,000 feet of the proposed water main installations between De la Guerra Street and Mission Street, there are two additional cleanup sites. Remediation has been completed and cases closed for all of the above-referenced *GeoTracker* sites, except for three locations (630 E. Montecito Street, 336 N. Calle Cesar Chavez, and 550 Cota Street), which continue to undergo verification monitoring. However, these would not pose a hazard for the current project.

A previous Soils Management Report was prepared for the North Calle Cesar Chavez Water Line Replacement Project (prepared by Rincon Consultants and dated April 25, 2017). This study area (between Yanonali Street and Gutierrez Street) aligns with approximately 1,500 feet of the proposed conveyance main. Soil samples were collected at a depth of 2 to 10 feet. TPHg, TPHo, PAHs, and thallium were detected in the confirmation soil samples collected from the bottom of the excavation at concentrations exceeding Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services Investigation Levels (EHS ILs). As such, the contaminated soils for the project were properly disposed at Cold Canyon Landfill as non-hazardous waste. No other metals were detected above the EHS ILs for metals in soil. VOCs were not detected in the soil samples at concentrations exceeding EHS ILs. TPH, PAHs, metals, and VOCs were not detected at concentrations exceeding ESLs for commercial sites.

However, the proposed conveyance main would be installed at depths ranging from 5 to 17 feet and in rights-of-way beyond the study area noted above. As such, and in accordance with standard County requirements related to contaminated soil, prior to issuance of Building or Public Works permits for the project, the applicant will be required to prepare and submit a "Work Plan" (i.e. a Soils Management Plan) for review and approval by the Santa Barbara County Department of Public Health, Division of

Environmental Health and secure any required permits from the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District.

Additionally, Standard City construction practices provide for Best Management Practices to protect against pollution from use of typical materials such as equipment fuels, and to implement appropriate processes in accordance with State regulations in the event of unanticipated discovery of hazardous materials during earthwork, including notification of the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District and County Health Department regulators to establish any needed assessment or remediation, such that no significant project impact would result.

However, these site locations have already been engineered for these geologic and soil constraints by the existing developed roadway, water main, and other utility facilities. Per the MEA Guidelines and building code provisions, appropriate engineering design addressing these conditions per State standards is required prior to permit issuance for the new water pipelines such that no significant effect would occur.

Conclusion: With incorporation of the Desalination Plant EIR mitigation measures and the environmental measures noted above prior to and during project construction, no new significant environmental effect or substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant effect to hazardous materials or risk of upset would occur.

Archaeological Resources: As identified by the City MEA, most of the proposed conveyance main installations along the route from 525 E. Yanonali Street to Mission Street traverse areas sensitive to subsurface archaeological resources. These include prehistoric watercourses, estuaries, the American Period (1870-1900), early 20th century (1900-1925), Hispanic-American transition period (1848-1870), and Spanish Colonial & Mexican period (1782-1835).

A Phase I Archaeological Resources Report dated January 2019 was prepared for the project by Heather McDaniel McDevitt of Dudek, which analyzes potential impacts to archaeological resources and recommends mitigation measures. The archaeological report recommends a City-qualified archaeologist be retained to monitor all ground disturbances until it can be determined that ground disturbance activities have reached a depth below which cultural material is expected to exist. In the event that a discovery consists of possible prehistoric or Native American artifacts, materials, or human remains, a Barbareño Chumash representative from the most current City Qualified Barbareño Chumash Site Monitors List shall be consulted as part of developing appropriate archaeological resource treatments, and shall be retained to monitor all further subsurface disturbance in the area of the find. The report was reviewed and accepted by the City's Historic Landmarks Commission on April 17, 2019.

Conclusion: The Desalination Plant EIR identified potentially significant impacts to Cultural Resources. In addition to using existing pipelines and locating facilities in areas of previous disturbance, mitigation included an archaeological monitor requirement

during excavations in the same manner as described in the above Phase I Archaeological Resources Report. No additional mitigation required.

Tribal Cultural Resources: The two previously prepared EIRs did not include analysis of Tribal Cultural Resources. Assembly Bill 52 (Chapter 532, Statutes 2014) required an update to Appendix G (Initial Study Checklist) of the CEQA Guidelines to include questions related to impacts to tribal cultural resources. Changes to Appendix G were approved by the California Office of Administration Law on September 27, 2016. The state Office of Planning and Research subsequently updated Appendix G to include the questions and language that was approved by the Office of Administrative Law.

Conclusion: The proposed new conveyance main locations within existing public right-of-way utility corridors do not contain or involve any known important tribal place or resource of religious, spiritual, or social importance. The limited project activity within prior disturbed areas would not result in impacts to such resources. As noted in the Archaeological Resources section above, the project archaeological report accepted by the HLC includes a component for monitoring all earthwork by a City-qualified archaeologist (and consultation with a Chumash representative in the event that resources are encountered) to ensure no significant impact to tribal cultural resources would result from the project.

Historical Resources: Neither EIR identified a potentially significant impact to historical resources. Although the project road rights-of-way locations do not contain historic buildings, the conveyance main route is adjacent to several properties containing structures of merit. Two ARV enclosures are proposed to be located above-grade within the delineated El Pueblo Viejo District (Part I) along Sola Street, and therefore, are subject to review by the Historic Landmark Commission (HLC). The required review and approval by the HLC will ensure the above grade ARV enclosures are compatible with and would not adversely affect nearby historic resources.

Conclusion: The limited project activity to install new sections of sub-surface water mains and associated above-grade ARV enclosures in an existing utility corridor does not have the potential for long-term adverse effects on important historic resources, and the project installation process would not damage or represent substantial disturbance of the area or resources. Other project locations would not have an adverse effect on historic resources. No significant long-term or construction-related impacts to important historic resources would result from the project.

Flood Hazard (Hydrology and Water Quality): Most of the new water main segments would be located within FEMA Zone X for low flooding potential and would not be located within the mapped 100-year floodplain zones. However, the new conveyance main locations at the lower elevations of the City (i.e. between 525 E. Yanonali Street and Ortega Street) are within FEMA flood zones A, AE, or AH which may be subject to a 1% annual chance of flooding.

Conclusion: No significant impacts from potential flooding were identified in the previous EIRs, nor from the analysis of the proposed new conveyance main. Notwithstanding, the project work is subject to City Municipal Code floodplain ordinance provisions and standard Building Code provisions for grading and construction to avoid localized flooding effects. The project is limited to installation of new subsurface water mains and appurtenant ARV enclosures. Additionally, the operation of the facilities would not have the potential to cause or exacerbate flooding effects in the area during storms. The project work would largely be done outside of the rainy season, and pipeline flows would be managed during construction to avoid causing localized flooding per standard practice applied through the permit and contractor specifications. Therefore, no significant flooding impacts would result from the project.

CEQA FINDING

Based on the above analysis, and in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15164 the current project changes do not involve new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of impacts previously identified in the two certified EIRs. Additionally, there have been no substantial changes under which the project is undertaken and there is no new information of substantial importance that shows the project would have any significant effects not discussed in the previous EIRs or that significant effects previously examined would be more severe than identified in the previous EIRs. No new or revised mitigation measures are required. In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 and 15163, no Subsequent or Supplements to the Environmental Impact Reports are required for current project actions.

This Addendum identifies the current project changes and minor changes to project impacts and mitigation measures. Implementation of previous mitigation measures in conjunction with the prescribed MEA environmental measures would ensure the project remains mitigated to less than significant levels. This addendum together with the certified Environmental Impact Reports for the City of Santa Barbara's and Ionics, Incorporated's Temporary Emergency Desalination Project and the Long Term Water Supply Program constitute adequate environmental documentation in compliance with CEQA for the current project.

Prepared by: _____ **Date:** 4/21/2020
Robert Dostalek, Associate Planner

Reviewed by Allison DeBusk **Date: 4/21/2020**
Allison DeBusk, Senior Planner

Attachments (*as applicable*):
1. Site Plan of Proposed Conveyance Main Route

ATTACHMENT 1