

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



# Notice of Preparation Environmental Impact Report

## For the Coastal Water Project Proposed by California American Water Company California Public Utilities Commission as Lead Agency Application No. A.04-09-019

### 1. Introduction

California American Water Company (CAW) has filed an application (A.04-09-019) with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to build, own, and operate the Coastal Water Project (CWP). The CWP would include a desalination plant, an ocean water intake system, a brine discharge system, a product water conveyance system, and aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) facilities in Monterey County California. The CWP would enable compliance with State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Order 95-10 requiring CAW to secure a water supply to replace diversions from the Carmel River Aquifer above 3,376 acre feet per year (afy) to which CAW has legal water rights, and/or to obtain additional water rights from the Carmel River. The CWP would also enable compliance with a court decision that establishes a physical solution providing for the long term management of the Seaside Groundwater Basin (*California American Water v. City of Seaside* M66343; Monterey Co. Super. Ct. Jan. 12, 2006).

This Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements to notify agencies and interested parties that the CPUC, as the Lead Agency, will be preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the CWP. This NOP contains a description of the Proposed Project, its location, and a summary of the potential environmental impacts to be addressed in the EIR. It also includes the times and locations of public scoping meetings, and information on how to provide comments to the CPUC. This NOP can be viewed on the project website at the following link:

<http://www.CWP-EIR.com>

### 2. Project Background

CAW has served the Monterey Peninsula since 1966. Located in semi-arid central California, CAW's Monterey District service area is entirely dependent on local rainfall for its water supply and does not receive any imported water. The region is vulnerable to severe drought that in turn affects water supply. Currently, CAW procures water primarily from the Carmel River Aquifer

through wells located along the Carmel River. In addition, CAW procures water from wells located in the Seaside Groundwater Basin. CAW's existing water storage facilities include two small reservoirs on the Carmel River—the Los Padres Dam and Reservoir and the San Clemente Dam and Reservoir. CAW's Monterey District service area generally includes the Cities of Seaside, Sand City, Monterey, Del Rey Oaks, Pacific Grove, and Carmel-by-the-Sea. It also includes Monterey Airport District and areas of unincorporated Monterey County.

In 1995, the SWRCB adopted Order 95-10 which found that CAW was diverting approximately 10,730 afy more water from the Carmel River Aquifer than the amount to which it is legally entitled (3,376 afy). In 1995, 10,730 afy represented 69 percent of CAW's water supply for the entire Monterey District. The order required CAW to find a new source of water to replace diversions over and above 3,376 afy. In addition, CAW was ordered by the SWRCB to reduce pumping from the Carmel River by 20% from historic levels.

To comply with SWRCB Order 95-10, CAW originally proposed the New Carmel River Dam and Reservoir Project, which included a new 24,000 acre-foot reservoir one-half mile below the existing Los Padres Dam and Reservoir. This project was rejected due to considerable public and resource agency opposition. In 1998, the California Legislature approved Assembly Bill (AB) 1182 requiring the CPUC to develop "Plan B," a long-term water supply contingency plan to meet the water needs of Monterey Peninsula residents. The plan developed by the CPUC included two major components: seawater desalination, and ASR. The CPUC published Plan B in July 2002. In 2003, CAW adopted the Plan B concept and formally applied to the CPUC to undertake the project, which came to be known as the CWP. CAW's application has been bifurcated into phases. The first phase addresses the ratemaking aspect of this application and evidentiary hearings have already been held. The second phase addresses the CEQA requirements and the Commission has yet to set a schedule for this phase.

In addition to SWRCB Order 95-10, Plan B, and the Seaside Groundwater Basin adjudication, in 2001, CAW negotiated a Conservation Agreement with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (NOAA Fisheries) that included various changes in operation and a long-term goal to protect wildlife in the Carmel River by procuring an alternative water supply source that would enable reduced pumping from the Carmel River Aquifer. The CWP would enable CAW to comply with Order 95-10, the Seaside Groundwater Basin adjudication, and the Conservation Agreement.

### **3. Project Description**

The CWP is comprised of several distinct components including a desalination plant, an ocean water intake system, a brine discharge system, a product water conveyance system, and an ASR system. Figure 1 summarizes some of the alternatives under consideration for each of these components. The Proposed Project, described below, comprises a combination of some of these components. The EIR will evaluate the Proposed Project, alternative components and the No Project Alternative. The alternative components shown in Figure 1 are described in Section 4 of this NOP.

<u>PLANT LOCATION</u>	<u>INTAKE</u>	<u>DISCHARGE</u>	<u>CONVEYANCE</u>	<u>STORAGE</u>
MLPP	MLPP	MLPP Ocean Outfall	30" New Pipeline with Pump station and Terminal Reservoir	Aquifer Storage and Recovery
North Marina	Subsurface Ocean Wells	MRWPCA Ocean Outfall	36" New Pipeline with Pump station and Terminal Reservoir	Other?
Other?	Other?	Subsurface Injection	Wheeling thru MCWD with Pump station and Terminal Reservoir	
		Other?	Other?	

MLPP - Moss Landing Power Plant  
 MRWPCA - Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency  
 MCWD - Marina Coast Water District

Additional project components could be added or removed from the analysis based on input from stakeholders during the EIR preparation process. The intent of the EIR will be to evaluate each component at a sufficient level of detail to preserve the opportunity for any combination of the alternative components to be considered as the preferred project for approval by the CPUC.

## Project Objectives

According to CAW, the primary objectives of the CWP are to:

- Satisfy CAW's obligations to meet the requirements of SWRCB Order 95-10;
- Diversify and create a reliable, drought-proof water supply for CAW's customers;
- Protect the Seaside Basin for long-term reliability;
- Protect listed species in the riparian and aquatic habitat below San Clemente Dam;
- Protect the local economy from the effects of an uncertain water supply; and
- Minimize water rate increases by creating a diversified water supply portfolio.

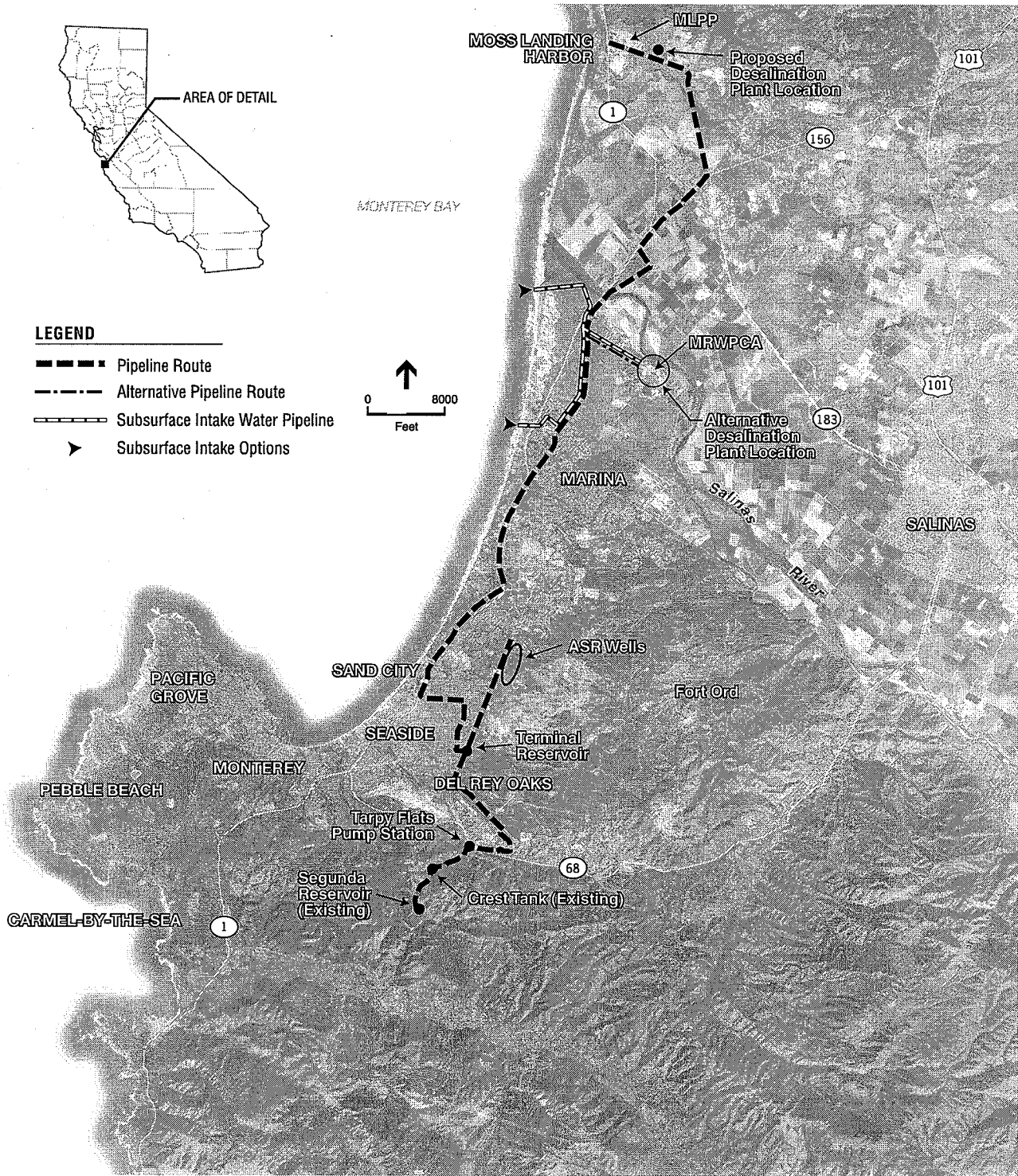
The objectives presented by CAW will guide the development of alternatives to the proposed project, but CEQA does not require that alternatives meet all objectives.

## Applicant's Proposed Project

The Proposed Project described in CAW's Application to the CPUC includes the construction and operation of a seawater desalination plant near the Moss Landing Power Plant (MLPP) located just inland of the Moss Landing Harbor in Monterey County. Figure 2 identifies the locations of each component of the Proposed Project and examples of alternative project components. The plant would produce 10,730 afy of desalinated water that would be distributed to customers within the CAW Monterey Peninsula service territory to comply with SWRCB 95-10 and an additional 1,000 afy to restore Seaside Groundwater Basin for a total production capacity of 11,730 afy.

The seawater desalination plant would utilize the existing MLPP seawater intake and discharge facilities. A new pipeline would convey source water from the MLPP to the desalination plant. Brine would be discharged through a new pipeline connecting the plant with the MLPP ocean discharge outfall. A product water conveyance pipeline would run south from the desalination plant for approximately 19 miles and connect to the existing CAW water distribution system on the Monterey Peninsula service territory.

The project area is located on a coastal plain and includes rural agricultural areas, urbanized areas, and the former Fort Ord military reservation. The pipeline would have a turnout to ASR facilities located in Seaside. Other project facilities such as storage tanks and pump stations would be located along the pipeline and near the ASR facilities. **Table 1** summarizes the key components of the Proposed Project.



SOURCE: RBF Consulting

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**Figure 2**  
Proposed Project and Alternative  
Project Components

**TABLE 1  
PROJECT FACILITIES SUMMARY**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Size and Characteristic</b>
<i>Desalination Plant:</i>		
Source Water Pipeline	7,000 LF	54-inch diameter
Return Flow Pipeline	8,000 LF	24-inch diameter
Equalization Basin	1	4.8 MG
Plant Inlet Pump Station	1	23.5 mgd, 200 HP (installed)
Pretreatment System	1	22 mgd, submerged media membrane filtration
Reverse Osmosis System	1	10 mgd, membrane
Post Treatment System	1	Lime and carbon dioxide
<i>Desalination Water Conveyance:</i>		
Clear Well	2	1.5 MG (each)
Desalinated Water Pump Station	1	7,000 gpm, 1,200 HP (installed)
Desalinated Water Pipeline	96,000 LF	30-inch diameter
Terminal Reservoir	2	3 MG (each)
Tarpy Flats Pump Station	1	10,200 gpm, 1,000 HP (installed)
<i>ASR Systems:</i>		
ASR Pipeline	10,000 LF	30-inch diameter
ASR Pump Station	1	4,400 gpm, 150 HP (installed)
ASR Wells	3	800-foot depth, 2.1-mgd injection/4.3-mgd extraction
Segunda Standby Pump	1	2,300 gpm, 200 HP
Segunda Pipeline	28,000 LF	30-inch and 36-inch diameter

LF = linear feet; MG = million gallons; mgd = million gallons per day; HP = horsepower; gpm = gallons per minute.

Source: CAW CWP PEA

As described below, the five main components of the CWP are as follows:

- Seawater Desalination Plant
- Intake Operation
- Discharge Operation
- Desalinated Water Conveyance System
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery

## **Seawater Desalination Plant**

The proposed desalination plant would be a reverse osmosis (RO) facility located in Moss Landing just east of the MLPP in an existing industrial area (Figure 2). RO uses semi-permeable membranes that produce freshwater from seawater. The desalination plant would produce up to

10 million gallons per day (mgd) of desalinated water. The desalination plant would include the following facilities:

- Source water pipeline for seawater
- Return flow pipeline for brine concentrate
- Equalization basin to store incoming source water
- Inlet pump station
- Pretreatment system
- RO system
- Post-treatment system
- Clearwell
- Desalinated water pump station

### **Intake and Discharge Operations**

The MLPP currently takes in seawater from Moss Landing Harbor in Monterey Bay. The source water for the desalination plant would be diverted from the existing raw seawater cooling system at the MLPP after it has been through the cooling process and before it is returned to the Bay. The Proposed Project would not require new water intake or discharge facilities or require any additional water to be taken out of the Bay. The desalination plant would produce approximately 11 to 12 mgd of concentrated brine, which would be re-combined into the MLPP cooling water outflow and discharged via the existing discharge pipeline that terminates approximately 600 feet offshore in the Monterey Bay.

### **Desalinated Water Conveyance System**

Desalinated water would be conveyed from the proposed desalination plant to the proposed Terminal Reservoir through a new 30-inch diameter pipeline. The conveyance pipeline would be located, to the greatest extent feasible, along existing rights-of-way for roads, streets, or railroads, and within existing developed or already disturbed areas. The pipeline would run from Moss Landing, through unincorporated Monterey County, and the Cities of Castroville, Marina, Seaside, Sand City, Del Rey Oaks, and Monterey (Figure 2). The pipeline route would be developed within public rights-of-way, railroad rights-of-way, or agricultural roads where possible. The pipeline would cross Moro Cojo Slough and the Salinas River north of Marina. South of Marina the pipeline would traverse portions of the former Fort Ord military base now under the jurisdiction of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA). South of Seaside the terrain becomes steeper, and the pipeline route would remain generally within existing rights-of-way but would also traverse some undeveloped areas.

The proposed Terminal Reservoir would be located in the City of Seaside, east of General Jim Moore Boulevard, and would receive water from the desalination plant throughout the year. The reservoir would have a capacity of six million gallons (6 MG), consisting of two 3-MG tanks. A pump station would also be located at the reservoir site with the capacity to pump 4,400 gallons per minute (gpm) to and from the ASR system.

Additional pump stations and pipelines would be constructed to connect Terminal Reservoir to the existing CAW distribution system and the new ASR system (described below). Under existing operations, water is pumped from the Carmel River Aquifer to the Segunda Reservoir and then to Crest Tank. From Crest Tank, water is conveyed to the existing CAW distribution system. For the Proposed Project, a new 30-inch diameter water transmission pipeline would be constructed between Segunda Reservoir and Crest Tank, and a new 36-inch water transmission pipeline (Segunda Pipeline) would be constructed between Crest Tank, Terminal Reservoir, and the ASR system. During the wet season, water would be conveyed from Crest Tank to the ASR system for aquifer storage. During the dry season, water recovered from the ASR system would be pumped to Terminal Reservoir. Terminal Reservoir would supply water (both desalinated seawater and recovered groundwater) to Crest Tank when supply from Carmel Valley is not sufficient to meet demand.

The proposed Tarry Flats Pump Station would be located along the proposed Segunda Pipeline and would pump water from Terminal Reservoir to Crest Tank during the dry season. Crest Tank is located at the highest elevation within the CAW system. Thus, during the wet season, water would be conveyed from Crest Tank to the ASR system by gravity flow.

### **Aquifer Storage and Recovery**

ASR is the storage of water in an aquifer during times when water is available and recovery of the stored water from the same aquifer when it is needed. The CWP ASR system would be located near Terminal Reservoir and near existing ASR facilities operated jointly by CAW and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD). The ASR system would consist of a new 30-inch ASR pipeline leading from other distribution pipelines to three injection/recovery wells. The minimum capacity of the ASR system would be 1,300 afy, with each well designed for injection capacity of 2.1 mgd and recovery capacity of 4.3 mgd.

## **4. Project Alternatives**

In compliance with CEQA an EIR must describe a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed project that could feasibly attain all or most of the basic project objectives and avoid or lessen any of the significant environmental impacts of the Proposed Project. Additionally, the No Project/No Action alternative must also be analyzed, which will describe the situation that would likely occur in the absence of the Proposed Project implementation.

In the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA), CAW evaluated a variety of project alternatives. The EIR will also evaluate alternative project components. The following sections describe some of the alternative project components to be evaluated. Additional project components and alternatives could be added from the analysis based on input from stakeholders during the EIR scoping and preparation process, and in response to environmental impacts that may be identified during preparation of the EIR.



## Seawater Desalination Plant Location

As an alternative to the MLPP site, a RO desalination plant could be located at or near the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) site north of the City of Marina (Figure 2). The North Marina alternative desalination plant would include similar facilities as the proposed desalination plant.

## Intake and Discharge Operations

New seawater intake facilities could be constructed to provide source water for the desalination plant. Seawater would be withdrawn from subsurface ocean wells located on the Marina State Beach roughly between Marina and the mouth of the Salinas River. Raw water would be pumped to the desalination plant for treatment.

The concentrated brine solution produced at the North Marina plant site would be disposed of in one of three ways: 1) use of the existing MRWPCA treated wastewater outfall terminating 2.5 miles offshore in Monterey Bay; 2) construction of brine injection wells at an existing gravel pit mining area west of the plant site; or 3) construction of a brine discharge pipeline to the MLPP for discharge to Monterey Bay via the existing MLPP outfall, similar to the Proposed Project.

## Desalinated Water Conveyance System

To provide for increased conveyance capacity, a new 36-inch diameter water transmission pipeline could be installed to convey desalinated water from either the proposed MLPP site or the North Marina plant site to the proposed Terminal Reservoir. The pipeline may follow the same route as the proposed 30-inch pipeline (Figure 2).

Alternatively, product water could be conveyed through the existing Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) distribution system. Under this conveyance alternative, product water could be conveyed to the north end of the MCWD distribution system and a new pipeline could connect at the southern end of the MCWD system with Terminal Reservoir and the ASR facilities. This wheeling arrangement could reduce the amount of new pipeline needed through the City of Marina.

The EIR will also provide a discussion on potential pipeline conveyance route alignment alternatives.

## Alternative Project Size

The EIR will compare potential effects associated with alternative sizes of the desalination facility. The EIR will summarize existing and planned water demand within the CAW service area and will compare the potential environmental effects of larger or smaller production sizes including plant footprint, brine dilution, pipeline size, and potential indirect effects associated with growth. The EIR will identify existing conservation practices and recycled water projects, and will identify other water supply projects proposed to meet water demand within the CAW service area.

In addition, the EIR will evaluate potential environmental effects of a project sized to accommodate a more regional water demand in areas outside of CAW's service area. The EIR will evaluate how a Regional Alternative of the CWP would compare to cumulative water supply projects proposed in the region.

## **5. Discussion of Impacts**

The EIR will evaluate direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the Proposed Project and project alternatives. The EIR will determine the significance of these impacts. If applicable, mitigation measures and a mitigation monitoring and reporting program will be developed to ensure implementation of mitigation measures.

The following are potential impacts associated with the Proposed Project, as identified by the PEA. The EIR may identify additional impacts.

### **Water Supply and Potable Water Quality**

- The use of MLPP cooling water as source water for desalination could potentially contaminate water supplies and result in water quality impacts.
- The Proposed Project's ASR water system could potentially result in potable water quality impacts.
- The Proposed Project's introduction of desalinated product water into the proposed and existing distribution facilities could potentially result in distribution system and water quality impacts related to system operation/hydraulics, corrosivity, chlorine residual and microbiological control, and disinfection by-products.

### **Land Use and Relevant Plans**

- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially divide an established community.
- The Proposed Project could potentially conflict with applicable land use plans and policies.
- The Proposed Project could potentially conflict with existing land uses.

### **Aesthetics, Light, and Glare**

- Construction activities associated with the Proposed Project's desalination facility, conveyance facilities, ASR facilities, pump stations, and reservoirs could temporarily alter scenic views within these areas.

- The Proposed Project could add some new visual features and potentially alter or block existing views, particularly in undeveloped areas.
- The MLPP desalination plant, Terminal Reservoir, ASR facilities, and Tarpy Flats pump station could create new sources of light and glare in the surrounding areas.

### **Cultural Resources**

- Project construction and operation activities could potentially disturb archaeological resources.
- Project construction and operation activities could potentially disturb historic resources.
- Project construction and operation activities could potentially disturb paleontological resources.
- Project construction and operation activities could potentially disturb human burial sites.

### **Air Quality**

- Short-term earthwork activities and construction of the Proposed Project within the project area could potentially result in temporary air quality impacts.
- Toxic air contaminants may be emitted during site preparation and Proposed Project construction.
- Operation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in long-term air quality impacts.
- The Proposed Project may conflict with the local Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) and result in cumulative impacts on the existing ambient air quality.

### **Marine Biological Resources**

- The brine discharge produced by the Proposed Project's desalination facility could adversely impact marine biological resources by changing salinities and/or temperatures in comparison to existing conditions.
- Chemical additives and byproducts of the proposed desalination process could potentially adversely impact marine biological resources in the vicinity of the MLPP Outfall No. 2.
- The Project's desalination facility could potentially result in nominal additional entrainment impacts beyond those that already occur at the MLPP.

## **Terrestrial Biological Resources**

- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant temporary and/or permanent impacts on sensitive upland habitats.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant temporary and/or permanent impacts on wetland habitats.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant temporary and/or permanent impacts on sensitive riparian habitat.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant impacts due to the removal of native trees.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant impacts due to direct mortality and/or disturbance of special-status plant populations.
- Construction of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant impacts on Smith's blue butterflies.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant impacts on special-status aquatic animals.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant construction impacts on special status aquatic animals.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant construction impacts on California tiger salamanders.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant construction impacts on special-status lizards.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant construction impacts on burrowing owls.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant construction impacts on other special-status birds.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant construction impacts on certain special-status mammals.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in significant construction impacts on western snowy plovers.

## **Geology, Soils and Seismicity**

- The Proposed Project could potentially result in substantial soil erosion from wind or water, or in the loss of topsoil related to wind and water erosion.
- The Proposed Project could affect local topography.

- The Proposed Project could potentially have impacts related to geology and soils.
- The Proposed Project could potentially result in seismic-related hazards.

### **Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

- Grading and construction could potentially result in temporary hazards and hazardous materials impacts.
- Operation of the Proposed Project could potentially result in impacts related to operational use, storage, and transport of hazards or hazardous materials.

### **Surface Hydrology and Water Quality**

- Construction and grading activities required for development of the Proposed Project could potentially result in adverse effects on groundwater or on storm water runoff volumes, water quality, or flooding and drainage.
- The Proposed Project would have minimal potential for long-term adverse impacts to groundwater or on storm water runoff volumes, water quality, or flooding and drainage as existing regulations of the County of Monterey and the Central Coast RWQCB are adequate to ensure that surface water quality is protected through the development of adequate storm water drainage facilities and the application of appropriate best management practices (BMPs).
- Operation of the proposed ASR component of the proposed Project as well as subsurface intakes could potentially result in water quality impacts.

### **Noise and Vibration**

- Short-term grading and construction within the project area could potentially result in temporary noise and/or vibration impacts on nearby noise sensitive receptors.
- Short-term grading and construction within the Proposed Project area could potentially result in temporary vibration impacts on nearby noise-sensitive receptors.
- Operation of the desalination site and proposed conveyance facilities could potentially increase existing noise levels, which could exceed noise level standards or result in nuisance impacts.

### **Population and Housing**

- The Proposed Project could be growth inducing and indirectly contribute to secondary effects of growth such as degraded air quality, traffic congestion, increased demand for services and utilities, degradation of biological resources, and degradation of local water quality.

## **Traffic and Transportation**

- Construction of the Proposed Project may result in temporary traffic increases and potential for level of service degradation during construction of the desalination plant.
- Construction of the Proposed Project may result in temporary increases in traffic and potential for level of service degradation during construction of pipelines.
- Construction of the Proposed Project may result in temporary increases in traffic and potential for level of service degradation during construction of Terminal Reservoir, ASR facilities, Tarpay Flats pump station, and upgrades of Segunda Reservoir.
- Operation of the Proposed Project may result in potential pedestrian and bicycle hazards from pathway and bikeway closures or disruption during construction of wells, pipelines, and desalination plant.
- Operation of the Proposed Project may result in temporary disruption of fixed-route transit service or delay of schedule of bus service during construction of wells, pipelines and desalination plant.
- Construction of the Proposed Project may result in potential impacts to traffic and circulation due to the transportation of materials and workers to and from the project site.
- Construction of the Proposed Project may result in temporary traffic increases and potential for level of service degradation during construction of the subsurface intake system.

## **Public Services and Utilities and Recreation**

- Operation of the Proposed Project could potentially impact the permitted capacity of the landfill serving the project.
- Implementation of the Proposed Project could conflict with regulations related to solid waste diversion.
- Project construction and operation could potentially impact fire protection facilities, response times to fires and medical emergencies, and/or the provision of other services.
- Project construction and operation could potentially impact police facilities, emergency response times, and/or the provision of other police services.
- School bus service may be temporarily impacted during construction and lane closures for pipeline installation.
- Access to libraries may be temporarily impacted during construction due to lane closures.
- Construction activities may impact sewer systems.

- The construction and operation of the proposed facilities may increase the demand for natural gas or impact existing facilities.
- The construction and operation of the proposed facilities may increase the demand for electricity or impact existing facilities.
- Construction activities may require relocation of telephone facilities.
- Project implementation may temporarily affect existing recreational opportunities.

## 6. Public Scoping Meetings

The CPUC will conduct four public scoping meetings in the project area. Details on the time and location of the four scoping meetings are included below. Addresses and directions are included on the following page.

1. Tuesday October 24, 2006, North Monterey County High School, Castroville. 7:00 PM
2. Wednesday October 25, 2006, Hyatt Monterey, Monterey. 1:30PM
3. Wednesday October 25, 2006, Hyatt Monterey, Monterey. 7:00 PM
4. Thursday October 26, 2006, Embassy Suites, Seaside. 1:30 PM

The purpose of the public meetings will be to describe the proposed project and to allow responsible agencies, interested agencies, and the general public the opportunity to comment on the scope, focus, and content of the EIR. These comments will be used to focus the environmental analysis in the EIR.

Comments on the scope and content of the EIR will be accepted for a period of 30 days from the date of the NOP as required by CEQA. Comments may be provided during the scoping meeting, mailed, faxed, or emailed to the CPUC during the 30-day comment period. Comments on the NOP may be mailed to the following address:

**Jensen Uchida  
RE: Coastal Water Project  
California Public Utilities Commission  
Energy Division, Room 4A  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Emailed comments may be sent to the following address: [JMU@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:JMU@cpuc.ca.gov). Faxed comments can be sent to the following number: (415)-703-2200. Please include your name and mailing address at the bottom of the comment for mailed, faxed, and emailed comments and note the "Coastal Water Project."

**Comments on the NOP must be received or postmarked by November 9, 2006 to be accepted.** No comments on the NOP will be accepted after the comment period is closed. Interested parties will have an additional opportunity to comment on the Coastal Water Project during the 45-day public review period to be held for the Draft EIR.

## Public Scoping Meetings to be Held for the Coastal Water Project

<b>MEETING #1</b>	
Date	Tuesday, October 24, 2006
Time	7:00 PM
Location	13990 Castroville Blvd., Castroville, CA North Monterey County High School, Castroville.
Directions	From the City of Monterey head north on Cabrillo Hwy (Hwy 1), take CA-156 east toward Castroville/San Jose, turn left on Castroville Blvd.

<b>MEETING #2</b>	
Date	Wednesday, October 25, 2006
Time	1:30 PM
Location	One Old Golf Course Road, Monterey, CA Hyatt Monterey, Monterey
Directions	From Seaside go south on Cabrillo Hwy (Hwy 1). Take Casa Verde Way exit. Turn left at Casa Verde Way. Turn right at Fairground Rd. Continue on Mark Thomas Dr. Turn left at Old Golf Course Rd.

<b>MEETING #3</b>	
Date	Wednesday, October 25, 2006
Time	7:00 PM
Location	One Old Golf Course Road, Monterey, CA Hyatt Monterey, Monterey
Directions	From Seaside go south on Cabrillo Hwy (Hwy 1). Take Casa Verde Way exit. Turn left at Casa Verde Way. Turn right at Fairground Rd. Continue on Mark Thomas Dr. Turn left at Old Golf Course Rd.

<b>MEETING #4</b>	
Date	Thursday, October 26, 2006
Time	1:30 PM
Location	1441 Canyon Del Rey Blvd., Seaside, CA Embassy Suites, Seaside
Directions	From the City of Monterey head north on Cabrillo Hwy (Hwy 1), take Del Monte Blvd exit. Head north on Del Monte Blvd to Canyon Del Rey Blvd.



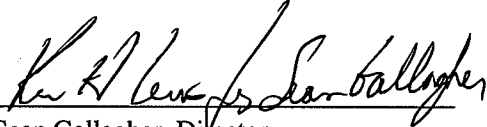
## 7. For Additional Information

Information about the Coastal Water Project CEQA compliance process is available at the following Web site [www.CWP-EIR.com](http://www.CWP-EIR.com). This Web site will be used to post all public documents related to the EIR, including notices of public hearings. No public comments will be accepted on this Web site. However, the Web site will provide a sign-up option for interested parties to be placed on the project mailing list and a printable comment form.

The CWP's Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) is available at [www.coastalwaterproject.com](http://www.coastalwaterproject.com). Information and documents related to the CPUC's Rate Case proceedings can be found at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/proceedings/A0409019.htm>.

For additional information, call the CWP-EIR Hotline at 1-800-956-3848.

**The California Public Utilities Commission hereby issues this Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report.**

  
Sean Gallagher, Director  
Energy Division  
California Public Utilities Commission

  
Date