



# JENSEN SOLIDS HANDLING FACILITY PROJECT

Final Environmental Impact Report  
SCH No. 2009111081

Metropolitan Water District  
of Southern California  
Report No. 1359

November 2010





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# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

## **MWD Jensen Solids Handling Facility Final EIR**

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	<u>Page</u>
<b>Revised Executive Summary</b>	ES-1
<b>Chapter 1:</b> Errata	1-1
1.1 Metropolitan Initiated Revisions	1-1
1.2 Revisions to Draft EIR in Response to Comments Received	1-9
<b>Chapter 2:</b> Response to Public Comments	2-1
<b>Appendix A:</b> Air Quality Data Sheets (URBEMIS)	
<b>Appendix B:</b> Public Comments Received on the DEIR	

# **REVISED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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## **ES.1 Introduction**

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) has prepared this Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) to provide the public, responsible and trustee agencies and Metropolitan decision-makers information about the potential adverse effects on the local and regional environment associated with construction and operation of the Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project (proposed project). This Final EIR has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

## **ES.2 Background**

The Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant (Jensen Plant) treats raw water delivered from Castaic Lake and if necessary, water from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) Los Angeles Aqueduct (LAA). Castaic Lake is supplied by the West Branch of the State Water Project (SWP) via Pyramid Lake, and the LAA is supplied by water from the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains and the Owens Valley in east-central California. The Jensen Plant provides drinking water to a large portion of Los Angeles County including the cities of Beverly Hills, Burbank, Los Angeles, San Fernando, and Santa Monica and portions of Orange County. The Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and the Calleguas Municipal Water District in Ventura County also receive treated water from the Jensen Plant.

Under a cooperative agreement between LADWP and Metropolitan initiated in April 2005, solids produced at the Jensen Plant currently are conveyed via a 6-inch pipeline to drying lagoons on LADWP's Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant (LAAFP) located adjacent to the Jensen Plant. The Metropolitan-LADWP agreement expires in 2014, at which time Metropolitan must have an alternative solids handling facility constructed. The LADWP lagoons are inadequate to meet Metropolitan's long term solids processing needs, providing approximately 15 percent of the total Jensen Plant treatment capacity of 750 million gallons per day (mgd). The proposed project would provide solids handling and drying facilities on the Jensen Plant site sufficient to accommodate the full 750 mgd treatment capacity.

## ES.3 Project Objectives

The objectives of implementing the proposed project are as follows:

- Provide permanent facilities at the Jensen Plant with sufficient capacity to accommodate dewatering of solids generated from the water treatment process under design plant flow conditions (750 mgd);
- Replace temporary off-site capacity at the LADWP lagoons that will be lost on the expiration of the Metropolitan-LADWP agreement in 2014; and
- Reduce the need to discharge water treatment solids to the sanitary sewer.

## ES.4 Project Description

The Jensen Plant is located at 13100 Balboa Boulevard in the community of Granada Hills in the City of Los Angeles, California. The Jensen Plant is bordered by Balboa Boulevard on the west, Interstate 5 (I-5) and San Fernando Road on the north, the LAAFP on the east, and single-family residential land uses on the south. The proposed project would be constructed entirely within the existing Jensen Plant site.

The proposed project would construct a new solids dewatering facility and new solids drying lagoons in the south-eastern portion of the Jensen Plant. This area is currently leased<sup>1</sup> to the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (LADRP) and is developed with ball fields used for local youth baseball and soccer. The site consists of five baseball diamonds with infield fences and small equipment buildings behind home plate and four soccer fields. The ball fields are maintained by the LADRP. The lease will expire by January 1, 2011, at which time the lessee is obligated to remove all structures and improvements; however, Metropolitan is currently in negotiation with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. Under the current schedule, the proposed project would not be constructed until after the proposed 18-month lease extension expires and the recreation improvements have been removed by the lessee. Construction activities do not include minor, pre-construction activities such as feasibility studies and investigations that may occur prior to removal of the ball field improvements. However, if the schedule changes for construction or for the lease expiration, Metropolitan will conduct any further CEQA analysis, as required at that time, to address new or different potential environmental impacts, if any. The proposed project would not be constructed until after the lease expires and the recreation improvements have been removed by the lessee. Even if Metropolitan is forced to remove LADRP's improvements, should LADRP fail to do so as required in the lease, the physical impacts of this removal would be less than significant. However, since the facilities were present at the time the NOP was issued, they and the lease are included in the baseline condition as required by CEQA Section 15125, and this EIR provides an assessment of the facilities, and concludes that the potential physical impacts of removal of these facilities would be less than significant.

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<sup>1</sup> Referred to in Metropolitan's records as Revenue Lease No. 2300.

## Solids Dewatering Facility

A new solids dewatering facility would be constructed on a portion of a 5-acre site within the portion of the Jensen Plant just south of the Administration Building. This new facility would include the belt press building, solids cake storage area, rainwater retention/percolation basins, decant/filtrate pump station, truck loading area, thickened solids equalization tanks, and miscellaneous roads, parking areas, and utilities. Currently, approximately 40 percent of this site is fenced off for storing salvaged equipment, and the remainder of the site is vacant and unpaved. The belt press building would house the following components:

- Four two-meter belt presses to dewater the thickened solids;
- A conveyor system to transfer dewatered solids cake from the belt press building to the solids cake storage area;
- Polymer storage and feed system to condition the thickened solids upstream of the belt presses for optimal dewatering;
- Electrical and control equipment to power and control electrical and mechanical equipment; and
- Operator work station to monitor and control the belt presses and associated equipment.

The belt press building would have a footprint of approximately 80 feet by 110 feet and a height of up to 30 feet. The exterior of the building would be constructed with a painted steel roof deck over steel beams with some brick work incorporated on the reinforced concrete walls to resemble other existing structures at the Jensen Plant. The roofing would include skylights and vents, and roof top equipment would be screened behind exterior parapet walls. Lighting would be limited, to the extent feasible, to wall-mounted lighting fixtures on exterior walls of buildings. Next to the belt press building would be the solids cake storage area and rainwater retention/percolation basins. Once the solids go through the dewatering process, they would be placed on conveyer belts and placed in the solids cake storage area for additional drying and temporary storage prior to being hauled-off for disposal.

The estimated size of solids cake storage area is 130 feet by 210 feet and its floor would be concreted. The truck loading area, an inclined screw conveyor, and two radial belt stackers would be within the solids cake storage area. The rainwater retention/percolation basins would occupy approximately 12,000 square feet east of the solids cake storage area. The rainwater retention basin would be a concrete basin and the rainwater percolation basin would have earthen floor and concrete berms. The decant/filtrate pump station would be located near the belt press building.

Two new 12,000-gallon thickened solids equalization tanks would be constructed near the belt press building. The tanks would provide suction head for the belt press feed pumps and serve as an operational buffer between these pumps and thickened solids pump stations next to the gravity thickeners so that the rate and quality of solids fed onto the belt presses are consistent.

## Lagoons

Five lagoons, approximately three to four acres each with a service road around each lagoon, would be constructed south of the solids dewatering facility site. Each lagoon size and shape

would be different to maximize existing Jensen Plant facilities and project boundary. The approximate average size of the lagoon would be 320 feet wide by 440 feet long and 8 feet deep. Each of the five lagoons would have an inlet system, concrete lined lagoon banks with a truck ramp, and an earthen bottom. The lagoons would include a decant system to collect clear water at the top of the lagoon and an underdrain system at the bottom to capture the water percolating through the lagoon floor. A new decant pump station and a supporting pipe system would also be constructed to convey water collected from the lagoons to the existing washwater reclamation plants (WWRPs) at the Jensen Plant.

The solids in the lagoons would be allowed to settle as they enter the lagoons and collection of clear water at the top of the lagoons and water percolating through the lagoon floor would continue. The collected water would be returned to the existing WWRPs by a new decant pump station and through a supporting pipe system. Once sufficient solids have been collected in a lagoon, the lagoon inlet valve would be closed to stop the flow of solids. The clear water decanting and underdrain water collection would continue until a few feet of solids are left at the lagoon floor and the air drying process would start. During this drying phase, a front-loader could be used to turn over the solids to decrease the drying time. The dewatered solids would be loaded onto trucks using a front-loader for off-site disposal.

Soft-bottomed (earthen) lagoons would require periodic maintenance to prevent growth of weeds and vegetation. Lagoons would be concrete-lined on the sides. Therefore, any vegetation would be removed when the air dried solids are loaded onto trucks for off-haul. Another time when vegetation control would be needed is when the lagoons are not used for extended periods of time and there is growth on the lagoon floor, which would have to be cleared away before putting the lagoon in service.

### **Existing Dry Polymer Building Modification**

In addition to constructing new solids dewatering facility and lagoons, the existing dry polymer building would need to be modified to supply the polymer required at the new belt press building and for the new lagoons. The descriptions of such modifications are listed below.

- Replace an existing 650-gallon polymer mixing tank with a new 1,500-gallon tank;
- Replace an existing polymer transfer pump, which pumps the mixed polymer from the mixing tank to the storage tank in the dry polymer building, with a new pump with higher pumping capacity; and
- Replace two existing polymer transfer pumps, which will pump the polymer solution from the dry polymer building to the belt press building, with two new pumps with higher pumping capacity.

### **Pipelines and Other Minor Facilities**

The following pipelines and other minor facilities would also be constructed in association with the proposed solids dewatering facility and lagoons:

- A pipeline (10 to 12 inches in diameter and approximately 4,000-foot long) to convey solids from the existing and new thickeners to the new solids dewatering facility and lagoons;
- A pipeline (12-inches in diameter and approximately 2,000-foot long) to convey filtrate from the belt presses and decant water as well as underdrainage flow from the lagoons to the WWRPs;
- A pipeline (8 inch in diameter and approximately 2,000-foot long) to convey lagoon decant and underdrainage flow from the lagoons to Decant/Filtrate Pump Station;
- New utilities (potable, fire protection and service water lines; sewer line; power, communications, security, and control systems ductbank; filtrate/decant/underdrain line, surface water drainage line);
- Miscellaneous new structures (underdrain lines for lagoons, surface water drainage lines);
- Relocation of existing utilities (sanitary sewer, storm drain, electrical conduit, and water lines); and
- Remove or properly abandon in place chlorine and sample lines and oil line.

## ES.5 Analysis of Alternatives

CEQA requires that an EIR evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed project that could attain the basic objectives of the project, but would avoid or reduce significant environmental effects of the project. This EIR evaluates a No Project alternative and the Lagoon and Sewer Alternative. These alternatives are discussed further in Chapter 6, Analysis of Alternatives. The EIR concludes Lagoons and Sewer Alternative is the environmentally superior alternative to the proposed project because it would result in fewer adverse environmental impacts and would avoid the significant and unavoidable air and noise impacts directly caused by the proposed project. However, this alternative would not meet all of the objectives.

## ES.6 Summary of Impacts

**Table ES-1**, at the end of this chapter, presents a summary of the impacts and mitigation measures identified for the proposed Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project. The complete impact statements and mitigation measures are presented in Chapter 3, Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures. The level of significance for each impact was determined using significance criteria (thresholds) developed for each category of impacts; these criteria are presented in the appropriate sections of Chapter 3. Significant impacts are those adverse environmental impacts that meet or exceed the significance thresholds; less than significant impacts would not exceed the thresholds. Table ES-1 indicates the measures that would be implemented to avoid, minimize, or otherwise reduce significant impacts to a less than significant level.

The EIR finds only two significant and unavoidable impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project: 1) construction activities would likely exceed daily thresholds of

significance for criteria air pollutants, and 2) noise thresholds would be exceeded during construction. All other potentially significant impacts identified would be reduced to less than significant levels with proposed mitigation measures.

## ES.7 Organization of this EIR

This EIR has been organized into the following chapters:

- ES Executive Summary.** This chapter summarizes the contents of the EIR.
- 1. Introduction.** This section discusses the CEQA process and the purpose of the EIR.
  - 2. Project Description.** This section provides an overview of the proposed project, describes the need for and objectives of the proposed project, and provides detail on the characteristics of the proposed project.
  - 3. Environmental Setting, Impacts and Mitigation Measures.** This chapter describes the environmental setting and identifies impacts of the proposed project for each of the following environmental resource areas: Aesthetics; Agricultural and Forest Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Geology, Soils and Mineral Resources; Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Land Use and Planning; Noise and Vibration; Population and Housing; Public Services and Utilities; Recreation; and Transportation and Traffic. Measures to mitigate the significant impacts of the proposed project are presented for each resource area.
  - 4. Cumulative Impacts.** This chapter describes the potential impacts of the proposed project when considered together with other related projects in the project area.
  - 5. Growth Inducement.** This chapter describes the potential for the proposed project to induce growth.
  - 6. Analysis of Alternatives.** This chapter presents an overview of the alternatives development process and describes the alternatives to the proposed project that were considered.
  - 7. Report Preparers.** This chapter identifies authors and consultants involved in preparing this EIR, including persons and organizations consulted.

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance after Mitigation
Aesthetics		
Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to Aesthetic. No mitigation measures are required.		
Agricultural Resources		
Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to Agricultural Resource. No mitigation measures are required.		
Air Quality		
<b>Impact 3.3-1:</b> Project construction would emit air pollutants that could violate air quality standards or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation during the short-term duration of construction.	<p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-1:</b> Water or a stabilizing agent shall be applied to exposed surfaces at least two times per day to prevent generation of dust plumes.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-2:</b> The construction contractor shall utilize at least one of the following measures at each vehicle egress from the project site to a paved public road:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install a pad consisting of washed gravel maintained in clean condition to a depth of at least six inches and extending at least 30 feet wide and at least 50 feet long;</li> <li>• Pave the surface extending at least 100 feet and at least 20 feet wide;</li> <li>• Utilize a wheel shaker/wheel spreading device consisting of raised dividers at least 24 feet long and 10 feet wide to remove bulk material from tires and vehicle undercarriages; or</li> </ul> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-3:</b> All haul trucks hauling soil, sand, and other loose materials shall be covered (e.g., with tarps or other enclosures that would reduce fugitive dust emissions).</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-4:</b> Heavy-duty equipment operations shall be suspended during first and second stage smog alerts.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-5:</b> Ground cover in disturbed areas shall be replaced as quickly as possible.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-6:</b> Traffic speeds on all unpaved roads shall be reduced to 15 miles per hour or less.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-7:</b> Streets shall be swept at the end of the day if visible soil is carried onto adjacent public paved roads.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-8:</b> Construction equipment powered by 150-horsepower diesel engines or greater (e.g., graders and scrapers) shall require minimum of Tier III diesel particulate filters.</p>	Significant and unavoidable

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance after Mitigation
	<p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-9:</b> All diesel-powered construction equipment shall require control equipment that meets at a minimum Tier III emissions requirements. In the event Tier III equipment is not available, diesel powered construction equipment in use shall require emissions control equipment with a minimum of Tier II diesel standards.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure AQ-10:</b> Contractors shall maintain equipment and vehicle engines in good condition and in proper tune per manufacturers' specifications.</p>	
Biological Resources		
<p><b>Impact 3.4-21:</b> The proposed project could conflict with local, state, or federal policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513.</p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure BIO-1:</b> Preconstruction Nest Survey. If project construction activities are undertaken between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist shall survey the project site no more than three days prior to commencement of disturbance and determine whether the proposed activities could disrupt the nesting of any <u>native listed migratory bird species under the MBTA</u>. Disruption of nesting could be caused by the physical removal of <u>an active nest</u>, increased human activity near <u>an active nest</u>, loud noises, etc. If project construction cannot be initiated during this time period, site grubbing and grading during this time period can minimize the potential for bird nesting during the remainder of the construction period.</p> <p>If an active nest is discovered, the monitor shall observe the birds' behaviors when construction activities commence to determine whether construction activity should be ceased by <u>Metropolitan</u> or altered by <u>Metropolitan</u> in the nest vicinity in order to avoid nest failure. <del>The monitor shall be authorized to cease construction activities until the situation can be evaluated and an alternative course of action identified, if necessary. If the monitor determines that any areas should need to be avoided, the limits of avoidance may be demarcated with flagging or fencing. Nesting birds that are observed within impact areas shall be avoided until all nestlings have fledged and nesting activities have been concluded.</del></p>	Less than significant
<p><b>Impact 3.4-2:</b> The proposed project could have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the CDFG or USFWS.</p>	Implement Mitigation Measure AQ 1 through AQ 7.	<u>Less than significant</u>
Cultural Resources		
<p><b>Impact 3.5-1:</b> Project construction could adversely affect known or unknown cultural resources, including unique archaeological resources and historic resources.</p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure CUL-1:</b> Monitoring by a qualified archaeologist during ground disturbing activities. A qualified archaeologist shall be retained to monitor during construction-related excavation activities within native alluvial materials. The duration and timing of monitoring shall be determined by the qualified archaeologist in consultation with Metropolitan and based on the grading plans. In the event that cultural</p>	Less than significant

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance after Mitigation
	<p>resources are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, <u>all work must be halted in the vicinity of the discovery until the qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the resources, and if necessary, have such resources recovered. the archaeological monitor shall redirect ground-disturbing activities away from the vicinity of the find so that the find can be evaluated and possibly recovered.</u></p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure CUL-2:</b> Avoidance of cultural resources. <del>If archaeological artifacts, sites, or features are observed.</del> <u>Prior to construction,</u> Metropolitan shall prepare or have a Cultural Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (CRMMP) and/or Treatment Plan (TP) prepared, per <i>State CEQA Guidelines</i> Sections 15064.5 and 15126.4, to outline the appropriate action needed to recover the cultural materials in a professional manner. The CRMMP/TP shall establish the criteria utilized to evaluate the historic significance (per CEQA <del>and NHPA</del>) of the unanticipated discoveries of unknown archaeological resources identified during construction activities, as well as identify the appropriate data recovery methods and procedures to mitigate the effect of the project upon those resources determined historically significant. If prehistoric or historic sites are encountered during construction-related earth-moving activities, the CRMMP/TP shall address the recovery, analysis, laboratory procedures, and final Report of Findings requirements that are necessary to meet the CEQA, and all state, city, and local regulations.</p>	
<p><b>Impact 3.5-2:</b> Implementation of the proposed project could adversely affect paleontological resources.</p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure CUL-3:</b> Monitoring by a qualified paleontologist during ground disturbing activities. A qualified paleontologist shall be retained to monitor during construction-related excavation activities in native deposits. The duration and timing of monitoring shall be determined by the paleontologist in consultation with Metropolitan and based on the construction-related excavation activities.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure CUL-4:</b> Accidental discovery of paleontological resources. If paleontological resources such as fossil remains or fossiliferous sediment are encountered during the course of construction and monitoring, ground-disturbing activities <u>shall be directed</u> away from the vicinity of the find so that <u>the paleontologist can evaluate the resources and recover them as appropriate.</u> The paleontologist shall collect the material and record stratigraphic cross sections as well as map/graph pertinent geologic units. Fossils must be cleaned, analyzed and catalogued in order to be accessioned for curation at <u>an appropriate repository.</u> A final report shall be prepared that discusses any findings of paleontological resources.</p>	<p>Less than significant</p>
<p><b>Impact 3.5-3:</b> Implementation of the proposed project could result in the disturbance of human remains.</p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure CUL-5:</b> Halt Work if Human Skeletal Remains are Identified During Construction. If human skeletal remains are encountered during the course of construction activities, Metropolitan shall immediately halt all construction activities and contact the Los</p>	<p>Less than significant</p>

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance after Mitigation
	<p>Angeles County coroner in order to evaluate the skeletal remains, as well as comply with the regulatory requirements of Section 15064.5 (e)(1) of the <i>State CEQA Guidelines</i>. If it is determined the skeletal remains are Native American, Metropolitan shall consult with the NAHC, pursuant to the Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 (c), and Public Resource Code 5097.98 (as amended by AB 2641). Public Resource Code 5097.8 provides that the landowner will ensure that the Native American remains, and the immediate vicinity, are protected from damage or further construction disturbances until consultation between Metropolitan and the Most Likely Descendant has transpired, resulting in a determination regarding the handling of the uncovered remains and any future unanticipated human remains discoveries in the immediate vicinity. <del>If human remains are unearthed, or a Native American site is located, a Native American monitor must be retained and on site for all future construction-related ground-disturbing activities in native soil within the top ten feet of native soil.</del></p>	
<p>Geology, Soils, and Mineral Resources</p>		
<p>Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to Geology, Soils, and Mineral Resources. No mitigation measures are required.</p>		
<p>Greenhouse Gases</p>		
<p>Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to Greenhouse Gases. No mitigation measures are required.</p>		
<p>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</p>		
<p><b>Impact 3.8-2:</b> Accidental upset of hazardous materials used during project construction may increase the risk of exposure to the environment, workers, and the public.</p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure HAZ-1:</b> Metropolitan shall require the construction contractor(s) to implement best management practices (BMPs) for handling hazardous materials during construction of the project. The use of the construction BMPs shall minimize negative effects on groundwater and soils, workers, and the public, and will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow manufacturers' recommendations and regulatory requirements for use, storage, and disposal of chemical products and hazardous materials used in construction.</li> <li>• During routine maintenance of construction equipment, properly contain and remove used grease and oils.</li> <li>• Properly dispose of discarded containers of fuels and other chemicals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mitigation Measure HAZ-2:</b> Metropolitan shall require the construction contractor(s) to implement safety measures in accordance with General Industry Safety Orders for Spill and Overflow Control (CCR Title 8, Sections 5163-5167) to protect the project area from contamination due to accidental release of hazardous materials. The safety measures</p>	<p>Less than significant</p>

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance after Mitigation
	<p>shall include, but not be limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous materials shall be stored in containers that are chemically inert to and appropriate for the type and quantity of the hazardous substance.</li> <li>• Containers shall not be stored where they are exposed to heat sufficient enough to rupture the containers or cause leakage.</li> <li>• Specific information shall be provided regarding safe procedures and other precautions before cleaning or subsequent use or disposal of hazardous materials containers.</li> </ul> <p>Disposal of all hazardous materials shall be in compliance with applicable California hazardous waste disposal laws. The construction contractor(s) shall contact the local fire agency and the Los Angeles City Fire Department, for any site-specific requirements regarding hazardous materials or hazardous waste containment or handling.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure HAZ-3:</b> In the event of an accidental release of hazardous materials during construction, containment and clean up shall occur in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure HAZ-4:</b> Oil and other solvents used during maintenance of construction equipment shall be recycled or disposed of in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements. All hazardous materials shall be transported, handled, and disposed of in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure HAZ-5:</b> Metropolitan shall require the construction contractor(s) to prepare and implement a Safety Program to ensure the health and safety of construction workers and the public during project construction. The Safety Program shall include an injury and illness prevention program, as site-specific safety plan, and information on the appropriate personal protective equipment to be used during construction.</p>	
Hydrology and Water Quality		
<p><b>Impact 3.9-1:</b> Construction and operation of the proposed project could result in violations of water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff, or otherwise substantially degrade water quality.</p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure HYDRO-1:</b> Metropolitan shall require its construction contractor(s) to prepare and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) in accordance with the California General Permit 2009-009-SWQ, that identifies specific actions and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent stormwater pollution during construction activities.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure HYDRO-2:</b> If groundwater dewatering is required for construction and the groundwater cannot be pumped to the WWRPs, Metropolitan’s construction contractor(s) shall obtain the required NPDES discharge permit from the Los Angeles RWQCB -</p>	<p>Less than significant</p>

Executive Summary

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance after Mitigation
	WDRs for Discharges of Groundwater from Construction and Project Dewatering to Surface Waters in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties (Board Order No. R4-2008-0032, General NPDES Permit No. CAG994004).	
<b>Impact 3.9-3:</b> The proposed project would alter the existing drainage pattern of the project site in a manner that could result in substantial erosion or siltation.	Implement Mitigation Measure HYDRO-1.	Less than significant
Land Use		
Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to Land Use. No mitigation measures are required.		
Noise and Vibration		
<b>Impact 3.11-1:</b> Project construction could expose persons to or generate noise levels in excess of standards.	<p><b>Mitigation Measure NOISE-1:</b> All construction equipment shall be equipped with mufflers and noise attenuation devices.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure NOISE-2:</b> The construction contractor shall locate noise-generating construction equipment and locate construction staging areas away from sensitive uses.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure NOISE-3:</b> All residential units located within 500 feet of the construction site shall be sent a notice regarding the construction schedule of the proposed project. A sign, legible at a distance of 50 feet, shall also be posted at the construction site. All notices and the signs shall indicate the dates and duration of construction activities, as well as provide a telephone number where residents can inquire about the construction process and register complaints.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure NOISE-4:</b> Noise control barriers eight feet tall or higher shall be used to line the perimeter of the concrete batch plant. The portion of the batch plant accessed by trucks shall be left open.</p> <p><b>Mitigation Measure NOISE-5:</b> Noise control barriers eight feet tall or higher shall surround drill rigs during drilling operations.</p>	Significant and unavoidable
Population and Housing		
Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to Population and Housing. No mitigation measures are required.		
Public Services and Utilities		
Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to Public Services and Utilities. No mitigation measures are required.		
Recreation		
Implementation of the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to Recreation. No mitigation measures are required.		

Environmental Impact	Mitigation Measures	Significance after Mitigation
<p>Transportation and Traffic</p> <p><b>Impact 3.15-1:</b> The proposed project would add daily trips during construction and operations to the local roadways that already experience poor levels of service.</p>	<p><b>Mitigation Measure TR-1:</b> Prior to construction, Metropolitan shall require the contractor(s) to prepare a Traffic Management Plan in accordance with professional engineering standards and the guidelines for safety and traffic provided in the Caltrans Construction Manual (revised 2008). The Traffic Management Plan would include, but not be limited to, the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop truck route plans to minimize impact to the significantly impact intersection of San Fernando Road/Sierra Highway during the p.m. peak hour, San Fernando Road/I-16-SR14 southbound off-ramp during a.m. and p.m. peak hours, San Fernando Road/Balboa Boulevard during p.m. peak hours, and I-5 southbound ramps/Roxford Street during p.m. peak hours.</li> <li>• Avoid construction-related traffic to occur during peak travel periods.</li> <li>• Implementation of staggered construction worker shifts to minimize project traffic during the peak hours.</li> </ul>	<p>Less than significant</p>
<p>Cumulative Effects</p> <p><b>Impact 4-1:</b> Construction of the proposed project in conjunction with other projects in the area could result in cumulative short-term impacts to air quality associated with construction activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement Mitigation Measures AQ-1 through AQ-10.</li> </ul>	<p>Significant and unavoidable</p>

# CHAPTER 1

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## Errata

This chapter contains the revised pages of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) has proposed minor changes to the proposed project since publication of the Draft EIR. Accordingly, the first section of this chapter contains revisions to the Draft EIR based on changes proposed by Metropolitan. The second section of this chapter presents revisions to the Draft EIR based on comments received during the formal comment period.

The following corrections and changes are made to the Draft EIR, and are incorporated herein as part of the Final EIR. Revised language or new language is underlined. Deleted language is indicated by ~~strikethrough~~ text.

Revisions in this chapter do not change any of the conclusions presented in the Draft EIR.

### 1.1 Metropolitan Initiated Revisions

- 1) *Section 3.13 Public Services, Impact 3.13-1 Parks and Recreation*, page 3.13-8 has an inadvertent typographical error. The significance statement concludes the proposed project would have a Significant and unavoidable impact to parks and recreation. As analyzed and concluded in Section 3.14 Recreation, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact to recreation. As a result, the Final EIR analysis has been revised to conclude Less than significant, as follows:

#### **Park and Recreation**

Currently, the proposed project site is used for recreational soccer and baseball through a lease agreement with LAD~~PRRP~~ (Revenue Lease No. 2300). However, the existing lease will expire January 1, 2011, at which time the lessee is obligated to remove all structures and improvements as required in the lease agreement. However, since the DEIR was published, Metropolitan has entered into negotiations with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. Once the lease expires, the proposed project site will become managed open area until construction of the proposed project commences. Installation of the proposed project would not impact recreation or park public services. ~~However, expiration of the lease, which is not a condition of the proposed project, would result in a significant impact to parks that are LAD~~PRRP~~'s responsibility to mitigate. The potential impacts are addressed here~~ This information is provided here because it is a change from the baseline conditions. However, ~~this ese changes are caused by~~ is a

result of the expiration of the lease rather than the proposed project. (See Section 3.14, Recreation)

Significance: ~~Significant and unavoidable~~ Less than significant

- 2) Since the circulation of the Draft EIR for public review, Metropolitan has entered into negotiations with the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks on extending the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. As a result, the text within the Draft EIR pages ES-2, 2-2, 3.13-8, 3.14-1, 3.14-6, 3.14-8, 6-4, 6-7, 6-8, and 6-12 has been revised to reflect this change. These text changes are provided below:

Page ES-2: The proposed project would construct a new solids dewatering facility and new solids drying lagoons in the south-eastern portion of the Jensen Plant. This area is currently leased to the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (LADRP) and is developed with ball fields used for local youth baseball and soccer. The site consists of five baseball diamonds with infield fences and small equipment buildings behind home plate and four soccer fields. The ball fields are maintained by the LADRP. The lease will expire by January 1, 2011, at which time the lessee is obligated to remove all structures and improvements; however, Metropolitan is currently in negotiation with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. Under the current schedule, the proposed project would not be constructed until after the proposed 18-month lease extension expires and the recreation improvements have been removed by the lessee. Construction activities do not include minor, pre-construction activities such as feasibility studies and investigations that may occur prior to removal of the ball field improvements. However, if the schedule changes for construction or for the lease expiration, Metropolitan will conduct any further CEQA analysis, as required at that time, to address new or different potential environmental impacts, if any. ~~The proposed project would not be constructed until after the lease expires and the recreation improvements have been removed by the lessee.~~ Even if Metropolitan is forced to remove LADRP's improvements, should LADRP fail to do so as required in the lease, the physical impacts of this removal would be less than significant. However, since the facilities were present at the time the NOP was issued, they and the lease are included in the baseline condition as required by CEQA Section 15125, and this Draft EIR provides an assessment of the facilities, and concludes that the potential physical impacts of removal of these facilities would be less than significant.

Page 2-2: The proposed project would construct a new solids dewatering facility and new solids drying lagoons in the south-eastern portion of the Jensen Plant. This area is currently leased to the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (LADRP) and is developed with ball fields used for local youth baseball and soccer. The site consists of five baseball diamonds with infield fences and small equipment buildings behind home plate, and four soccer

fields. The ball fields are maintained by the LADRP. The lease will expire by January 1, 2011, at which time the lessee is obligated to remove all structures and improvements; however, Metropolitan is currently in negotiation with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. Under the current schedule, the proposed project would not be constructed until after the proposed 18-month lease extension expires and the recreation improvements have been removed by the lessee. Construction activities do not include minor, pre-construction activities such as feasibility studies and investigations that may occur prior to removal of the ball field improvements. However, if the schedule changes for construction or for the lease expiration, Metropolitan will conduct any further CEQA analysis, as required at that time, to address new or different potential environmental impacts, if any. ~~The proposed project would not be constructed until after the lease expires and the recreation improvements have been removed by the lessee.~~ Even if Metropolitan is forced to remove LADRP's improvements, should LADRP fail to do so as required in the lease, the physical impacts of this removal would be less than significant. However, since the facilities were present at the time the NOP was issued, they and the lease are included in the baseline condition as required by CEQA Section 15125, and this Draft EIR provides an assessment of removing the facilities and concludes that the potential physical impacts of removal of these facilities would be less than significant.

Page 3.13-8: Currently, the proposed project site is used for recreational soccer and baseball through a lease agreement with ~~LADPRRP~~ (Revenue Lease No. 2300). However, the existing lease will expire January 1, 2011, at which time the lessee is obligated to remove all structures and improvements as required in the lease agreement; however, Metropolitan is currently in negotiation with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. Once the lease expires, the proposed project site will become managed open area until construction of the proposed project commences. Installation of the proposed project would not impact recreation or park public services. However, expiration of the lease, which is not a condition of the proposed project, would result in a significant impact to parks that are ~~LADPRRP's~~ responsibility to mitigate. The potential impacts are addressed here because it is a change from the baseline conditions. However, these changes are caused by the expiration of the lease rather than the proposed project. (See Chapter 3.14, Recreation)

Page 3.14-1: Subsequent agreements were drafted and the lease was extended several times, the last of which was Lease No. 2300 in 2004, which extended the lease until January 1, 2011; however, Metropolitan is currently in negotiation with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. Per the lease agreement, LADRP is required to remove all ball field related equipment and structures on or before the termination of the lease. If not

removed by LADRP, Metropolitan may remove any such personal property or improvements and LADRP would be liable to Metropolitan for the costs of such removal (See R.L. 2300, §§ 11 [Removal of Improvements], 17 [Termination]). As identified within the lease, the ball fields and related facilities were never intended to be permanent. The property subject to the lease was also never meant to be considered a public neighborhood or community park.

Page 3.14-6: It is also not reasonably foreseeable that any significant indirect effects would result from the proposed project on recreation as considered under CEQA. Currently, the proposed project site is developed with ball fields and related facilities including a snack shop, shortage shed, dug-outs, score boards, goal posts, and fencing (hereinafter referred to as “incidental facilities”), that are used by the local community. The existing ball fields and incidental facilities were constructed on the site as part of a lease agreement between LADRP and Metropolitan. As explained above, in accordance with the terms of the lease, the ball fields and incidental facilities must be removed on or before expiration of the Lease Agreement on January 1, 2011; however, Metropolitan is currently in negotiation with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. The temporary nature of the ball fields and incidental facilities was therefore determined when LADRP originally signed the lease agreement in 1991 and the 2004 extension. It is not unreasonable for Metropolitan to presume LADRP will comply with the lease terms and that the land would be restored and improvements removed as required therein.

Construction associated with the proposed project would not start until the second half of 2011 (after expiration of the lease and removal of the ball fields and incidental facilities); however, if the lease is extended by 18 months then construction of the lagoons would begin after the lease expires. Under the current schedule, the proposed project would not be constructed until after the proposed 18-month lease extension expires and the recreation improvements have been removed by the lessee. Construction activities do not include minor, pre-construction activities such as feasibility studies and investigations that may occur prior to removal of the ball field improvements. However, if the schedule changes for construction or for the lease expiration, Metropolitan will conduct any further CEQA analysis, as required at that time, to address new or different potential environmental impacts, if any. As such, relocation of the ball fields and incidental facilities would be required, if at all, from expiration of the lease and not as a result of the proposed project. Any obligation to mitigate the loss of the temporary recreational resources constructed under the lease is therefore the sole responsibility of LADRP.

Page 3.14-8: The only potential physical impacts Metropolitan may have to address would be the removal of any of the improvements LADRP placed on the property if it fails to remove them prior to January 1, 2011 as required in the lease or at the end of the 18 month lease extension if agreed upon. The impacts associated with the potential removal of these incidental facilities, as analyzed through this Draft EIR, are less than significant.

Page 6-4: Similar to the proposed project, under the No Project Alternative, the Metropolitan-LADWP agreement would expire in 2014 and Revenue Lease No. 2300 with LADRP would expire in 2011; however, Metropolitan is currently in negotiation with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. The ball fields and associated equipment would be removed and the proposed project area would become a managed open area within the Jensen Plant property.

Page 6-7: The No Project Alternative would not impact recreation. The expiration of the lease agreement with LADRP would result in the removal of ball fields and associated improvements from the site. The removal of the ball fields would occur upon the expiration of the lease ~~in January 2011~~ with or without the proposed project. Therefore, the No Project Alternative would have a similar impact to recreation to the proposed project.

Page 6-8: The construction duration would be decreased since the Lagoons and Sewer Alternative would not require the soil stabilization for the belt press building. Similar to the proposed project, under this alternative, the Metropolitan-LADWP agreement would expire in 2014 and Revenue Lease No. 2300 with LADRP would expire in 2011; however, Metropolitan is currently in negotiation with LADRP to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months.

Page 6-12: The Lagoons and Sewer Alternative would not impact recreation. However, expiration of the lease agreement with the LADRP would still occur and result in the removal of the ball fields and associated improvements from the site. The removal of the ball fields would occur upon the expiration of the lease ~~in January 2011~~ with or without the proposed project or Lagoons and Sewer Alternative. Therefore, the Lagoons and Sewer Alternative would have a similar impact to recreation.

- 3) The distance measurements for the sensitive receptors were originally taken from the Jensen Plant's property boundary rather than the actual proposed project site boundary. As a result, the text has been revised to reflect the distance from the proposed project boundary. This text change to page 3.3-9 is provided below:

Sensitive receptors within one-quarter mile (1,320 feet) of the project site include the following:

1. Errata

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- Single-family residences located approximately ~~340~~ 1,380 feet west of construction activity
  - Single-family residences located approximately 680 feet southwest of construction activity
  - Single-family residences located approximately ~~750~~ 830 feet south of construction activity
  - Bee Canyon Park located approximately 980 feet west of construction activity
  - Van Gogh Elementary School located approximately ~~1,245~~ 1,800 feet southwest of construction activity
- 4) Since the circulation of the Draft EIR for public review, Metropolitan has made minor text revisions to Mitigation Measures BIO-1, CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-4, CUL-5, and TR-1. The revisions do not change the effectiveness or purpose of the mitigation measures. The text within the Draft EIR pages ES-8, ES-9, ES-10, ES-12, 3.4-9, 3.4-10, 3.5-12, 3.5-13, 3.5-14, and 3.15-30 has been revised. This text changes to the mitigation measures are provided below:

**Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Preconstruction Nest Survey.** If project construction activities are undertaken between February 1 and August 31, a qualified biologist shall survey the project site no more than three days prior to commencement of disturbance and determine whether the proposed activities could disrupt the nesting of any ~~native~~listed migratory bird species under the MBTA. Disruption of nesting could be caused by the physical removal of ~~an~~ active nest, increased human activity near ~~an~~ active nest, loud noises, etc. If project construction cannot be initiated during this time period, site grubbing and grading during this time period can minimize the potential for bird nesting during the remainder of the construction period.

If an active nest is discovered, the monitor shall observe the birds' behaviors when construction activities commence to determine whether construction activity should be ceased by Metropolitan or altered by Metropolitan in the nest vicinity in order to avoid nest failure. ~~The monitor shall be authorized to cease construction activities until the situation can be evaluated and an alternative course of action identified, if necessary.~~ If the monitor determines that any areas ~~should~~need to be avoided, the limits of avoidance may be demarcated with flagging or fencing. Nesting birds that are observed within impact areas shall be avoided until all nestlings have fledged and nesting activities have been concluded.

**Mitigation Measure CUL-1: Monitoring by a qualified archaeologist during ground disturbing activities.** A qualified archaeologist shall be retained to monitor during construction-related excavation activities within native alluvial materials. The duration and timing of monitoring shall be determined by the qualified archaeologist in consultation with Metropolitan and based on the grading plans. In the event that cultural resources are

unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, all work must be halted in the vicinity of the discovery until the qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the resources, and if necessary, have such resources recovered. ~~the archaeological monitor shall redirect ground-disturbing activities away from the vicinity of the find so that the find can be evaluated and possibly recovered.~~

**Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Avoidance of cultural resources.** ~~If archaeological artifacts, sites, or features are observed,~~ Prior to construction, Metropolitan shall prepare or have a Cultural Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (CRMMP) and/or Treatment Plan (TP) prepared, per *State CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15064.5 and 15126.4, to outline the appropriate action needed to recover the cultural materials in a professional manner. [The CRMMP/TP shall establish the criteria utilized to evaluate the historic significance (per CEQA ~~and NHPA~~) of the unanticipated discoveries of unknown archaeological resources identified during construction activities, as well as identify the appropriate data recovery methods and procedures to mitigate the effect of the project upon those resources determined historically significant. If prehistoric or historic sites are encountered during construction-related earth-moving activities, the CRMMP/TP shall address the recovery, analysis, laboratory procedures, and final Report of Findings requirements that are necessary to meet the CEQA, and all state, city, and local regulations

**Mitigation Measure CUL-4: Accidental discovery of paleontological resources.** If paleontological resources such as fossil remains or fossiliferous sediment are encountered during the course of construction and monitoring, ground-disturbing activities shall be directed away from the vicinity of the find so that the paleontologist can evaluate the resources and recover them as appropriate. The paleontologist shall collect the material and record stratigraphic cross sections as well as map/graph pertinent geologic units. Fossils must be cleaned, analyzed and catalogued in order to be accessioned for curation at an appropriate repository. A final report shall be prepared that discusses any findings of paleontological resources.

**Mitigation Measure CUL-5: Halt Work if Human Skeletal Remains are Identified During Construction.** If human skeletal remains are encountered during the course of construction activities, Metropolitan shall immediately halt all construction activities and contact the Los Angeles County coroner in order to evaluate the skeletal remains, as well as comply with the regulatory requirements of Section 15064.5 (e)(1) of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. If it is determined the skeletal remains are Native American, Metropolitan shall consult with the NAHC, pursuant to the Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 (c), and Public Resource Code 5097.98 (as amended by AB 2641). Public Resource Code 5097.8 provides that the landowner will ensure that the Native American remains, and the immediate vicinity, are protected from damage or further construction disturbances until consultation between Metropolitan and the Most Likely Descendant has transpired, resulting in a determination regarding the handling of the uncovered remains and any future unanticipated human remains discoveries in the immediate vicinity. ~~If~~

## 1. Errata

~~human remains are unearthed, or a Native American site is located, a Native American monitor must be retained and on site for all future construction-related ground disturbing activities in native soil within the top ten feet of native soil.~~

**Mitigation Measure TR-1:** Prior to construction, Metropolitan shall require the contractor(s) to prepare a Traffic Management Plan in accordance with professional engineering standards and the guidelines for safety and traffic provided in the Caltrans Construction Manual (revised 2008). The Traffic Management Plan would include, but not be limited to, the following strategies:

- Develop truck route plans to minimize impact to the significantly impact intersection of San Fernando Road/Sierra Highway during the p.m. peak hour, San Fernando Road/ I-16-SR14 southbound off-ramp during a.m. and p.m. peak hours, San Fernando Road/Balboa Boulevard during p.m. peak hours, and I-5 southbound ramps/Roxford Street during p.m. peak hours.
- Avoid construction-related traffic to occur during peak travel periods.
- Implementation of staggered construction worker shifts to minimize project traffic during the peak hours.

- 5) *Executive Summary Table ES-1 Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures*, page ES-8 has been revised to include Biological Resource Impact 3.4-2, as follows:

<p><b><u>Impact 3.4-2:</u></b> <u>The proposed project could have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the CDFG or USFWS.</u></p>	<p><u>Implement</u> <u>Mitigation Measure</u> <u>AQ 1 through AQ 7.</u></p>	<p><u>Less than</u> <u>significant</u></p>
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- 6) *Chapter 4 Cumulative Impacts*, page 4-5 has an inadvertent typographical error. The Air Quality discussion includes a reference to Mitigation Measures AQ-1 through AQ-11. The proposed project does not include Mitigation Measure AQ-11. As a result, the Final EIR has been revised to remove Mitigation Measure AQ-11, as follows:

### ***Construction***

The geographic scope of cumulative air quality impacts is the South Coast Air Basin. Construction of the proposed project would generate significant and unavoidable short-term emissions of criteria pollutants from excavation activity and use of heavy-duty construction equipment. Concurrent construction of the project with other projects in the air basin would generate short-term emissions of criteria pollutants and toxic air contaminants, including suspended and inhalable particulate matter and equipment exhaust emissions. Other projects that would

contribute to cumulative impacts on air quality are shown in Table 4-1. Implementation of Mitigation Measures AQ-1 through AQ-10 would ensure implementation of the SCAQMD requirements to control fugitive dust at construction sites and other measures to limit construction dust and vehicle and equipment emissions. However, as discussed in Section 3.3, Air Quality, the project nevertheless would exceed regional and localized construction emission thresholds, resulting in significant and unavoidable air quality impacts. Because the proposed project construction would exceed significance thresholds established by SCAQMD for activities within the air basin for pollutants that are already in non-attainment of federal standards, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative air quality impacts would be cumulatively considerable.

## 1.2 Revisions to Draft EIR in Response to Comments Received

The changes below were made to the Draft EIR in response to comments received. These corrections and clarifications do not significantly alter the proposed project, change the Draft EIR's significance conclusions, or result in a conclusion that substantially more adverse environmental impacts will result from the proposed project. The errata to the Draft EIR below merely "clarifies or amplifies or makes insignificant modifications" in the Draft EIR, as permitted by *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15088.5(b).

Specifically, *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15088.5 requires the lead agency to recirculate an EIR only when significant new information is added to the EIR after public notice is given of the availability of the Draft EIR for public review. New information added to an EIR is not significant unless the EIR has changed in a way that deprives the public of a meaningful opportunity to comment upon a substantial adverse, environmental effect of the project or a feasible way to mitigate or avoid such an effect that the project's proponents have declined to implement (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15088.5).

In summary, significant new information consists of: (1) disclosure of a new significant impact; (2) disclosure of a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; (3) disclosure of a feasible project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from the others previously analyzed that would clearly lessen environmental impacts of the project, but the project proponent declines to adopt it; and/or (4) the Draft EIR was so fundamentally and basically inadequate and conclusory in nature that meaningful public review and comment were precluded (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15088.5). Recirculation is not required where the new information added to the EIR merely clarifies or amplifies or makes insignificant modifications to an adequate EIR (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15088.5).

The errata below present information that clarifies the scope of the proposed project and the analysis of the proposed project's impacts, but do not fundamentally alter the overall significance conclusions presented in the Draft EIR circulated for public review. Additionally, the errata present information and analysis in response to requests from commenters. This analysis, however, merely provides further details on the analysis already provided in the Draft EIR.

## 1. Errata

- 7) The text on page 2-7 has been revised to strike the word “**several**”. The Jensen Plant currently stores four railcars on-site as documented in Table 2-1. The Draft EIR Table 2-1 has been revised to show the railcars’ capacity is 17,340 gallons. This text change to page 2-7 and Table 2-1 is provided below:

The Jensen Plant currently uses and stores ~~several~~ different types of chemicals for day to day treatment operations. **Table 2-1** identifies the current chemicals, storage facilities and capacity of each chemical used on-site.

**TABLE 2-1  
JENSEN CHEMICAL AND STORAGE FACILITIES**

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Storage Facilities</b>
Aqueous Ammonia	3 tanks @ 25,000 gal
Caustic Soda (NaOH) Filter Effluent	4 tanks @ 120,000 gal
Chlorine	4 railcars @ <del>44,000</del> 17,340 gal
Ferric Chloride (Ferric) / Aluminum Sulfate (Alum)	4 tanks @ 60,000 gal
Fluorosilicic Acid	2 tanks @ 8,350 gal
Hydrogen Peroxide	2 tanks @ 2,000 gal
Liquid Oxygen (LOX)	3 tanks @ 44,300 gal
Polyacrylamide Polymer (Nonionic Dry Filter Aid)	5 tanks @ 1,930 gal
PolyDADMAC Polymer (coagulant aid)	4 tanks @ 2,800 gal
Sodium Hypochlorite	2 tanks @ 3,000 gal
Sulfuric Acid	80,000 gal and 25,000 gal

- 8) Table 3.3-12 has been revised to include the emission from operating a front loader for one hour per day. The URBEMIS model for the front loader operations can be found in Appendix A of this Final EIR. The following are the revisions to Table 3.3-12:

**TABLE 3.3-12  
ESTIMATED DAILY OPERATIONS EMISSIONS  
(pounds per day)**

<b>Project Data</b>	<b>VOC</b>	<b>NOx</b>	<b>CO</b>	<b>PM<sub>10</sub></b>	<b>PM<sub>2.5</sub></b>
Operational Emissions	<u>2.07</u>	<u>19.43</u>	<u>10.53</u>	<u>1.04</u>	<1
SCAQMD Thresholds of Significance	55	55	550	150	55
Significant (Yes or No)?	No	No	No	No	No

SOURCE: TAHA, 2010; ESA 2010.

- 9) Page 3.3-9 has been modified to add Bee Canyon Park to the list of sensitive receptors located within one-quarter mile of the project.

Sensitive receptors within one-quarter mile (1,320 feet) of the project site include the following:

- Single-family residences located approximately ~~340~~1,380 feet west of construction activity
  - Single-family residences located approximately 680 feet southwest of construction activity
  - Single-family residences located approximately ~~750~~ 830 feet south of construction activity
  - Bee Canyon Park located approximately 980 feet west of construction activity
  - Van Gogh Elementary School located approximately ~~1,245~~1,800 feet southwest of construction activity
- 10) The Draft EIR text on page 3.15-5 has been revised to include Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) 236 and 237 Bus Services. See below:
- There are no public transit service bus routes that serve the ~~immediate~~ proposed project site off of San Fernando Road, and surrounding area. However, LADOT 236 Bus Service uses Balboa Boulevard to service the Encino to Sylmar route, and the LADOT 237 Bus Service for Encino to Van Nuys is approximately two miles south of the proposed project. However ~~In addition~~, approximately three miles south of the proposed project site, the LADOT operates Commuter Express Route 574 which provides service to the Sylmar Metrolink Station.
- 11) The Draft EIR Figure 2-4 has been revised to include the words “Module 4” under Stockpile Area to clarify its location. See attached Figure 2-4.



SOURCE: MWH; Richard Brady & Associates, 2010.

Jensen Solids Handling Facility

**Figure 2-4**  
Conceptual Site Plan

## CHAPTER 2

# Response to Public Comments

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The responses to comments included in this section are numbered to correspond to the number of each comment as it appears in the margins of each comment letter.

Where the responses indicate additions or deletions to the text of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), additions are included as underlined text, deletions as ~~stricken text~~. The revisions do not substantially alter the conclusions in the Draft EIR.

Comment letter(s) were received from the following agencies and interested parties during the public review period for the Draft EIR:

1. Mr. Bill Bridges – August 7, 2010;
2. Mr. Jason Reid – July 22, 2010;
3. Knollwood Property Owners Association – August 19, 2010;
4. Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council – August 19, 2010; and
5. Native American Heritage Commission – July 19, 2010.

As noted above, individual comments are noted and numbered in the margin of each comment letter and the responses to the individual comments follow the letter.

### Mr. Bill Bridges

- 1) The proposed property is owned by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) for water treatment purposes. This location and various others within the Jensen Plant have been made available for recreational use through short-term leases with the City of Los Angeles (City) since 1976. The current lease will soon expire; however, since the Draft EIR was published, Metropolitan has entered into negotiations with the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (LADRP) to extend the lease for a maximum term of 18 months. The land that is currently used as ball fields is needed for the Jensen Plant to handle the solids produced during the water treatment process at the rated capacity of 750 million gallons per day (mgd). As identified in Sections 3.10 Land Use, 3.13 Public Services and Utilities, and 3.15 Recreation, the proposed project would not result in a significant impact in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) significance threshold criteria as identified in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Further, ensuring the provision of adequate public recreational

- resources within a particular community is the purview of LADRP, not Metropolitan, whose primary purpose is water treatment and conveyance.
- 2) Please see response to comment 1 above. The Draft EIR was prepared in accordance with the criteria used in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Under the *State CEQA Guidelines*, the criteria used to evaluate wetlands differs from the criteria used for other environmental issues. The Draft EIR analyzed and identified the potential impacts associated with construction of the proposed project and the issues associated with removal of the ball fields, as required by Appendix G. The proposed project site does not include any wetlands. The potential to impact wetlands is evaluated on page 3.4-7 of the Draft EIR.
  - 3) The proposed project site was purchased to support the water treatment process. As a result, the land that is currently used as ball fields is needed for the Jensen Plant to handle the solids produced during the water treatment process at the rated capacity of 750 mgd. As identified in Sections 3.10 Land Use, 3.13 Public Services and Utilities, and 3.15 Recreation, the proposed project would not result in a significant impact in accordance with the CEQA significance threshold criteria identified in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Furthermore, effects analyzed under CEQA must be related to a physical change in the environment. Economic and social effects are not considered environmental effects under CEQA (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15131).
  - 4) Several feasible alternatives were considered and analyzed pursuant to the *State CEQA Guidelines* in Chapter 6, Alternatives Analysis, of the Draft EIR. The alternative technologies that were rejected included a larger belt press building, centrifuge system, and a thermal drying system. The analysis can be found on pages 6-3 and 6-4 of the Draft EIR. Further, ensuring the provision of adequate public recreational resources within a particular community is the purview of LADRP, not Metropolitan, whose primary purpose is water treatment and conveyance. Please also see the criteria used in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines* to evaluate environmental impacts and the response to comment 3, above.
  - 5) Ensuring the provision of adequate public recreational resources within a particular community is the purview of the LADRP, not Metropolitan, whose primary purpose is water treatment and conveyance. In addition, please see the criteria used in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines* to evaluate environmental impacts.
  - 6) As described in Chapter 2.0, Project Description, Metropolitan is also in a lease with the City of Los Angeles Department Water and Power (LADWP) for use of the solids lagoons at the Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant (LAAFP). The lease will expire in 2014, at which time Metropolitan must have an alternative solids handling facility constructed or the Jensen Plant could potentially incur extraordinary costs for solids handling. Under this scenario, the Jensen Plant's ability to treat drinking water may be constrained. In addition, please see the criteria used in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines* to evaluate environmental impacts.

- 7) Metropolitan understands Commenter's concerns and appreciates the time spent on commenting on the Draft EIR. Certification of this EIR and approval of the Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project are to be considered by the Board of Directors at committee and board meetings on November 8, 2010 and November 9, 2010. Details regarding these meetings may be found at <http://www.mwdh2o.com/>.

### **Mr. Jason Reid**

- 8) The proposed project would not result in a substantial adverse impact on scenic vistas since the belt press building and solids cake storage area would result in no substantial change to the existing visual character of the Jensen Plant facilities, including landscaping, already surrounding the project area. The lagoons would be similar to the LAAFP drying lagoons already located southeast of the proposed project site.

As stated on page 3.3-21 of the Draft EIR, construction and operational impacts would result in less-than-significant impacts related to odors. Construction related activities would be temporary and would comply with applicable South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rules. Solids are removed during the water treatment process and are currently dried at the LAAFP lagoons, which are located approximately 1,800 feet to the east of the intersection of Woodley Avenue and Balboa Boulevard, and no objectionable odors are emitted. The drying of solids within the proposed lagoons and solids cake drying area would also not emit objectionable odors.

- 9) Please see response to comment 8, above. The proposed project would not result in a substantial adverse impact on scenic vistas since the belt press building and solids cake storage area would resemble the industrial character of the Jensen Plant facilities already surrounding the project area. Furthermore, effects analyzed under CEQA must be related to a physical change in the environment. Economic and social effects are not considered environmental effects under CEQA (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15131).

### **Knollwood Property Owners Association**

- 10) The proposed project would produce solids that would contain from 20 percent to 25 percent solids by weight with the remaining 75 percent to 80 percent being water when loaded into trucks for off-hauling. The moisture content would prevent the solids from becoming a wind-borne nuisance. Operationally, Metropolitan is required to comply with SCAQMD Rule 403 for control of fugitive dust so that no observable dust leaves the property. Furthermore, the proposed project would not produce or handle hazardous materials as part of the dewatering process. Metropolitan's most current solids sampling results from 2007-2008 (using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) procedures) are identified in the table below. All of the constituents are substantially (at least 1 to 2 orders of magnitude) below the total threshold limit concentrations.

**JENSEN PLANT SOLIDS ANALYSES<sup>a</sup> TOTAL THRESHOLD LIMIT CONCENTRATIONS (TTLIC)**

Constituents	Regulatory Limit (mg/kg) <sup>b</sup>	Range (Average) (mg/kg)
Antimony	500	1.1–1.3 (1.2)
Arsenic	500	14–27 (20)
Barium	10,000	23–36 (31)
Beryllium	75	Not detected
Cadmium	100	1.1–1.5 (1.3)
Chromium	500	3.1–7.2 (5.7)
Cobalt	8,000	1.3–2.2 (1.8)
Copper	2,500	49–81 (63)
Lead	1,000	Not detected
Mercury	20	Not detected
Molybdenum	3,500	Not detected
Nickel	2,000	2.6–5.8 (4.5)
Selenium	100	1.2–2.0 (1.6)
Silver	500	0.51–0.56 (.54)
Thallium	700	Not detected
Vanadium	2,400	7.1–14 (11)
Zinc	5,000	7.4–17 (14)
Total Iron	(not regulated)	3,500– 6,400 (5,000)

<sup>a</sup> Based on sampling conducted in 2007 and 2008

<sup>b</sup> milligrams/kilograms

SOURCE: Metropolitan, 2010

Section 3.3, page 3.3-12 Air Quality under Operational Impacts states that:

Operational emissions (i.e., mobile and area sources) were calculated using EMFAC2007 emission rates and assumptions found in URBEMIS2007 for haul truck and delivery truck trip distances. EMFAC2007 is the latest emission inventory model for motor vehicles operating on roads in California. This model reflects the CARB's current understanding of how vehicles travel and how much they pollute.

The air calculations included stationary and mobile sources and concluded that the proposed project would not result in a significant impact in accordance with CEQA significance threshold criteria as identified in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines*.

- 11) See response to comment 10, above. Please refer to Figure 2-3 Process Flow Diagram in the Draft EIR.
- 12) Turning of the solids in the lagoons for drying will be regulated by SCAQMD Rule 403. Furthermore, the solids would not fully dry out. The solids that are ready to be off-hauled to the landfill or nurseries would contain approximate 20 percent to 25 percent solids by weight and the remaining 75 percent to 80 percent would be water, which would prevent the solids from becoming a wind-borne nuisance.

- 13) Please see response to comment 7, above. Metropolitan will mail the responses to the Knollwood Property Owners Association comment letter prior to the Board of Directors hearing.

### Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

- 14) The circulation of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Draft EIR complied with *State CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15082 and 15085. The noticing for the Draft EIR was advertised in the local newspaper, and notices were posted at the ball fields and on Metropolitan's website. As requested, the Granada Hill North Neighborhood Council (GHNNC) will be included in all future notifications regarding the Jensen Plant.
- 15) The text has been revised to strike the word "**several.**" The Jensen Plant currently stores four railcars on-site as documented in Table 2-1. The Draft EIR has been revised to show the railcars' capacity is 17,340 gallons. Table 2-1 has been revised to reflect the new capacity number of 17,340 gallons. See below:

**TABLE 2-1  
JENSEN CHEMICAL AND STORAGE FACILITIES**

Chemical	Storage Facilities
Aqueous Ammonia	3 tanks @ 25,000 gal
Caustic Soda (NaOH) Filter Effluent	4 tanks @ 120,000 gal
Chlorine	4 railcars @ <del>44,000</del> <u>17,340</u> gal
Ferric Chloride (Ferric) / Aluminum Sulfate (Alum)	4 tanks @ 60,000 gal
Fluorosilicic Acid	2 tanks @ 8,350 gal
Hydrogen Peroxide	2 tanks @ 2,000 gal
Liquid Oxygen (LOX)	3 tanks @ 44,300 gal
Polyacrylamide Polymer (Nonionic Dry Filter Aid)	5 tanks @ 1,930 gal
PolyDADMAC Polymer (coagulant aid)	4 tanks @ 2,800 gal
Sodium Hypochlorite	2 tanks @ 3,000 gal
Sulfuric Acid	80,000 gal and 25,000 gal

- 16) Table 3.3-12 has been revised to include the emission from operating a front loader for one hour a day for a year. The print-out of the URBEMIS modeling for the front loader operations can be found in Appendix A of the Final EIR. Following are revisions to Table 3.3-12. The impacts from operations-related emissions remain at a less-than-significant level.

**TABLE 3.3-12  
ESTIMATED DAILY OPERATIONS EMISSIONS  
(pounds per day)**

Project Data	VOC	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Operational Emissions	<u>2.07</u>	<u>19.43</u>	<u>10.53</u>	<u>1.04</u>	<1
SCAQMD Thresholds of Significance	55	55	550	150	55
Significant (Yes or No)?	No	No	No	No	No

SOURCE: TAHA, 2010; ESA 2010.

- The lagoons would be used as a primary solids dewatering mechanism to process solids generated at the Jensen Plant. The lagoon system will be in constant operational use. When the lagoon system reaches its design capacity, the excess solids would be diverted to the belt press system for processing. The air-dried solids cake in the lagoons would be hauled-out directly from the lagoons. The belt-press dewatered solids cake would be conveyed via mechanical conveyer system to the dewatered solids cake storage area where it would be stored until it is hauled out.
- 17) Please see response to comment 16 above.
  - 18) In response to this comment, Figure 2-4 has been revised to include the words “Module 4” under Stockpile Area to clarify its location. Module No. 4 does not refer to lagoon 4.
  - 19) See response to comment 18 above. The “(2)” was intended as consecutive numbering for the two major components of the proposed project and not intended to indicate the number of lagoons to be constructed.
  - 20) All construction equipment for a specific construction phase would stay on-site for the duration of that construction phase. Construction access will be from San Fernando Road and any truck traffic generated by the existing Jensen Plant is prohibited on Balboa Boulevard. No construction vehicles or construction workers will be able to enter or exit the site through the gates on Balboa Boulevard. Meals for construction workers would not occur during A.M. or P.M. peak hours. Further, the southern end of the ball fields will not be used as construction workers parking area.
  - 21) The use of the cranes would be temporary and would not be a long-term feature of the project.
  - 22) If necessary, Metropolitan would obtain the applicable noise permit for construction from the City. Construction noise is evaluated on page 3.11-10 of the Draft EIR.
  - 23) Metropolitan will comply with all applicable permit requirements.
  - 24) Section 3.1 Aesthetics, identifies eight photo locations from public locations. Due to the topographical elevation variation and the existing vegetation, the proposed project site would not be publicly visible. The Jensen Plant is partially visible from these photo locations, but the proposed site would not be visible. The project would not include any structure taller than 30 feet.

Comments regarding the Ozone Retrofit Project are noted, but do not address the accuracy or adequacy of this EIR.

The Jensen Plant currently has a design capacity of 750 mgd. This EIR addresses the handling of solids at the 750 mgd design capacity. Metropolitan’s solids needs have

- evolved over time in relation to changing technology and drinking water treatment regulations. The Jensen Plant was originally designed to send all solids to the sanitary sewer; however, with new regulations for treating water and increasing costs and environmental effects of disposing solids via the sanitary sewer, Metropolitan has been required to find an alternative to discharging solids to the sewer.
- 25) Please see response to comment 21, above.
- 26) As identified in Section 3.1, Aesthetics, the proposed project would not be visible from any designated scenic vistas. Currently, the ball fields are within the boundaries of the Jensen Plant and are surrounded by industrial uses on the north, east, and west sides. As a result, the proposed project would be consistent with the visual character of the industrial uses in the surrounding area.
- 27) Appendices-Volume I, Appendix B of the Draft EIR is the Air Quality and Noise Impact Report conducted by Terry A. Hayes Associates (TAHA).
- 28) The Reseda Monitoring Station is the closest station operated, maintained and calibrated by SCAQMD. The data from the SCAQMD is the most accurate information to include in the Draft EIR. The operational and site specific requirements of the conditional use permit (CUP) for the landfill are not relevant to the Jensen Plant.
- 29) Please see response to comment 28, above.
- 30) In response to this comment, Bee Canyon Park has been added to the list of sensitive receptors within one-quarter mile of the project on Page 3.3-9.

Sensitive receptors within ~~one-quarter mile (1,320 feet)~~ 1,800 feet of the project site include the following:

- Single-family residences located approximately 1,3180 feet west of construction activity
  - Single-family residences located approximately 680 feet southwest of construction activity
  - Single-family residences located approximately ~~750~~ 830 feet south of construction activity
  - Bee Canyon Park located approximately 980 feet west of construction activity
  - Van Gogh Elementary School located approximately 1,245800 feet southwest of construction activity
- 31) The Draft EIR concluded in Section 3.3 Air Quality that the proposed construction activities would have a significant and unavoidable air quality impact. In turn, this finding would require Metropolitan to prepare a statement of overriding considerations for air quality impacts resulting from the construction phase. However, the operation of the proposed project would have a less-than-significant operational air quality impact.

- The Air Quality section of the Draft EIR analyzed the potential impacts of the proposed project in accordance with Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. The removal of the turf fields and trees would not have a substantial incremental adverse effect on air quality, which is analyzed on a regional basis.
- 32) Metropolitan is unaware of any complaints of dust storms that were allegedly produced by Metropolitan or its contractors in 2003-2004. Under Metropolitan's forthcoming construction specifications, the contractor will be obligated to comply with SCAQMD Rule 403 which requires the contractor to employ best available control measures specified within Rule 403. Control measures will include the application of water to control or prevent generation of dust.
- 33) As described in Section 3.3 Air Quality, the drying lagoons would not result in any objectionable odors (see page 3.3-21). See response to comment 16, above, for revisions to Table 3.3-12, which include the calculations for the front loader.
- 34) Please see response to comment 10, above.
- 35) Metropolitan has implemented test monitoring wells to sample the ground water within the proposed project site. There was no odor associated with the water and core samples extracted from the wells. There is no evidence that petroleum sites are located on-site and it is not anticipated that the implementation of the proposed project would not encounter or disturb petroleum deposits.
- 36) LAAFP lagoons are located approximately 1,800 feet east of the intersection of Woodley Avenue and Balboa Boulevard, and no objectionable odors are emitted from this site. The proposed project's lagoon #1 is located approximately 1,000 feet north of the intersection of Woodley Avenue and Balboa Boulevard. As described in Section 3.3 Air Quality, the drying lagoons would not result in any objectionable odors (see page 3.3-21). The Metropolitan lagoons would be operated similarly to the existing LADWP lagoons and there has not been an odor issue related to these lagoons. The taste and odor associated with the blue-green algae in the source water will be controlled at the Jensen Plant with the addition of ozone.
- 37) As described in Section 3.4 Biological Resources, Metropolitan has surveyed the ball fields for two consecutive years and has not visually observed any geese on-site. Page 3.4-9 of the Draft EIR states:

According to field surveys, it appears that the ball fields are visited occasionally by Canada geese since geese feathers were identified during several visits. However, no Canada geese were observed during the past two years of field surveys at the proposed project site. The surveys did indicate that geese have utilized the surrounding areas such as the LADWP lagoons and have been observed at all other control sites. The failure to observe geese on the ball fields may be attributable to more desirable foraging areas in the surrounding region. Due to the presence of

geese at all of the control sites, removal of the ball fields would not be considered a significant impact to these migratory birds.

- 38) Please see response to comment 37, above. Further, wildlife corridors are pathways or habitat linkages that connect discrete areas of natural open space otherwise separated or fragmented by topography, changes in vegetation, and other natural or human-induced factors, such as urbanization. The project site does not act as a wildlife corridor.
- 39) Metropolitan will be required to comply with SCAQMD Rule 403 should the situation arise during construction. Construction dust will be temporary and will not occur during operation. Please see Section 3.9 Hydrology and Water Quality for information regarding on-site drainage.
- 40) Please see Section 3.6 Geology and Soils, page 3.6-4, which states:

The potential of seismic shaking hazard at the site was realized when the area that occupies the current project site sustained considerable ground deformation due to ground shaking from the 1971 San Fernando earthquake and the 1994 Northridge earthquake. Significant ground deformation, as a result of the 1971 San Fernando earthquake, occurred at the southeastern portion of the plant (or approximately equivalent to the current project site limit).

- 41) Please see response to comment 10, above. The lagoon subdrain system is designed to capture the majority of the water. The small percentage of the water that may percolate into the groundwater table would not be hazardous as the constituents are substantially below the EPA thresholds.
- 42) The Draft EIR addresses project Greenhouse Gas (GHG) impacts in Section 3.7 Greenhouse Gas Emission and concluded the project would have a less-than-significant impact. Further, the Draft EIR addressed the cumulative impacts of the proposed project in Chapter 4.0 Cumulative Impacts. The Sunshine Canyon Landfill was included as one of the related projects (see Table 4-1).
- 43) The Jensen Plant has the capacity to store chemicals on-site to treat the Jensen Plant's rated capacity of 750 mgd. The addition of the Solids Handling Facility Project would not change the existing need for or require more chlorine to be stored. Metropolitan prepared an environmental document in 1988 that included expanding the Jensen Plant to treat up to approximately 750 mgd. Treating water and the use of chemicals associated with the treatment process at the rated capacity of 750 mgd is independent from the proposed project.
- 44) Metropolitan has clearly disclosed within this Draft EIR that there is liquid chlorine on-site (see Table 2-1). The proposed project would not increase the need for chlorine (see response to comment 43, above). Further, Metropolitan has an emergency response plan on file with the City of Los Angeles Fire Department.

- 45) As described in the Chapter 2.0 Project Description, the Draft EIR states:

Under a cooperative agreement between LADWP and Metropolitan, signed in April 2005, solids produced at the Jensen Plant currently are conveyed via a 6-inch pipeline to drying lagoons on LADWP's Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant (LAAFP) located adjacent to the Jensen Plant. The Metropolitan-LADWP agreement expires in 2014, at which time Metropolitan must have an alternative solids handling facility constructed. The LADWP lagoons are inadequate to meet Metropolitan's long term solids processing needs, providing approximately 15 percent of the total Jensen Plant treatment capacity of 750 mgd. The proposed project would provide solids handling and drying facilities on the Jensen Plant site sufficient to accommodate the full 750 mgd treatment capacity.

Furthermore, ensuring the provision of adequate types and numbers of public recreational resources within a particular community is the purview of the LADRP, not Metropolitan, whose primary purpose is water treatment and conveyance.

Metropolitan's solids needs have evolved over time in relation to changing technology and drinking water treatment regulations. The Jensen Plant was originally designed to send all solids to the sanitary sewer; however, with new regulations for treating water and increasing costs and environmental effects of disposing solids via the sanitary sewer, Metropolitan has been required to find an alternative to discharging solids to the sewer.

- 46) As described in Section 3.15 Transportation and Traffic, the proposed project will use San Fernando Road for all construction traffic and delivery trucks; therefore, intersections along Balboa Boulevard will not be impacted.
- 47) The text on page 3.15-14 of the Draft EIR has been revised to include Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) 236 and 237 Bus Service. This text change is provided below:

There are no public transit service bus routes that serve the ~~immediate~~ proposed project site off of San Fernando Road, and surrounding area. However, LADOT 236 Bus Service uses Balboa Boulevard to service the Encino to Sylmar route and the LADOT 237 Bus Service for Encino to Van Nuys is approximately two miles south of the proposed project. However ~~In addition~~, approximately three miles south of the proposed project site, the LADOT operates Commuter Express Route 574 which provides service to the Sylmar Metrolink Station.

The addition of the above Bus Services does not change the conclusions within Section 3.15 Transportation and Traffic.

- 48) The intersection of Foothill Boulevard/Balboa Boulevard was not analyzed since the proposed project would not create any measureable, if any, traffic impacts to this intersection. No project-related traffic (passenger-car and truck traffic) would utilize this intersection as access to northbound Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route 14 (SR 14) since

- they would have direct access to San Fernando Road, which provides two northbound travel lanes to an on-ramp to I-5 and SR 14 on Sierra Highway. Access to Foothill Boulevard/Balboa Boulevard from the service driveway on San Fernando Road would be more circuitous as project traffic would be subject to more signalized intersections, as well as lesser capacity from a single northbound travel lane on Foothill Boulevard. Furthermore, as stated in Chapter 2, Project Description and noted in the discussion of project trip distribution in the Section 3.15, Transportation of the Draft EIR, all truck-related traffic associated with the proposed project would be prohibited on Balboa Boulevard, and would be required to follow construction truck traffic routes on San Fernando Road to and from the freeway ramps at Sierra Highway and Roxford Street.
- 49) LADOT supplied the related projects list that the traffic engineer used for the traffic technical report. The Sunshine Canyon Landfill expansion (Cumulative Project 1) was an approved project provided by LADOT per their traffic study guidelines. Although commenter noted that the facility has an approved permitted capacity of 12,500 tons per day, per the LADOT, up to 5,500 tons per day is currently planned to be in operation at the time of the start of construction of the proposed project (2013). The analysis of the full 12,500 tons per day capacity of this related project for the project construction year of 2013 would overstate future baseline traffic impacts. In addition, the commenter stated that the landfill has been diverting long haul vehicles since 2009. This traffic has already been accounted for in the existing traffic volumes collected in the study area in March 2010.
- 50) It is standard engineering practice to analyze the typical peak hour conditions for projects that generate consistent weekday traffic because typical peak hour conditions are tied to morning (A.M.) and afternoon/evening (P.M.) peak commute hours in most urban and suburban areas. During a typical week, these conditions are usually represented on either a Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday. Traffic on Mondays and Fridays is usually not indicative of typical weekday traffic patterns since they are affected by weekend travel patterns. In general, commuter traffic is concentrated in the middle of the week (Wednesday) since there is no influence by weekend travel patterns. Fridays are generally skewed because of 9/80 work schedules and shortened work days where people will travel for the weekend earlier in the day to avoid Friday rush-hour traffic. Review of traffic volumes along San Fernando Road show a consistent average daily traffic (ADT) volume of approximately 25,700 ADT north of Balboa Boulevard. Although the commenter indicated that Mondays are trash pickup days for the Granada Hills area, trash trucks travel along San Fernando Road to access the landfill during all days of the work week. These trash pickup trips and the diverted long haul trips to the landfill have been accounted for in the March 2010 existing traffic volumes of the traffic analysis.
- 51) Metropolitan will respond in a timely fashion to any noise complaint and will comply with the noise ordinance.
- 52) Metropolitan understands that LADWP needs the capacity of their existing lagoons to meet future operations and that it was not a feasible option to construct additional lagoons

on-site to accommodate Metropolitan's solids drying needs. In addition, other locations on the Jensen Plant are reserved for future technologies to meet the ever-changing drinking water requirements.

The related projects list for the cumulative impact analysis was compiled in coordination with LADOT.

- 53) The Draft EIR was prepared and organized in accordance with the *State CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15120 to 15132 (Article 9. Contents of Environmental Impact Reports). For quick reference please see either the Executive Summary or the Table of Content for analysis of each resource area. All comments received by Metropolitan during the circulation of the Draft EIR for public review have been addressed with corresponding responses.
- 54) Section 3.9 Hydrology and Water Quality addresses the pre- and post-construction flows from the project site. The site runoff would continue to flow to the Bull Creek through the existing Jensen Plant's storm drain system.

### **Native American Heritage Commission**

- 55) All individuals and tribes included on the attached list were contacted via telephone and were mailed a package with detailed project information. In addition, a records search was conducted at the California Historical Resources Information System repository, at the South Central Coastal Information Center.
- 56) The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) was contacted and a list of interested parties was obtained. All parties indicated on the NAHC contact list received a package with detailed project information and a request for comments on the project, as described on page 3.5-4 of the Draft EIR.
- 57) In the event that archaeological and/or paleontological resources are encountered, Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-4 would reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level per CEQA requirements. Mitigation Measure CUL-5 requires all work be halted if human remains are found and requires compliance with Section 15064.5 (e)(1) of the *State CEQA Guidelines* in addition to consultation with the NAHC pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code 5097.98.

## **APPENDIX A**

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### **Air Quality Data Sheets (URBEMIS)**

Page: 1

9/7/2010 7:42:40 AM

Urbemis 2007 Version 9.2.4

Detail Report for Summer Construction Unmitigated Emissions (Pounds/Day)

File Name:

Project Name: frontloader 1 hr day a year

Project Location: South Coast AQMD

On-Road Vehicle Emissions Based on: Version : Emfac2007 V2.3 Nov 1 2006

Off-Road Vehicle Emissions Based on: OFFROAD2007

CONSTRUCTION EMISSION ESTIMATES (Summer Pounds Per Day, Unmitigated)

	<u>ROG</u>	<u>NOx</u>	<u>CO</u>	<u>SO2</u>	<u>PM10 Dust</u>	<u>PM10 Exhaust</u>	<u>PM10 Total</u>	<u>PM2.5 Dust</u>	<u>PM2.5 Exhaust</u>	<u>PM2.5 Total</u>	<u>CO2</u>
Time Slice 1/3/2011-12/30/2011 Active Days: 260	<u>0.07</u>	<u>0.43</u>	<u>0.53</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>0.04</u>	<u>72.02</u>
Fine Grading 01/01/2011- 12/31/2011	0.07	0.43	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.04	0.04	72.02
Fine Grading Dust	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fine Grading Off Road Diesel	0.07	0.42	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.03	0.03	40.93
Fine Grading On Road Diesel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fine Grading Worker Trips	0.01	0.01	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.09

Phase Assumptions

Phase: Fine Grading 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011 - Default Fine Site Grading/Excavation

Total Acres Disturbed: 0

Maximum Daily Acreage Disturbed: 0

Fugitive Dust Level of Detail: Default

20 lbs per acre-day

On Road Truck Travel (VMT): 0

Off-Road Equipment:

1 Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes (108 hp) operating at a 0.55 load factor for 1 hours per day

Page: 1

9/7/2010 7:42:24 AM

Urbemis 2007 Version 9.2.4

Summary Report for Summer Emissions (Pounds/Day)

File Name:

Project Name: frontloader 1 hr day a year

Project Location: South Coast AQMD

On-Road Vehicle Emissions Based on: Version : Emfac2007 V2.3 Nov 1 2006

Off-Road Vehicle Emissions Based on: OFFROAD2007

CONSTRUCTION EMISSION ESTIMATES

	<u>ROG</u>	<u>NOx</u>	<u>CO</u>	<u>SO2</u>	<u>PM10 Dust</u>	<u>PM10 Exhaust</u>	<u>PM10</u>	<u>PM2.5 Dust</u>	<u>PM2.5 Exhaust</u>	<u>PM2.5</u>	<u>CO2</u>
2011 TOTALS (lbs/day unmitigated)	0.07	0.43	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.04	0.04	72.02

## **APPENDIX B**

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# Public Comments Received on the DEIR

**From:** bill.bridges@att.net [mailto:bill.bridges@att.net]  
**Posted At:** Saturday, August 07, 2010 5:01 AM  
**Posted To:** DEIR  
**Conversation:** Jensen Plant EIR comments.  
**Subject:** Jensen Plant EIR comments.

Jensen Plant EIR comments.

To whom it may concern.

I read your draft environmental impact report regarding the Jensen Plant sludge lagoon project that is proposed for 13100 Balboa Avenue. I am deeply concerned about your finding of "no significant impact" to "land use", "public service and utilities," and "recreation" when the project is being placed on land the is currently and has for many decades been used by the surrounding community for youth sports and recreation.

1

Irrespective of the lease agreement, ownership, and property rights, MWD has caused this land to be used for recreation and public service for many decades. The surrounding community has grown around this sports complex and it has become a critical part of the social fabric of the community. This is no different than if a constructed wetland would become habitat to endangered specie. The level of impact of filling in that constructed wetland to the endangered specie would be significant and require mitigation. Well, the conversion of a traditional sports facility to sludge lagoons has the same level of impact on the surrounding community.

2

I have been a professional athlete and have first-hand experience of the power of organized sports activities on the nurturing, development, and direction of our youth. As our youth mature in our urban communities, many of the choices before them will not lead them to a bright future. Sports and recreation does. It has been proven time and time again that organized sports and recreation keep kids off the streets out of trouble and focused on a bright future. Taking away sports and recreation from a community is, in essence, taking away part of their future, can result in increased crime rates, and rip the fabric of a community.

3

There have been hundreds of thousands of kids who have played at the Balboa Sports complex over the years and moved on to bright positive futures. To take the sports complex without mitigating this loss is a crime. To claim that the impact is not significant because the "lease is expiring anyway" is a travesty of justice.

4

We all know that leases are negotiable, can be extended, and that projects can be timed around lease expirations. Irrespective of leasing arrangements, MWD wants to build lagoons for additional solids separation and handling. Instead of considering alternative technologies (sludge thickeners, centrifuges, subsurface settlers, etc.), they have elected to utilize open lagoons, which if land acquisition costs are not necessary, are less expensive than other technologies. Since MWD owns the park land and can simply quit the lease, land acquisition costs have not been considered when developing the project. However, to say that taking the park out of service is "not significant" because the "lease is expiring" does not take into account the historical dependence that the surrounding community has developed on the park.

↑  
4

Communities evolve, much like habitat, and cannot successfully adapt to rapid changes in their social environment. Therefore, at a minimum, taking the park out of service should be mitigated by the project proponent, particularly since the project proponent is electing to not extend the lease because of their desire to do the project using these less expensive lagoon technologies.

5

Please, do not simply walk away from this park and state that there is no significant impact that you do not need to mitigate. There are plenty of impacts associated with the loss of a central community feature like a park. Saying that there is no impact because the park was going away anyway is not fully disclosing the reasons for MWD electing not to extend the lease to the City. Please mitigate the impact or select an alternative that does not cause the impact.

6

Please, remember, that MWD is a government organization in a voluntary democracy and operates at the will of the people who elect their governing board - directly or indirectly. To take a park in order to use a less expensive sludge dewatering technology without a public hearing of the matter is a travesty of the ideals of democracy.

7

Sincerely,

**Bill Bridges**

Bill Bridges.  
310 392 3460

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**From:** Jason Reid [mailto:jasonreid2@hotmail.com]  
**Posted At:** Thursday, July 22, 2010 10:37 PM  
**Posted To:** DEIR  
**Conversation:** Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project  
**Subject:** Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project

Jason Reid  
 12810 Woodley Ave  
 Granada Hills, CA 91344

William Fong  
 The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
 P.O. box 54153  
 Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Dear Mr. Fong,

My wife and I have received the notification of the proposed Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project. We wish to voice our concern of the proposed site. After years of searching for a new home, we found our current home, which we purchased just a little over a year ago. My wife and I with our daughter have enjoyed strolls through the existing grass fields and enjoying the views of the surrounding landscape from our backyard. We truly believed we had found the proverbial diamond in the rough with our new home. Plus, we felt it was a sound financial investment. The new proposed project we feel puts all of this at risk.

The proposed project will eliminate many of the benefits that lead us to the purchase of our new home. The soccer fields, which my daughter affectionate calls her fields, will be eliminated. The view, while somewhat eclectic, had a unique blend of grass fields and concrete structures. With the elimination of the fields, we'll be left with just metallic cylinders. Despite the environmental report claiming there would be no objectionable odors, this is now a really concern for us. Due to the nature of the facility, there is an inherent risk that we could experience odors.

Furthermore, there is the practical matter of resale value of our home. A project of this type will impact the number of people willing to purchase our home and so will impact the future sale price of the home. The appraisal report at the time of purchase of our home had the home's view as one of the key assets in the home's value. This again would be affected by the proposed project.



In conclusion, we'd wish to voice our objection of the project and hope that it can be relocated to a more remote area that will not impact homeowners. ↑ 9

Please feel free to contact me either by cell or e-mail. My e-mail is jasonreid2@hotmail.com. My cell home is (310) 989-2744. I'd appreciate notification of any public hearing relating to this matter. Thank you for taking our concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason Reid

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**Knollwood Property Owners Association**  
*c/o Fidelity Management Services, Inc.*  
 9310 Topanga Canyon Blvd. Suite 220  
 Chatsworth, CA 91311  
 Tel: (818) 883-4442  
 Fax: (818) 883-6761

---

August 19, 2010

Mr. William Fong  
 The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
 P.O. Box 54153  
 Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

cc: [ept@mwdh2o.com](mailto:ept@mwdh2o.com)

Dear Sir:

This letter is in reference to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2009111081) dated July 2010 concerning the proposed Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project.

The Knollwood Property Owners Association (KPOA) consists of 251 single family residential homes that are adjacent to, and south of, the proposed project. Our Association boundaries are Woodley Avenue, Middlecoff Place, and the Knollwood Drive cul de sac on the northeast, Knollwood Drive on the south, and Balboa Boulevard on the west. The owners of an additional 240 homes that are located adjacent to the KPOA tracts are eligible to join KPOA voluntarily as Associate Members.

The Board of Directors of KPOA is concerned about the probable effect of wind-blown toxic emissions emanating from the proposed dewatering lagoons. This concern was not, but should be, addressed in the DEIR.

The DEIR, in Section 3.3.3, discusses the impacts and mitigation measures with respect to "Operational Emissions," but it confines its consideration solely to possible emissions from "stationary source air." This is inadequate, as there is virtually always a breeze or wind in this area, and it can come from any direction. To assume that there are no winds in this area, which is well-known for its windy conditions, is an error and it needs to be addressed in the EIR.

It is essential that the final EIR disclose the breakdown of the chemicals and other debris that comprise the solids removed from the water that is processed at the Jensen Water Treatment Plant. This breakdown should be by chemical and other substance, and by weight or volume per measure of water processed, or per cubic foot or yard of dried solids. This should be analyzed in conjunction with the prevailing wind velocity (typical, low, mean, and high) and wind direction at the site, together with an analysis of the potential for wind-blown particles of the dried solids to be picked up and carried through the air from the dewatering and drying processes.

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***Knollwood Property Owners Association***

August 19, 2010

Page 2

The present dewatering lagoons, which are located on LADWP property adjacent to the proposed Jensen facility, are a considerable distance away from the residential area of KPOA and its adjacent Associate Member area. The existing LADWP dewatering lagoons are subject to different wind patterns from the proposed Jensen lagoons due to the hilly terrain to the north and south of the Jensen Plant. Moreover, the proposed Jensen lagoons are much larger than the LADWP's lagoons that the Jensen lagoons will replace.

12

Therefore, there must be significant discussion in the EIR of measures that will be taken to mitigate any such wind-blown dried solid particles upon inception of operations.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of these comments, and please notify us of the MWD's decision with regard to the foregoing request for inclusion in the final EIR.

13

Very truly yours,  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS,  
KNOLLWOOD PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

By: Richard Bort, a Director of KPOA  
Tel: (818) 360-2648  
E-Mail: [Board@OurKnollwood.com](mailto:Board@OurKnollwood.com)

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



**GRANADA HILLS  
NORTH  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
COUNCIL**

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August 19, 2010

William Fong  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
P.O. Box 54153  
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Delivered via Email to [wfong@mwadh2o.com](mailto:wfong@mwadh2o.com) and US Mail

**Re: Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project – SCH # 2009111081: Draft Environmental Impact Report**

Dear Sir:

The Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council (GHNNC) was certified by the City of Los Angeles on September 10, 2002, and has had a duly elected and installed Board of Directors since March 31, 2003. The area it represents and services is bounded by the Los Angeles City/County line and I-5 (Golden State Freeway) to the north, the 405 (San Diego Freeway) to the east, the 118 (Ronald Reagan Freeway) to the south, and to Aliso Canyon in the west. It is composed of 3 districts. District 1 - Sunshine Canyon Landfill, District 2 - DWP/MWD, and District 3 – All Residential Areas to the south, and encompassing approximately 28,600 stakeholders for who we now speak.

The GHNNC Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee reviewed this project proposal and on July 26, 2010 at a duly noticed meeting, the GHNNC Board approved the recommendation from the PLUM Committee to submit comments regarding our concern that the following would impact our community and must be fully addressed/assessed in the environmental analysis of this project:

- The impact of cumulative air quality impacts
- Particulates
- Carcinogens
- Odor
- Safety of chemical storage
- Non-completion of the mitigation of the previous ozone treatment project
- Subsequent the loss of recreational facilities

Please see the attached Response to JHSF Project following this cover letter.

In closing, I would like to inform you of the great concern expressed by our Board and stakeholders that we did not receive notice of an NOP nor a copy of the subsequent DEIR. Instead we received word through a third party whose attention it had come to. This lack of notification is particularly worrisome because as we noted above, not only are we an approved City agency representing the area residents but your agency, the MWD, is our District 2 which was at one time represented by the current manager of the site, David Dean.

14

Please consider that by way of this letter that we wish to be included in all future notifications.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Respectfully,



Anne Ziliak, Vice President & Planning and Land Use Chair, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council  
For  
Kim Thompson  
President, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

Attachment

**GHNNC RESPONSE TO  
JENSEN SOLID HANDLING FACILITY PROJECT  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
SCH No. 2009111081  
Dated JULY 2010**

**2.4 Background**

Under Current Chemical List and Storage Facilities, Page 2 – 7, notes that *“The Jensen Plant currently uses and stores several different types of chemicals for day to day treatment..”* Given that Table 2.1 titled Jensen Chemical and Storage Facilities lists at least 11 different types of chemicals it hardly warrants a de minimus description of *“several”* and should be corrected. The dictionary defines *“several”* as an adjective meaning as *“being more than two but fewer than many in number or kind.”* Additionally this table notes that there are 4 railcars @ 14,000 gallons. The capacity of the railcars given during previous tours of this facility by the public was given as 90-ton tank cars of pressurize liquid chlorine. This equates to approximately 20,500 gallons/tank car for a total of 82,000 gallons. Please amend and/or explain the discrepancy.

15

**2.5 Description of Proposed Project**

Under Lagoons, Page 2-10 it states that *“During this drying phase, a front-loader could be used to turn the solids to decrease the drying time. The dewatered solids would be loaded onto trucks using a front-loader for off-site disposal”*. Why was this potential use of equipment to turn the solids not addressed in the generation of PM<sub>2.5</sub> or PM<sub>10</sub> during regular operations? Additionally, this statement appears to be at directly at odds with subsequent statements that seem to indicate that dewatered solids would be removed monthly and transferred to the Belt Press Building and from there to the Dewatered Solids Cake Storage Area, and not transferred directly off-site unless capacity was exceeded. Please amend and explain why there is a discrepancy?

16

In the last sentence of this section there is yet another potentially harmful impact that does not appear to have been addressed for the generation of PM<sub>2.5</sub> or PM<sub>10</sub> pollutants when it states that: *“Another time when vegetation control would be needed is when the lagoons are not used for extended periods of time and there is growth on the lagoon floor”*. Please explain why the proponent claims in other parts of this DEIR that these lagoons are needed to allow the design capacity of 750 mgd to be reached, that this project is needed now, and yet states that the lagoons might not be used for extended periods of time and how the potential impacts from particulate matter has been addressed?

17

**2.6 Construction Characteristics**

Under Option 1 – Complete Over-excavation and Recomposition, Page 2-12 which states that: *“The excavated soils will be stockpiled at future Module No. 4 site... .. (see Figure 2 ... 4)”*. Does the term *“Module”* refer to *“Lagoon #4?”* If so please amend and/or explain.

18

Under Option 2 – Deep Soil Mixing, Page 2-13. The same GHNNC comment as above under Option 1 in reference to *“Module #4”*. Please amend and/or explain..

19

Under Solids Dewatering Facility Construction Characteristics, Page 2-13 it states that: *"The proposed facility construction would involve construction for (1) solids dewatering facility and (2) lagoons"*. Why (2) lagoons and when is the balance of the (5) lagoons contemplated to be completed?

19

Under Construction Equipment, Page 2-14 it states that: *"The types and approximate number of construction equipment needed for the proposed project are listed in Tables 2-2 through 2 -9."* and *"Construction vehicles would access the proposed project site primarily via the service access road from San Fernando Road"* and *"The majority of the construction workers would park their vehicles at temporary lay-down areas located within the Jensen Plant immediately adjacent to the new solids dewatering facility sites. The remaining workers would use available parking spaces within the Jensen Plant."* Under Table 2 -2 Estimated Quantities of Construction Vehicles and Equipment for the Site Preparation – Top Soil Removal Stage through Table 2 – 9 Estimated Quantities of Construction Vehicles and Equipment for the Site Preparation – Lagoon Perimeter Road Construction on Page 2 – 17 state that worker vehicles range from 29, 45, 25, 13, 31, 16, 28, 8, & 15 and the balance of the Utility Trucks, Water Trucks, Scrapers, Tractors Mass Excavators, Haul Trucks, and Wet Hose Service are listed. How many will remain on-site and how many will exit/enter daily? Since the numbers presented are vehicle counts how many trip ends are contemplated? How are the potential offsite trips for meals by construction workers being accounted for? Additionally wording such as *"primarily"* and *"majority"* is vague as there seems to be nothing that might definitively exclude the use of *"the main entrance on Balboa Boulevard"* or the use of the entrance to the ball fields also located on Balboa Boulevard (see Project Area Setting Page 3.1-2) as a potential entry/exit point. Is the use of the parking area at the southern end of the facility in the parking area used by the ball fields contemplated as one of those areas and if so have the potential impacts such as noise and dust et cetera been addressed? Is the use of this main entrance on Balboa contemplated for any purpose and have the all potential impacts to the neighboring community been addressed?

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On Table 2-3, Estimated Quantities of Construction Vehicles and Equipment for the Site Preparation – Belt Press Building Soil Stabilization, Page 2-15 it states that 3 Cranes are required for 165 days. The last time that the MWD undertook construction for a prior expansion/upgrade of their system a number of large multi-storied cranes were left for months until complaints regarding the view were registered by the surrounding community. Why is there no mention of the potential for this visibility of these cranes and how they can be mitigated?

21

### **2.7 Construction Schedule**

Under this section on Page 2 -17 it states that: *"Normal work hours 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. are envisioned"* over a 28 month period with slightly shorter hours on Saturdays. Under Option 2 it would be *"7:00 a.m to 11:00 p.m."* for 11 months. The proposed hours for construction at night Under Option 2 are too long and present an unreasonable impact on the quality of life in the residential area surrounding the proposed project. While acknowledging that a noise permit would be required by the City Police Commission to work 16-hour workdays does the proponent recognized that this area of Granada Hills is in a Noise Abatement area, and if a hearing/meeting in which the permit is applied for, will it be a public hearing and would the public be notified? How far would that notification extend if it is given (i.e. 500-foot property boundaries)?

22

### 2.9 Potential Discretionary Approvals

Table 2 – 10 Discretionary Permits Potentially Required, Page 2-18 lists the agencies and the permits required that would use this Draft EIR information to support the agency permitting processes. If a hearing/meeting in which the respective permit or other discretionary approvals is applied for will it be the project proponent who is responsible for notifying the public or will it be the respective agency? Who in each case would be responsible for notifying the public and how far would that notification if given extend (i.e. 500-foot property boundaries)?

23

### 3.1.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Under Scenic Vistas, Impact 2.1-1: The Project could have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista, Page 3.1-10 the proponent starts of claiming that while under construction that: *“(e)xisting vegetation along the perimeter fence and elevation from Balboa Boulevard to the proposed site would screen view s from Balboa Boulevard...”* This claim is not true as only partial screening has been provided. Not only has the proponent failed to meet the conditions of a prior EIR approval for properly screening the MWD property from the neighborhood for their last Ozone Treatment Expansion but they have also failed to replace the screening vegetation that was destroyed along Balboa - one year and a half after the Sayre Fire in November 2008. When will the screening vegetation be restored and when will the past commitment to properly screen the residences from the previously constructed Ozone Treatment Expansion (circa 2003 -2004) be completed? In the third sentence of the page the proponent seeks to minimize the ongoing visual impacts by switching to after construction has been completed claiming that: *“the public has limited views of the area.”* Nothing could be further from the truth as all the residences are aware of the now massif industrial nature of an area that was once open fields and a resting place for Canada Geese, approved by a process which amounts to “Incremental Approval” of the entire project and a violation of CEQA. The MWD has not provided the public at any time with any document analyzing the contemplated future build out of its facilities while knowing for many years the future planned capacity of such a facility and the ancillary infrastructure necessary to support such plans. Under 6.1.4 Alternatives Considered But Rejected, Page 6-3 it states that: *“During the planning process, Metropolitan considered but rejected several alternatives. These include a lease extension with LADWP for continued use of the existing LADWP lagoons. This alternative would not meet any of the project objectives, and is infeasible since the LADWP lagoons do not have enough capacity to serve the Jensen Plant to accommodate dewatering of solids generated from the water treatment process under design plant flow conditions.”* It goes on to say that: *“An off-site dewatering lagoons option that would construct new lagoons at the LAAFP property was deemed infeasible because it would conflict with LADWP’s future facility plans.”* Further it goes on to say that: *“an alternate location for the belt press building was considered on the western portion of the Jensen plan”* and *“this building location was rejected because it conflicts with Metropolitan’s future planning objectives”*. It is obvious that MWD knows what is needed to complete the design capacity of 750 mgd but have failed to provide this information seeking incremental approval of the entire project instead. Where is the environmental documentation to support a facility of this size? What are their future expansion plans and why have they also not been included? Why is the proponent allowed to only consider the existing conditions when their past approvals have contributed to the cumulative effects of the now deteriorated visual conditions? On Table 2-3,

24

Estimated Quantities of Construction Vehicles and Equipment for the Site Preparation – Belt Press Building Soil Stabilization, Page 2-15 it states that 3 Cranes are required for 165 days. The last time that the MWD undertook construction for a prior expansion/upgrade of their system a number of large multi-storied cranes were left for months until complaints regarding the view were registered by the surrounding community. How and where are the impacts of the potential visibility been addressed?

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Under Visual Character, Impact 3.1-3: The proposed project could substantially degrade the existing visual character quality of the site and its surroundings. The proponent seems to be minimizing the nature of the project changes. While acknowledging that: *“the lagoons would be substantially different in appearance from the existing ball fields, the overall visual character for the general area would not be significantly degraded as seen from the surrounding views since these views are predominately industrial in character”*. The same comment as submitted above under Scenic Vistas, Impact 2.1-1: The Project could have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista, would be applicable here as well.

26

### 3.3 Air Quality

Under this section, Page 3.3-1 reviewer was unable to locate Jensen Solids Handling Facility Air Quality and Noise Impact Report referred to as prepared by Terry A. Hayes Associates (TAHA) which indicated had been included in DEIR as Appendix B. Appendix B was Laboratory Test Results Technical – GeoLogic Associates.

27

#### 3.3.1 Environmental Setting

Under Local Climate, Page 3.3-1 the data from the Reseda Wind Monitoring Station does not represent the local wind conditions. Data is available from a number of sources such as studies already conducted by BFI/Allied Waste/Republic Sunshine Canyon Landfill and their consultants and presented to the City of Los Angeles Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) as a condition of their CUP to monitor the Van Gogh Elementary School since 2006. Additional information has also been presented to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) in 2010 to satisfy an Abatement Order for Odors. Night drainage and inversion layers patterns have been identified and height increases at the landfill will potentially increase these conditions. Additional studies/tests/reports are also due to the SCAQMD this year. The location of the Reseda Monitoring Station is over 7 miles away and located to the south southwest (SSW) and does not represent nor typify the winds which blow out of the Newhall-Saugus Pass. The proposed facility is located at the mouth of this pass. Indeed the winds in this area are so bad that the trees in the area are permanently bent to the south east and which prompted a thesis at CSUN titled The Winds of the Newhall-Saugus Pass by Koutnik. Why was local data which is readily available not used or why were studies not commissioned when the MWD was aware that this data from Reseda was not representative of local conditions? Why were effects from the Sunshine Canyon Landfill not identified and taken into account when this landfill was sited with “Overriding Considerations” when the detrimental air quality impacts could not be mitigated?

28

### Existing Air Quality in the Project Vicinity

Under this section on Page 3.3-2 same comments as above. It should be noted that a County Health Study conducted by the County Department of Health Services in early 2000 indicated that there was increased upper respiratory distress in the area directly to the south of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill and directly west of the proposed project.

29

### 3.3.2 Regulatory Framework

Under Sensitive Receptors, Page 3.3-9 the section fails to note that Bee Canyon Park lies within one-quarter mile (1320 feet) of the project site.

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### 3.3.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Under Conflict with Air Quality Plan, Page 3.3-12 the proponent states that: *"The SCAQMD has designated two key indicators of consistency with air quality policies. The first criterion requires that the project not result in an increase in the frequency or severity of existing air quality violations, cause or contribute to new violations..."* and *"As described below in Impact 3.3-1, the proposed project would result in NOx, PM10, and PM2.5 emissions that would exceed the SCAQMD significant thresholds during the short-term duration of construction. Although the temporary emissions would contribute to air pollution in the Basin, the construction activities would not result in measurably more frequent or more severe air quality violations.* The proponent fails to address the fact that the Sunshine Canyon Landfill which is located directly to the northwest was approved with "Overriding Considerations" because the detrimental air quality impacts to the community adjacent to the proposed project could not be mitigated. Currently the landfill is under an Abatement Order for Odors from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and that the creation of any additional air quality problems will only exacerbate the fact that this community is being made to suffer a disproportionate share of cumulative emissions which are not being mitigated. Nowhere does the DEIR address or compensate for the loss of the cleaning affects on the quality of air that the 20 acres of grass and trees contribute to the existing air quality and which will ultimately result in an additional impact to air quality as a result of the project. Under 3.4.1 Environmental Setting, Vegetation, Page 3.4-1 it indicates that the site consists of turf grass, ornamental trees and shrubs, including pine (*Pinus sp.*), deodar cedar (*Cedrus deodara*), ash (*Fraximus sp.*) eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus sp.*), bottlebrush (*Callistemon sp.*), and bougainvillea (*Bougainvillea sp.*) along with numerous non-native weeds and grasses. Why is the loss of this resource not included in the ongoing air quality impacts for both construction and operation?

31

Under Mitigation Measures, Page 3.3-19 the proponent offers a number of measures including AQ-1 which states that: *"Water or a stabilizing agent shall be applied to exposed surfaces at least two times per day to prevent generation of dust plumes."* This mitigation is insufficient and without an onsite SCAQMD inspector will as has happened in the past not be adhered to. During the last expansion of the MWD's Ozone Treatment Facility (circa 2003 -2004) the proponent failed to comply with a similar mitigation which resulted in producing not just dust devils but dust storms. As previously stated in other sections the wind patterns and wind velocities in this area have not been adequately addressed and again the question is why is the proponent failing to provide the correct data and why are mitigations which will not produce the desired results being offered when they failed the last time?

32

### Operational Emissions

Under Regional Emission, Page 3.3-20 it states that: *“Relocating the lagoons on the project site would generate a maximum of 25 new daily haul trucks and chemical delivery truck trips during the operation of the Jensen Plant at full capacity”*. Why does the proponent not address what seems to be the fact that the lagoons are moving much closer to the residential areas and winds that impacted the DWP lagoons and carried any emissions or odors from the solids (sludge) to the uninhabited areas of the DWP’s property will now directly impact the residences to the south, southeast, west and northwest of the facility? The proponent had also stated under Lagoons, Page 2-10 that *“During this drying phase, a front-loader could be used to turn the solids to decrease the drying time. The dewatered solids would be loaded onto trucks using a front-loader for off-site disposal”*. Have these turning operations which may occur daily been included in Table 3.3-12?

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### Toxic Air Impacts

Under this section on Page 3.3-21 the proponent only considers vehicles as a source of toxics. Since this project is located in a high wind area and will involve air drying of solids (sludge) over 19 acres and since there has been no data offered as to what these solids (sludge) consists of (i.e. particulate size, heavy metals etc) this information should be included and a health risk assessment should be conducted. Such information is readily available. Studies like Delta Drinking Water Quality and Costs, Technical Appendix H, September 2008 from the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) by Chen, Haunschild & Lund available online at [http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/other/7081:HR\\_appendix11.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/other/7081:HR_appendix11.pdf) indicate that the constituents include electrical conductivity, bromide, chloride, total and dissolved organic carbon (TOC and DOC), nutrients (total nitrogen and phosphorous), and pesticides and herbicides. Table H.2 summarizes the main types of water quality concerns for each constituent. Why was an analysis of the sludge not provided, and why was the potential to generate toxics not considered? Apparently the MWD has not always been upfront when it comes to contamination (see excerpt below from San Jose Mercury News).

34

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Report: Metropolitan Water District kept mum about uranium levels

Posted by: Aqua Blog: May 16, 2008 at 6:52 am

From the San Jose Mercury News:

Southern California’s largest water agency moved forward with a groundwater extraction project without disclosing that the water is contaminated with uranium and other toxic chemicals, a newspaper reported Sunday.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California knew eight years ago about a “major stumbling block” with the proposed Hayfield Groundwater Storage Program but failed to inform key officials or the public, according to an Orange County Register investigation.

### Objectionable Odors

Under Construction, Page 3.3-21 the proponent claims that: *“(n)o construction activities or materials are proposed that could create a significant level of objectionable odors.”* However, they fail to support that claim with any data or a discussion of conditions in the surrounding area. Given that the groundwater table is only 41 to 57-feet down and that extensive excavation is proposed that there may be a potential from stagnated or contaminated groundwater. Under Original Site Grading, Page 3.6-3 it notes that: *“The original geotechnical recommendation*

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*specified excavations to remove all existing alluvial soils...*” and *“During excavation, significant inflow of subsurface water was encountered.”* Additionally the area is located in proximity to the sole of the Santa Susana Fault, and the Sierra Madre (San Fernando) Fault. There are numerous oil wells also located just to the south of the Santa Susana Fault - even nearer to the project itself providing yet another potential source from disturbed petroleum deposits, methane et cetera. The SCAQMD has had numerous reports of odors in the area with a sulfurous odor which may emanate from oil deposits. Why were these potential causes of odors not addressed?

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Under Operation, Page 3.3-21 the proponent claims that: *“The drying of solids in the proposed lagoons and cake storage area would not emit adverse odors.”* This project will be located in a high wind area and will involve the air drying of solids (sludge) over 19 acres. There has been no data provide, studies or reliable testimony offered to order to support these claims as to what the sludge may or may not produce throughout the entire treatment processing cycle. Indeed the proponent seems to rely on the fact that the DWP lagoons which were located in a more remote area had not produced odor complaints. Some years ago the persistent growth of blue-green algae that produced a compound called geosmin and resulted in drinking water that was safe to drink, but unpleasant to taste and **smell** (emphasis added) showing that there is a potential for generating odors on site. Why was an independent study of the potential of the entire treatment process to generate odors not conducted or provided?

36

Under Wildlife, Page 3.4-3, paragraph 4 the proponent indicates that: *“ESA conducted a series of focused geese surveys (ESA, 2010) of the proposed project site during the fall/winter and did not observe any geese, although on two occasions, the surveys documented signs of geese (feathers) on the ball fields”* and *“The surveys indicate that geese may occasionally visit the ball fields since feathers have been observed; however, they are much more likely to visit the control sites.”* The fact remains that Canada Geese (a migratory bird) do use the fields even though their numbers have been greatly reduced by the last expansion of the MWD’s Ozone Treatment Facility (circa 2003 -2004) and which also reduced the area by over 20+ acres. This along with the latest proposed project which consists of yet another 20 acres are creating cumulative impacts to the wildlife that have gone unaddressed, unmitigated, and were approved by a process which amounts to “incremental approval” of the entire project and a violation of CEQA. Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines states that a proposed project would result in a significant impact if it would: *“Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.”*

37

### **3.4.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures**

Under Interfere with Movements of Wildlife, Page 3.4-8 the proponent claims that: *“Given the disturbed nature of the proposed project site and the ongoing activity associated with the operation of the Jensen Plant”...* and *“...the proposed project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with native resident or migratory wildlife corridors...”*. See comments on Wildlife, Page 3.4-3, paragraph 4 above.

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Under Riparian Habitat or Sensitive Natural Community, Page 3.4-10 it states that: *“Vegetation in the project vicinity, including riparian vegetation along Bull Creek, could be affected by dust*

39

*generated by construction vehicles during proposed project construction. However, as discussed in Section 3.3 Air Quality, dust impacts would be temporary and would not be considered potentially significant with implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1 through AQ-7.”* The dust during construction cannot be considered temporary when construction will last a least one year and the comments regarding reliance on at least AQ-1 given they past poor performance in adhering to this measure (see previous comments under Mitigation Measures, Page 3.3-19). Additionally, there is no information or data regarding the drainage of this proposed site to Bull Creek and what contribution if any it has to supporting the flora and fauna in and around the creek.

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### 3.6.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Under Exposure to Seismic-Related Hazards, Liquefaction, Page 3.6-11 it states that: *“The proposed project site has experienced liquefaction-induced ground deformation in the past, during the 1994 Northridge earthquake.”* The project proponent gives the impression that this is the only earthquake to produce ground deformation to the project site and fails to mention that the San Fernando earthquake in 1971 also did extensive damage. Why wasn't the information on the 1971 San Fernando earthquake included? (See EQE Summary Report below with underline added for emphasis).

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EQE Summary Report, March 1994  
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EQE reported that: “Water service to the San Fernando Valley is provided by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) via two water treatment plants. MWD's Joseph Jensen Filtration Plant and DWP's Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant are near the junction of Interstates 5 and 210 (about 11 km northeast of the epicenter). As in the 1971 San Fernando Earthquake, this area was subjected to very strong ground motions and had extensive soil liquefaction. The soil liquefaction and settlement in this earthquake led to moderate damage to the Los Angeles aqueduct, treatment plant structures and basins, and underground piping. Although both treatment plants were knocked out of service temporarily, storage reservoirs and other treatment plants outside the immediate area that remained on-line supplied water to most of the valley.” and “At the 400 million gallon per day (mgd) Jensen filtration plant, liquefaction-related soil settlement and lateral spreading, evident around the main control building and adjacent parking area, were again the primary cause of damage and plant shutdown. Settlements of up to 15 cm and lateral movements of more than 8 cm occurred. This soil failure damaged buried incoming electrical conduits; a 210-cm, welded steel, intake water supply line; and a 15-cm, PVC chlorine solution line. Other treatment structures and equipment had minor damage, except for the control building, which had extensive interior damage and moderate structural damage. Because of power loss to the plant and damage to the intake line, the treatment plant was taken off-line for 36 hours while repairs were made. Flow, however, continued out of the 50-million-gallon clearwell for 48 hours. This plant was back in full operation within a week after the earthquake.”

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In paragraph 3, Page 3.6-11 it states that: “The lagoons would have earthen bottoms which consist of drain rock on top of pea gravel. Underneath these materials would be an underdrain system that would collect water percolating into the ground. This design would minimize the percolation of water into the groundwater basin and would maximize water conservation.” The question that arises is that there is still a potential connection with the groundwater that is only 41 to 57-feet down and that extensive excavation is and that no data has been offered as to what these solids and liquids (sludge) consists of (i.e. particulate size, heavy metals etc) this information should be included. Such information is readily available. Studies like Delta Drinking Water Quality and Costs, Technical Appendix H, September 2008 from the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) by Chen, Haunschild & Lund is available online at [http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/other/708E11R\\_appendixH.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/other/708E11R_appendixH.pdf) and indicate that the

41

constituents include electrical conductivity, bromide, chloride, total and dissolved organic carbon (TOC and DOC), nutrients (total nitrogen and phosphorous), and pesticides and herbicides. Table H.2 summarizes the main types of water quality concerns for each constituent. Why was an analysis of the solid/liquid (sludge) not provided, and why was the potential to generate toxics and potentially contaminate groundwater not considered?

41

### 3.7.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Under Impacts Discussion, Page 3.7-13 last paragraph in which the proponent states that: *"With regard to Item B, proposed project construction GHG emissions were estimated by TAHA to be approximately 3,148 metric tons per year of CO<sub>2</sub> for Option 1 and 2,817 metric tons per year of CO<sub>2</sub> for Option 2. Operational haul trip emissions were estimated to generate 553 metric tons per year of CO<sub>2</sub>".* How much GHG generated within a community does the proponent and/or the agencies expect the Granada Hills community including the neighboring minority community of Sylmar to absorb? The Sunshine Canyon Landfill generates huge quantities of GHG within a mile of the project and produces impacts to the residential area adjacent to the proposed project (landfills are the largest single stationary source of GHG) and in 2010 the SCAQMD held a meeting December 2009 in Sylmar for a NOP Draft SEIR for Sunshine Canyon Landfill Gas Producer Renewable Energy Project (GAS TURBINES) that will produce additional GHG gases produced at the landfill by 30 tons per day or 10,950 tons per year. Why haven't the proponent and the agencies taken the proximity of the landfill and this new project and the GHG they produce along with the cumulative effects of these additional gases into account?

42

### 3.8.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Under Transportation of Hazardous Materials, Page 3.8-9 the proponent states that: *"The use of hazardous materials at the Jensen Plant would not change beyond what has been previously permitted during the operation of the Jensen Plant at 750 mgd."* Since the project has stated in the DEIR that the project will facilitate increasing the current levels of treatment and therefore facilitate the increased usage of chlorine regardless of whether or not chlorine is used by the lagoons or the pressing facility on what document/permit or approval process do you base the claim that Jensen has been previously permitted and was it a part of any environmental review and was the public notified? Please provide/include requested documentation as a part of this DEIR submission to support claims.

43

Under Hazardous Materials Database, Page 3.8-12 it states that: *"The proposed project would not be located on a known hazardous materials site identified in the LUST, Cortese, or EnvironStor database or within 0.5 miles of a know hazardous materials site."* This statement is misleading to the public. These websites list sites that generate "hazardous waste" and do not provide lists of sites in which "hazardous materials" present. However, the public finds it hard to believe that the MWD which stores up to four 90-ton railcars of liquid chlorine, not to mention the adjoining LAAFP property which stores four to six similar 90-ton railcars of pressurized liquid chlorine each one with the potential to kill everything within a 15-mile long by 4-mile wide plume if breached are not listed on a website somewhere. (See Exhibit "A" NVC letter to MWD dated November 28, 2008). Additional stories can be found on the internet as to the concerns of others in the transportation and storage of pressurize liquid chlorine (see story Vancouver Observer, Canadian Counter Terrorism, the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics, and the World's Deadliest Chemical, August 25, 2009 at the following website

44

<http://www.vancouverobserver.com/politics/2009/08/25/canadian-counter-terrorism-vancouver-2010-winter-olympics-and-worlds-deadliest> Are there any websites where facilities containing/using hazardous materials but not producing hazardous waste? Why was this type of information regarding chlorine not included when this proposed project would support the use of and/or the expanded use of this deadly chemical? Also see comments on 3.8.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures under Transportation of Hazardous Materials, Page 3.8-9.

44

### 3.14.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Under Physical Deterioration of Recreation Facility, Page 3.14-8 and Construction or Expansion of Recreation Facility, Page 3.14-7 argue that it is not the responsibility of the MWD to provide mitigation for the loss of the facility but the LADRP. The MWD misrepresents circumstances that have triggered this proposed project causing certain actions to occur not only here but throughout the document. Reference to the cessation of leases is either used to justify actions and/or construction of the project and/or to not pursue the impacts of this proposed project because the problem goes away. For instance it is the MWD that seeks to end their agreement for use of the DWP settling ponds in 2014 and not the DWP. Comments submitted under It is the MWD that has said it would not renew the LADRP lease for the use by GYREC in 2010 as a result of the MWD's proposed project plan and not by any desire on the part of LADRP or GYREC/AYSO (who in turn lease the facilities) to vacate the ball fields. All of these actions and impacts are based on a timetable conceived by the MWD. Why was there no discussion of impacts if the LADRP including the DWP fails to provide suitable replacement recreational facilities (both local and completely accessible to those local organizations) and/or if replacement facilities are found if they would be available in time to prevent any interruption in their activities? Why is there no discussion of the fact that the amount of water being processed/sales has decreased by 20% due to either conservation and/or reduced water supplies being available or the need and subsequently the timetable for implementation of the proposed project and its impacts may not be necessary at this time? The MWD has not provided the public at any time with any document analyzing the contemplated future build out of its facilities while knowing for many years the future planned capacity of such a facility and the ancillary infrastructure necessary to support such plans. To support our contention that the MWD has had prior knowledge of future expansions to meet future capacity needs we cite the proponent under 6.1.4 Alternatives Considered But Rejected, Page 6-3 stated that: *"During the planning process, Metropolitan considered but rejected several alternatives. These include a lease extension with LADWP for continued use of the existing LADWP lagoons. This alternative would not meet any of the project objectives, and is infeasible since the LADWP lagoons do not have enough capacity to serve the Jensen Plant to accommodate dewatering of solids generated from the water treatment process under design plant flow conditions."* It goes on to say that: *"An off-site dewatering lagoons option that would construct new lagoons at the LAAFP property was deemed infeasible because it would conflict with LADWP's future facility plans."* Further it goes on to say that: *"an alternate location for the belt press building was considered on the western portion of the Jensen plan" and "this building location was rejected because it conflicts with Metropolitan's future planning objectives"*. It is obvious that MWD knows what is needed to complete the design capacity of 750 mgd but have failed to provide this information seeking instead seeking to obtain incremental approval of the entire project which is a violation of CEQA. What are their future expansions plans for any and all portions of the land that they own and why have they not been included?

45

**3.15 Transportation and Traffic**

Under Regional Setting, Page 3.15.1 it states that: *“Truck traffic generated by the existing Jensen Plant is prohibited on Balboa Boulevard, and uses San Fernando Road to access the proposed site.”* Presumably the decision to select the intersections chosen for study was the erroneous assumption that only these intersections were indicative of the impacts to the major roads surrounding the site including Balboa Boulevard if the San Fernando Road access road was used. The traffic study is deficient and fails to address all the impacts. See 3.15-3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures comments below.

46

**3.15-3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures**

Under Effects on Alternative Transportation Plans, Page 3.15-14 it states that: *“There are no public transit service bus routes that serve the immediate proposed project site. However, approximately three miles south of the proposed project site the LADOT operates Commuter Express Route 574....”* This assessment is not correct and does not account for LADOT 236 Bus Service from Encino to Sylmar via Balboa Boulevard and return which passes within 300-feet of the proposed site, and LADOT 237 Bus Service from Encino to Van Nuys which utilizes a Balboa Boulevard, Rinaldi and Woodley loop two miles to the south both of which were active during the review period (see Exhibit B Metro Bus Lines 236/237 attached or visit [http://www.metro.net/riding\\_metro/bus\\_overview/images/236-237.pdf](http://www.metro.net/riding_metro/bus_overview/images/236-237.pdf)). Why were these routes not included in the impacts assessment?

47

Under Effects to the Circulation System, Page 3.15-15 thru 3.15-33 the proponent has previously stated that: *“Truck traffic generated by the existing Jensen Plant is prohibited on Balboa Boulevard, and uses San Fernando Road to access the proposed site.”* Along with the acknowledged impacts to Balboa/San Fernando Road intersection and the San Fernando Road/Sierra Highway intersections and the traffic studies which are used to support the analysis, we believe that the omission of the traffic counts at Balboa Boulevard and Foothill Boulevard intersection during the study period, and for the subsequent analysis have skewed the potential impact results. All northbound traffic, north of Timber Ridge Drive is funneled down to two and then one lane, and have to exit Balboa Boulevard at either San Fernando Road (via Balboa Road ramp) or at Foothill Boulevard and any impacts to these roads results in a backup of northbound traffic on Balboa Boulevard (on occasions resulting in backups as far south as San Fernando Mission Boulevard some 3+ miles to the south). Cars approaching these two intersections automatically choose either one or the other exit depending on the level of congestion encountered. Since the majority of the traffic is either bound for the SR14 Freeway north, Sierra Highway north and/or the northbound I-5 Freeway and entrance ramps to both the freeway and the highway converge at the San Fernando Road/Sierra Highway and again approximately 200-feet away at the Sierra Highway/Foothill Boulevard. The result is that there is no way to bypass any impacts generated on San Fernando Road that does end up in impacting Balboa Boulevard. Also see other related comments (following) which are pertinent regarding the insufficiency of the Traffic Study.

48

Table 3.15-3, Related Projects Trip Generation Estimates indicates that Related Project 1 – 14747 San Fernando Road – Sunshine Canyon Landfill has a size of 5,500 tons per day. This only represents the City side of the landfill. Most recently a combined City/County landfill has

49

an approved permitted capacity for 12,500 tpd excluding recycled material tonnage (currently average 9,000 tpd and rising). Additionally, Sunshine Canyon Landfill has since late 2009 has been diverting and continues to divert all long haul vehicles from 6 a.m – 9 a.m. daily as mitigation under an Order of Abatement for Odors issued by the SCAQMD.

49

In Appendix G, Traffic Study, June 29, 2010 provided by Arch Beach Consulting indicates that the raw traffic count studies were performed on Tuesday, March 9 thru Thursday March 11, 2010. This in effect would nullify the entire traffic study as it excludes the two busiest days of the week, namely Monday, March 8 and Friday, March 12, 2010. On Monday all curbside pickup of trash by the LA Department of Sanitation in the Granada Hills area is routed up Balboa Boulevard to the Sunshine Canyon Landfill and severely impacts the Balboa Boulevard/San Fernando Road in the A.M and P.M. On Fridays because of the failure of the LA City to extend Reseda Boulevard, Topanga Boulevard and Balboa Boulevard to the I-5 Freeway as originally planned, and with only Balboa Boulevard completed - all weekend holiday traffic seeking a short cut from the San Fernando Valley in order to avoid the congestion of interchanges to the I-5, I-405, SR14, SR210 Freeways uses Balboa Boulevard (on occasions resulting in backups as far south as San Fernando Mission Boulevard some 3+ miles to the south) and creating additional impacts to all of the intersections studied including the Balboa Boulevard/Foothill Boulevard. Since late 2009 Sunshine Canyon Landfill has diverted and continues to divert all long-haul trash vehicles from 6 a.m – 9 a.m. daily to other disposal sites as mitigation under an Order of Abatement for Odors issued by the SCAQMD. This traffic was absent form a.m. traffic studied. Why was Monday & Friday omitted as they would constitute the busiest days of the week? The traffic study for the reasons noted above is insufficient including all other related Sections, Tables, assumptions et cetera that rely on the study should be redone.

50

#### 4.3 Cumulative Effects

Under Noise and Vibration, Page 4-8 it states that: *“The proposed project's construction activity would generate significant noise levels, particularly during the construction phase where excavation would be the primary activity and source of noise to nearby sensitive receptors.”* While this might not be necessarily the place to address our concerns and since no Section was found that specifically addresses Noise and Vibration it is our intent that our comments be applied to any other Section that we may have missed. In this particular Section the proponent has failed to comment on Vibration. There has been a history of past complaints from the residential area west of Balboa Boulevard/north of Sesnon Boulevard that excessive noise from backup warning devices (beepers) and vibrations from previous construction activities and the removal of material from ongoing operations such as the removal of filtration media were disturbing them during the a.m. and p.m.

51

#### 6.1.4 Alternatives Considered But Rejected

Under this section on Page 6-3 it states that: *“During the planning process, Metropolitan considered but rejected several alternatives. These include a lease extension with LADWP for continued use of the existing LADWP lagoons. This alternative would not meet any of the project objectives, and is infeasible since the LADWP lagoons do not have enough capacity to serve the Jensen Plant to accommodate the dewatering of solids generated from the water treatment process under design plant flow conditions.”* It goes on to say that: *“An off-site dewatering lagoons option that would construct new lagoons at the LAAFP property was deemed infeasible*

52

*because it would conflict with LADWP's future facility plans."* It also goes on to say that: "*an alternate location for the belt press building was considered on the western portion of the Jensen plan*" and "*this building location was rejected because it conflicts with Metropolitan's future planning objectives*". The summary disqualification of these alternatives or variations of the same by spccious references and un-quantified external impacts by other projects has contributed to a less than desirable project and is not acceptable. Specifically what future plans of the LAAFP is the MWD referring to and why are those plans and dates of implementation not provided? The public has become aware that the DWP is currently preparing a DEIR. Is this the information that the MWD is aware of and why does the proponent fail to address/analyze the cumulative impacts (i.e. air quality, traffic et cetera) of the DWP's proposed project which will run from 2010 to 2020 starting with temporarily covering the LA Reservoir with 78,000,000 plastic balls at the end of 2010, diverting Bull Creek and constructing two new covered reservoirs, constructing a wetland area in the southern portion of their property, deconstructing the LA Reservoir in 2020 and finally rebuilding it into at least 2 additional covered reservoirs?

52

#### **OTHER DEIR COMMENTS**

The commenter was unable to find an appropriate place to apply the following statements and/or questions and will leave it to the reviewer to place them in the appropriate context and/or respond:

- Due to the sheer volume of pages, the somewhat confusing presentation, and the array of data under many different subsections et cetera the commenter may have inadvertently submitted comments/questions which might not have been appropriately located and/or might differ slightly in content because it had a nexus or an presented an opportunity to segue to relevant information which the commenter needed to make know. It is our intent that these not be discounted but addressed, and as stated above, we expect the preparer/reviewer to place them in the appropriate context and/or to respond.
- How is the elimination and impacts of the existing drainage from the proposed construction area and the seasonal water that once contributed to the groundwater recharge at this site and/or flowed to Bull Creek addressed?

53

54



**GHNNC**  
**RESPONSE TO**  
**JENSEN SOLID HANDLING FACILITY PROJECT**  
**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**  
**SCH No. 2009111081**  
**Dated JULY 2010**

**EXHIBIT A**

NVC Letter to MWD dated November 28, 2008

Metropolitan Water District  
P.O. Box 54153  
Los Angeles, CA 90054  
Attention: Brad Coffey, Water Treatment Section Manager

November 28, 2008

Dear Mr. Coffey:

A number of years ago our community met with the MWD at a community meeting in Granada Hills regarding the expansion of the treatment facilities at the Joseph Jensen Filtration Plant (see attached article). At that time we raised concerns as to the very presence of liquid chlorine and its storage in regards to seismic safety, protection from terrorist actions, and a warning system if there was ever a release.

At that time the community was assured that:

- that no more than two (2) 90-ton tank cars would ever be present.
- that the expansion underway at that time was for ozone treatment that would eventually replace the need for even that chlorine.
- retrofits had occurred to insure seismic safety of connections to the active rail tank car connections to include the derailment and upset of both (the second car being full and not connected).
- that the rail tank barn was enclosed to prevent anyone viewing and/or firing at the tank cars, and that additional security had been added.
- that the siren alert warning system requested by the residents was not practical (a MWD assessment we did not concur with) but that an alternate autodial phone system would be more practical and could be employed.

We now learn that according to testimony given by you in Washington DC on June 12, 2008 that there are now four (4) tank cars present. We also learned that the MWD has decided due to "monetary considerations" that they prefer to continue to use chlorine. These actions and a lack of any warning system compromise the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Granada Hills and the surrounding communities. As you know according to the Chlorine Institute Pamphlet 74, page 26, 1998 Edition that a lethal killing cloud of chlorine gas 15 miles long by 4 miles wide could be released from just one (1) 90-ton tank car.

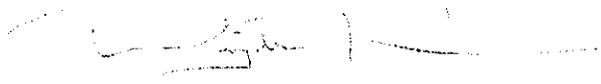
Recent disaster training drills conducted by the City and County of Los Angeles fire, police, and rescue services have not addressed such a contingency, indeed, the recent firestorms which have destroyed over 500 homes in the area immediately surrounding your facility call into question the ability of any of these services to successfully evacuate large numbers of people during an accidental or intentional release.

Why has the MWD gone back on its promises to us including the promise of less chlorine, why have changes in policy occurred without community notification, and why has the promised warning system not been instituted?

Additionally, we have grave concerns regarding the transportation routes of this hazardous material. Where do you get your chlorine from (suppliers), on what rail route(s), and what volumes, with any time of day restrictions, and when if any are there concrete plans to convert to a non-chlorine alternative such as sodium hypochlorite, oxygen, UV, et cetera?

To have our lives and those of the many cities that this gas must pass through reduced to a "monetary consideration" is callous and unconscionable, and we hope that you will rethink this position. Even liquid bleach with its numerous trucks (if properly routed to exit the I-5 at Roxford Street, then to Sepulveda Boulevard, and finally to San Fernando Road) would be preferable to the storage of this highly dangerous gas that could potentially threaten millions of lives in the greater San Fernando Valley.

Yours sincerely,



Wayne Hunter  
President, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens Inc.

c.c. Greig Smith, Councilman 12<sup>th</sup> District  
Mike Antonovich, Supervisor 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Timothy Brick, Chairman Board of Directors MWD of Southern California  
Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council (GHNNC)  
Brad Sherman, Congressman 27<sup>th</sup> District  
Lloyd Levine, Assemblymember 40<sup>th</sup> District  
Cameron Smyth, Assemblymember 38<sup>th</sup> District  
Alex Padilla, Senator 20<sup>th</sup> District  
George Runner, Senator 17<sup>th</sup> District  
Pedro Nava, Assemblymember 35<sup>th</sup> District  
Fabian Nunez, Assemblymember 46<sup>th</sup> District & Speaker Emeritus  
Hilda Solis, Congresswoman, 32<sup>nd</sup> District  
Michael Freeman, Fire Chief County of Los Angeles Fire Department  
Douglas Barry, Fire Chief Los Angeles Fire Department  
Sheldon Gilbert, President California Fire Chiefs Association  
Steve Tsumura, Chairman Region I Local Emergency Planning Commission  
William Bratton, Chief of Police Los Angeles Police Department  
David Dean, Plant Manager Jensen Filtration Plant  
Fred Millar, Consultant Homeland Security

Attachment



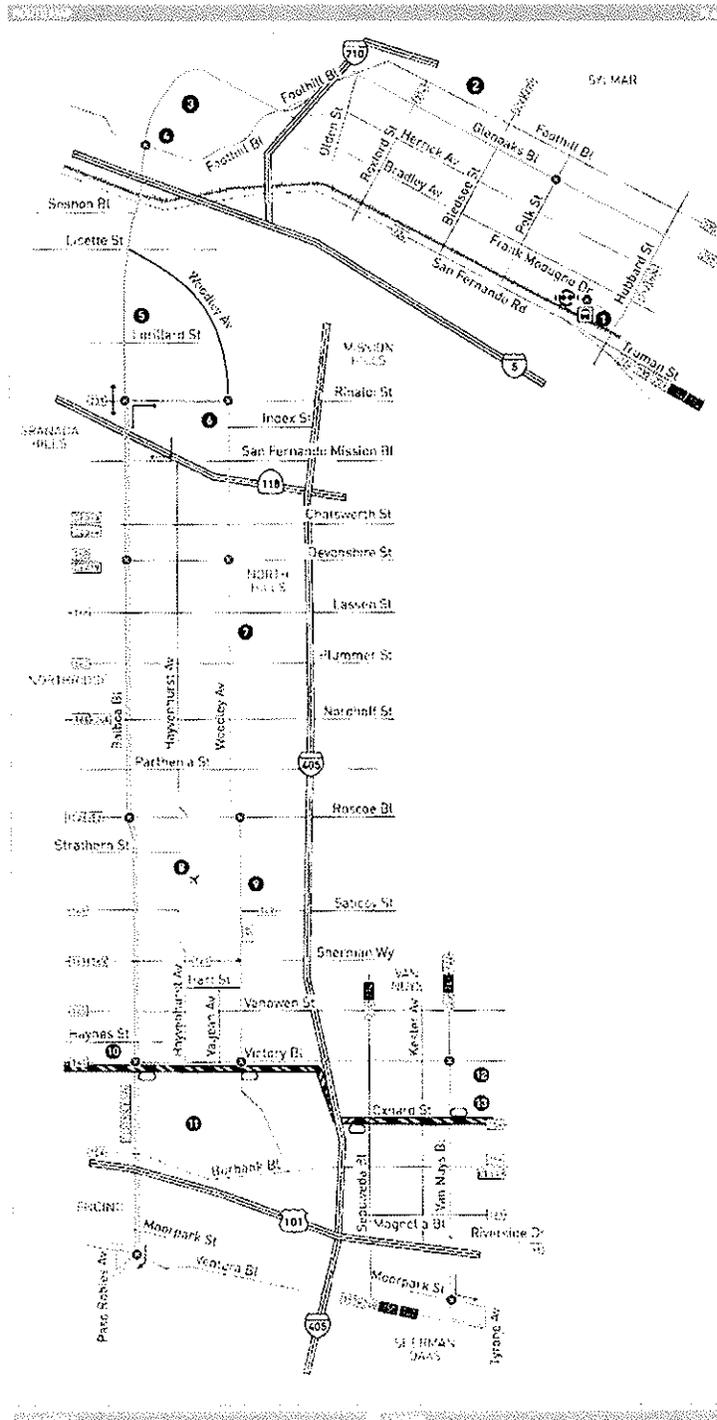
**GHNNC**  
**RESPONSE TO**  
**JENSEN SOLID HANDLING FACILITY PROJECT**  
**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**  
**SCH No. 2009111081**  
**Dated JULY 2010**

**EXHIBIT B**

Metro Bus Schedule Lines 236/237

or visit

[http://www.metro.net/riding\\_metro/bus\\_overview/images/236-237.pdf](http://www.metro.net/riding_metro/bus_overview/images/236-237.pdf)).



- 1 Sylmar Station  
Metro Bus Lines 230, 236, 239, 292, 634, 734, 794; CE574; Antelope Valley Metrolink
  - 2 Olive View Medical Center
  - 3 Cascades Business Park
  - 4 County Assessor's Office
  - 5 Knollwood County Golf Course
  - 6 Kennedy High School
  - 7 V.A. Hospital
  - 8 Van Nuys Airport
  - 9 Van Nuys Fly Away Terminal (Bus Service to LAX)
  - 10 Birmingham High School
  - 11 Sepulveda Dam Recreation Area
  - 12 Van Nuys Civic Center
  - 13 Van Nuys Orange Line Station  
Metro Bus Lines 154, 156, 233, 237, 656, 761, 902; LDVAN
- Route of Line 236
  - Route of Line 237 (Route 237 does not operate on Saturday & Sunday).
  - Shortline turnaround Loop
  - Route of Metro Orange Line
  - Metrolink Station
  - Transit Center
  - Timepoint
  - Metro Orange Line Station
  - CE LADOT Commuter Express

**Monday through Friday** 236/237

**North on Balboa - South on Woodley** (Approximate Times)

Route	Balboa & Ventura	Balboa & Victory	Balboa & Roscoe	Balboa & Devonshire	Balboa & Rinaldi	Balboa & Foothill	Glenoaks & Peik	Sylmar Station	Rinaldi & Woodley	Woodley & Devonshire	Woodley & Roscoe	Victory & Woodley	Victory & Van Nuys	Van Nuys & Moorpark (Ventura)
236	5:00A	5:06A	5:13A	5:21A	5:26A	5:34A	5:43A	5:49A	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	5:26	5:32	5:39	5:47	5:51	—	—	—	5:54A	5:59A	6:08A	6:17A	6:23A	6:34A
236	5:56	6:02	6:09	6:17	6:22	6:30	6:40	6:47	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	6:24	6:30	6:38	6:47	6:52	—	—	—	6:55	7:00	7:10	7:20	7:26	7:38
236	6:54	7:00	7:09	7:19	7:25	7:34	7:44	7:51	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	7:23	7:30	7:40	7:50	7:55	—	—	—	7:59	8:05	8:15	8:27	8:33	8:46
236	7:54	8:02	8:12	8:22	8:28	8:37	8:47	8:53	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	8:23	8:31	8:41	8:50	8:55	—	—	—	8:58	9:04	9:13	9:23	9:29	9:41
236	8:52	8:59	9:08	9:17	9:23	9:31	9:41	9:48	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	—	—	—	—	10:07	—	—	—	10:05	10:11	10:19	10:28	10:35	10:47
236	9:49	9:56	10:05	10:14	10:20	10:28	10:38	10:45	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	—	—	—	—	11:03	—	—	—	11:06	11:12	11:20	11:29	11:36	11:48
236	10:46	10:53	11:02	11:11	11:17	11:25	11:35	11:42	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	—	—	—	—	12:08P	—	—	—	12:11P	12:17P	12:25P	12:34P	12:41P	12:53P
236	11:41	11:48	11:58	12:08P	12:15	12:23P	12:33P	12:40P	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	—	—	—	—	1:12	—	—	—	1:15	1:21	1:29	1:38	1:45	1:57
236	12:45P	12:52P	1:02P	1:12	1:19	1:27	1:37	1:44	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	1:43	1:50	2:00	2:10	2:17	2:25	2:35	2:42	—	—	—	—	—	—
236	—	—	—	—	2:18	—	—	—	2:21	2:27	2:35	2:45	2:52	3:04
237	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3:15	3:21	3:30	3:40	3:48	4:00
236	2:39	2:46	2:56	3:06	3:13	3:24	3:34	3:41	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	3:12	3:21	3:31	3:41	3:47	—	—	—	3:51	3:57	4:06	4:16	4:24	4:36
236	—	—	3:32	3:42	3:49	4:00	4:10	4:17	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	3:39	3:48	3:58	4:08	4:15	4:26	4:36	4:43	—	—	—	—	—	—
236	4:13	4:22	4:32	4:42	4:47	—	—	—	4:51	4:57	5:06	5:17	5:26	5:37
237	4:50	4:59	5:09	5:19	5:26	5:37	5:44	5:53	—	—	—	—	—	—
236	5:17	5:26	5:35	5:45	5:50	—	—	—	5:54	5:59	6:07	6:17	6:24	6:35
237	5:50	5:59	6:07	6:16	6:23	6:33	6:41	6:48	—	—	—	—	—	—
236	6:10	6:17	6:25	6:34	6:39	—	—	—	6:42	6:46	6:54	7:03	7:09	7:19
237	6:47	6:54	7:02	7:09	7:14	7:23	7:31	7:38	—	—	—	—	—	—
236	7:44	7:50	7:57	8:04	8:08	—	—	—	8:11	8:15	8:22	8:30	8:36	8:46
237	8:45	8:51	8:58	9:05	9:09	—	—	—	9:12	—	—	—	—	—

**Monday through Friday** 236/237

**North on Woodley - South on Balboa** (Approximate Times)

Route	Van Nuys & Moorpark (Ventura)	Victory & Van Nuys	Woodley & Victory	Woodley & Roscoe	Woodley & Devonshire	Rinaldi & Woodley	Sylmar Station	Glenoaks & Peik	Balboa & Foothill	Balboa & Rinaldi	Balboa & Devonshire	Balboa & Roscoe	Balboa & Victory	Balboa & Ventura
237	—	—	—	—	—	6:03A	—	—	—	—	6:12A	6:20A	6:28A	6:38A
237	5:50A	6:04A	6:11A	6:20A	6:29A	6:34	—	—	—	—	6:43	6:51	6:59	7:11
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	6:30A	6:37A	6:47A	6:56A	7:02	7:13	7:24	7:36
237	6:44	6:58	7:05	7:15	7:24	7:31	—	—	—	—	7:14	7:25	7:36	7:48
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7:43	7:54	8:04	8:14
237	7:46	8:02	8:09	8:18	8:26	8:32	7:33	7:40	7:50	8:00	8:07	8:16	8:25	8:35
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8:42	8:51	9:00	9:12
237	8:25	8:43	8:50	8:59	9:07	9:12	8:31	8:39	8:49	8:59	9:06	9:15	9:24	9:36
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9:16	—	—	—
237	9:09	9:27	9:34	9:43	9:51	9:56	—	—	—	—	9:44	9:53	10:02	10:23
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	10:25	10:32	10:41	10:50	10:57	11:06	11:15	11:27
237	10:10	10:28	10:35	10:44	10:52	10:57	—	—	—	—	11:01	—	—	—
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	11:31	11:38	11:47	11:56	12:03P	12:13P	12:22P	12:34P
237	11:14	11:32	11:39	11:48	11:56	12:02P	—	—	—	—	12:06P	—	—	—
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	12:29P	12:36P	12:45P	12:54	1:01	1:11	1:20	1:32
237	12:19P	12:37P	12:44P	12:53P	1:01P	1:07	—	—	—	—	1:11	—	—	—
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	1:26	1:33	1:42	1:51	1:58	2:07	2:16	2:28
237	1:23	1:41	1:48	1:57	2:06	2:12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	2:25	2:32	2:41	2:49	—	—	—	—
237	2:30	2:50	2:59	3:09	3:18	3:24	3:33	3:42	3:52	4:01	—	—	—	—
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3:34	3:43	3:52	4:04
237	3:34	3:54	4:03	4:13	4:22	4:28	—	—	—	—	4:09	4:18	4:27	4:39
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4:38	4:47	4:56	5:08
237	4:26	4:46	4:55	5:05	5:14	5:20	—	—	—	—	4:58	5:07	5:16	5:28
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	5:36	5:45	5:55	—	5:30	5:39	5:48	6:00
237	5:09	5:29	5:39	5:49	5:58	6:04	—	—	—	—	6:04	6:11	6:19	6:38
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6:08	—	—	—
237	6:09	6:26	6:35	6:44	6:52	6:58	—	—	—	—	7:02	—	—	—
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
237	7:09	7:25	7:33	7:41	7:49	7:54	6:39	6:47	6:56	7:05	7:11	7:18	7:25	7:35
236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7:58	—	—	—
237	—	—	—	—	—	—	7:39	7:46	7:55	8:04	—	—	—	—



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

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 Web Site [www.nahc.ca.gov](http://www.nahc.ca.gov)  
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July 19, 2010

Mr. William Fong

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**

P.O. BOX 54153

LOS ANGELES, CA 90054-0153

Re: SCH#2009111081; CEQA Notice of Completion; draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the "Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project"; located in the Granada Hills area; Los Angeles County, California.

Dear Mr. Fong:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) is the state 'trustee agency' pursuant to Public Resources Code §21070 for the protection and preservation of California's Native American Cultural Resources.. (Also see *Environmental Protection Information Center v. Johnson* (1985) 170 Cal App. 3<sup>rd</sup> 604). The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA - CA Public Resources Code §21000-21177, amended in 2009) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the California Code of Regulations §15064.5(b)(c)(f) CEQA guidelines). Section 15382 of the CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including ... objects of historic or aesthetic significance." In order to comply with this provision, the lead agency is required to assess whether the project will have an adverse impact on these resources within the 'area of potential effect (APE), and if so, to mitigate that effect. To adequately assess the project-related impacts on historical resources, the Commission recommends the following.

The Native American Heritage Commission did perform a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search in the NAHC SLF Inventory, established by the Legislature pursuant to Public Resources Code §5097.94(a) and Native American Cultural resources were not identified within the APE identified for the project. However, there are Native American cultural resources in close proximity to the APE. Early consultation with Native American tribes in your area is the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries once a project is underway. Enclosed are the names of the nearest tribes and interested Native American individuals that the NAHC recommends as 'consulting parties,' for this purpose, that may have knowledge of the religious and cultural significance of the historic properties in the project area (e.g. APE). We recommend that you contact persons on the attached list of Native American contacts. A Native American Tribe or Tribal Elder may be the only source of information about a cultural resource.. Also, the NAHC recommends that a Native American Monitor or Native American culturally knowledgeable person be employed whenever a professional archaeologist is employed during the 'Initial Study' and in other phases of the environmental planning processes.. Furthermore we suggest that you contact the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) Coordinator's office (at (916) 653-7278, for referral to the nearest OHP Information Center of which there are 11.

Consultation with tribes and interested Native American tribes and interested Native American individuals, as consulting parties, on the NAHC list, should be conducted in compliance with the requirements of federal NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321-43351) and Section 106 and 4(f) of federal NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470 [f] *et seq.*), 36 CFR Part 800.3, the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CSQ; 42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*) and NAGPRA (25 U.S.C. 3001-3013), as appropriate. The 1992 *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* were revised so that they could be applied to all historic resource types included in the National Register of Historic Places and including *cultural landscapes*.

56

Lead agencies should consider avoidance, as defined in Section 15370 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) when significant cultural resources could be affected by a project. Also, Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 provide for provisions for accidentally discovered archeological resources during construction and mandate the processes to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a project location other than a 'dedicated cemetery'. Discussion of these should be included in your environmental documents, as appropriate.

The authority for the SLF record search of the NAHC Sacred Lands Inventory, established by the California Legislature, is California Public Resources Code §5097.94(a) and is exempt from the CA Public Records Act (c.f. California Government Code §6254.10). The results of the SLF search are confidential. However, Native Americans on the attached contact list are not prohibited from and may wish to reveal the nature of identified cultural resources/historic properties. Confidentiality of 'historic properties of religious and cultural significance' may also be protected under Section 304 of the NHPA or at the Secretary of the Interior's discretion if not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Secretary may also be advised by the federal Indian Religious Freedom Act (cf. 42 U.S.C. 1996) in issuing a decision on whether or not to disclose items of religious and/or cultural significance identified in or near the APE and possibly threatened by proposed project activity.

57

CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5(d) requires the lead agency to work with the Native Americans identified by this Commission if the initial Study identifies the presence or likely presence of Native American human remains within the APE. CEQA Guidelines provide for agreements with Native American, identified by the NAHC, to assure the appropriate and dignified treatment of Native American human remains and any associated grave liens. Although tribal consultation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; CA Public Resources Code Section 21000 – 21177) is 'advisory' rather than mandated, the NAHC does request 'lead agencies' to work with tribes and interested Native American individuals as 'consulting parties,' on the list provided by the NAHC in order that cultural resources will be protected. However, the 2006 SB 1059 the state enabling legislation to the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005, does mandate tribal consultation for the 'electric transmission corridors'. This is codified in the California Public Resources Code, Chapter 4.3, and §25330 to Division 15, requires consultation with California Native American tribes, and identifies both federally recognized and non-federally recognized on a list maintained by the NAHC

Health and Safety Code §7050.5, Public Resources Code §5097.98 and Sec. §15064.5 (d) of the California Code of Regulations (CEQA Guidelines) mandate procedures to be followed, including that construction or excavation be stopped in the event of an accidental discovery of

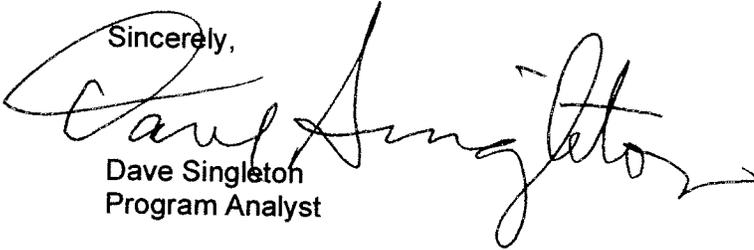
any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery until the county coroner or medical examiner can determine whether the remains are those of a Native American. . Note that §7052 of the Health & Safety Code states that disturbance of Native American cemeteries is a felony.

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Again, Lead agencies should consider avoidance, as defined in §15370 of the California Code of Regulations (CEQA Guidelines), when significant cultural resources are discovered during the course of project planning and implementation

Please feel free to contact me at (916) 653-6251 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dave Singleton  
Program Analyst

Attachment: List of Native American Contacts

Cc: State Clearinghouse

**Native American Contacts**  
**July 19, 2010**  
**Los Angeles County**

Charles Cooke  
 32835 Santiago Road  
 Acton, CA 93510  
  
 (661) 733-1812 - cell  
 suscol@intox.net

Chumash  
 Fernandeno  
 Tataviam  
 Kitanemuk

Tongva Ancestral Territorial Tribal Nation  
 John Tommy Rosas, Tribal Admin.  
  
 Gabrielino Tongva  
 tattnlaw@gmail.com  
 310-570-6567

Beverly Salazar Folkes  
 1931 Shadybrook Drive  
 Thousand Oaks, CA 91362  
 805 492-7255  
 (805) 558-1154 - cell  
 folkes9@msn.com

Chumash  
 Tataviam  
 Ferrnandeño

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians  
 Delia Dominguez  
 981 N. Virginia  
 Covina, CA 91722  
 (626) 339-6785  
 Yowlumne  
 Kitanemuk

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians  
 William Gonzales, Cultural/Environ Depart/Rudy Ortega  
 601 South Brand Boulevard, Suite 102  
 San Fernando CA 91340  
 rortega@tataviam-nsn.us  
 (818) 837-0794 Office

Fernandeno  
 Tataviam

(818) 837-0796 Fax

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians  
 John Valenzuela, Chairperson  
 P.O. Box 221838  
 Newhall, CA 91322  
 tsen2u@hotmail.com  
 (661) 753-9833 Office  
 (760) 885-0955 Cell  
 (760) 949-1604 Fax  
 Ferrnandeño  
 Tataviam  
 Serrano  
 Vanyume  
 Kitanemuk

LA City/County Native American Indian Comm  
 Ron Andrade, Director  
 3175 West 6th Street, Rm.  
 Los Angeles, CA 90020  
 randrade@css.lacounty.gov  
 (213) 351-5324  
 (213) 386-3995 FAX

Randy Guzman - Folkes  
 655 Los Angeles Avenue, Unit E  
 Moorpark, CA 93021  
 ndnRandy@yahoo.com  
 (805) 905-1675 - cell  
 Chumash  
 Ferrnandeño  
 Tataviam  
 Shoshone Paiute  
 Yaqui

**This list is current only as of the date of this document.**

**Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code. Also, federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and federal NAGPRA. And 36 CFR Part 800.3.**

**This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed SCH#2009111081; CEQA Notice of Completion; draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for a Five-acre Jensen Solids Handling Facility Project; located in the Granada Hills area of the northern San Fernando Valley; Los Angeles County, California.**