RESOLUTION 2023-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BEAUMONT-CHERRY VALLEY WATER DISTRICT ADOPTING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR THE NOBLE WATER STORAGE TANK NO. 2 AND TRANSMISSION PIPELINE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District's Master Plan has identified the need for additional water storage in the District's distribution system; and

WHEREAS, the District determined that the Noble Water Storage Tank No. 2 and Transmission Pipeline Project (Project) may be subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and prepared an Environmental Assessment evaluating the potential environmental effects of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Assessment identified no significant adverse impacts in the areas of biological resources, cultural resources, geology/soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality, and tribal cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, mitigation measures that avoid the effects, or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur, have been identified through the Environmental Assessment; and

WHEREAS, the District determined that the mitigation proposed in the Environmental Assessment would reduce the impacts to a less than significant level; and

WHEREAS, the District prepared a Public Notice for the Noble Water Storage Tank No. 2 and Transmission Pipeline on June 9, 2023, which started a 30-day public review period, ending July 10, 2023. The Public Notice and Environmental Assessment was published in the Record Gazette for two (2) consecutive weeks, and was posted to the District's webpage for the 30-day comment period, during which no written comments were received; and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Directors conducted a Public Hearing on July 27, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District, located at 560 Magnolia Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223, is the custodian of documents and other materials that constitute the record of proceedings upon which the decision to adopt the Finding of No Significant Impact is based.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District as follows:

A. Findings regarding the Environmental Assessment

- The Board of Directors finds that the Environmental Assessment and the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Noble Water Storage Tank No. 2 and Transmission Pipeline Project has been prepared and completed in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.
- 2. The Board of Directors finds that on the basis of the FONSI and the whole record that there is no substantial evidence that the Project will have a significant adverse impact individually or cumulatively on the environment.

B. Adoption of the Environmental Assessment

- The Board of Directors hereby adopts the Environmental Assessment and the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Noble Water Storage Tank No. 2 and Transmission Pipeline Project.
- 2. The General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to cause the FONSI to be posted with the California State Clearinghouse.

ADOPTED this 27 day of July , 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Williams, Covington, Slawson, Hoffman

NOES: ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Raminez

Director David Hoffman, President of the Board of Directors of the

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

ATTEST:

Director Daniel Slawson, Secretary to the Board of Directors of the

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

Attachment: Finding of No Significant Impact dated July 20, 2023

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Noble Water Storage Tank No. 2 and Transmission Pipeline Project FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District 560 Magnolia Avenue Beaumont, CA 92223

July 20, 2023

Background

The District was formed in 1919 as an Irrigation District under California Water Code §20500 et seq. to provide domestic and irrigation water to the City of Beaumont, the community of Cherry Valley, and surrounding area. The service area of the District covers approximately 28 square miles, and the District's sphere of influence covers approximately 37.5 square miles, virtually all of which is located within the County of Riverside, and includes the community of Cherry Valley, the City of Beaumont, and small portions of the City of Calimesa. The District also operates wells and a reservoir north of Riverside County in San Bernardino County. The District has a potable and a non-potable water system. The potable water system has 24 wells, 11 pressure zones and 14 tanks. Existing Noble Tank No. 1 is one of two tanks that serve the 3040 Potable Water Pressure Zone, (the "3040" is the operating hydraulic grade line in the pressure zone relative to mean sea level).

The District has about 20,000 service connections and delivers about 13,000 acre-ft/year of potable water. All of the water is from groundwater in Edgar Canyon (Little San Gorgonio Creek) and the Beaumont Groundwater Basin. The District obtains imported State Project Water from the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, recharges that water in District-owned spreading basins in Cherry Valley, and subsequently extracts the water for potable use. Since 2007, the District has recharged an average of about 5,000 acre-ft/year of imported water. In January 2016 the District Board of Directors adopted a Potable Water Master Plan Update and subsequently a capital improvement program was adopted which included a number of facilities, including the project for which this Environmental Assessment (EA) is being completed for.

Proposed Project/Action

The Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District (District) proposes to construct the Noble Water Storage Tank No. 2 and Transmission Pipeline Project. This will expand the storage capacity of the existing Noble Zone in order to meet system demands. The existing zone (3040 Zone), supplied by the District's base pressure zone (2750 Zone), has a need for increased storage capacity to satisfy system demands created by near-term development activity.

Three Cherry Booster Pumps, 21A, 21B and 21C, located at the 2750 Zone Cherry Reservoir site, pump water from the 2750 Zone to the 3040 Zone. These pumps were probably installed in the late 1960s and early 1970s with the construction of the initial Cherry Reservoirs and Well 21.

The existing zone is fed by the existing Noble Water Storage Tank No. 1 as well as the existing Highland Springs tank which each have a storage volume of 1 million gallons (MG). The existing Noble tank is located on International Park Road (APN No. 401-210-010) just south of the Avenida Altura Bella and Cherry Avenue intersection in the Community of Cherry Valley. In accordance

with the Project Site Plan in Appendix A of this IS/MND and the Water Facilities Master Plan, the proposed improvements include:

- Abandonment and demolition of the existing Noble tank concrete pad located immediately south of the existing Noble Water Storage Tank No. 1 to make space for construction of Noble Tank No. 2 approximately 50 feet to the south.
- 2. Construction of a 2 MC steel storage tank (Noble Water Storage Tank No. 2) at a highwater level of 3040-ft.
- 3. Construction of a 6-foot-high security fence around both tanks.
- 4. Construction of approximately 2,800-feet of approximately 24-inch Ductile Iron Pipe transmission main.
- Construction of a .28 MG overflow storage basin fed from Noble Water Storage Tank No. 2 by a 18-inch reinforced concrete pipeline (RCP) and from Noble Water Storage Tank No. 1 by a 12-inch RCP from.

The pipeline alignment will begin at the new tank location, traverse approximately 1,400 feet southwest along International Park Road, and continue approximately 1,400 feet south along Cherry Avenue. The two-lane roadways are aligned with trees and overhead utilities. Portions of the roadway have dirt shoulders. The pipeline will tie into another pipeline at the intersection of Cherry Avenue and Dutton Street. The pipe invert depth will be approximately 6 to 7 feet below existing ground surface (Bgs) and it will be installed using an open cut-and-cover technique.

Mitigation

The mitigation is incorporated by reference and can be found in Section 3.13 of the EA.

Conclusion

The District hereby adopts the Condensed Environmental Assessment prepared by the consultant for the proposed action described above. After reviewing the assessment and the supporting materials provided by the grant applicant, the District finds that the assessment properly documents the proposal's status of compliance with the environmental laws and requirements listed therein.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA (44 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508) and the National Endowment for the Humanities NEPA Implementing Procedures (84 FR 23805, May 23, 2019), the District has determined that, with the mitigation measures described in Section 3.13 of the EA, the proposed Project/Action will have no significant adverse impact on the quality of the human environment. As a result of this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Approvals:

Dan Jaggers, General Manager