Final INITIAL STUDY for the Farmington Water Company Water System Facilities Improvement Project

Lead Agency Contact:

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Applicant:

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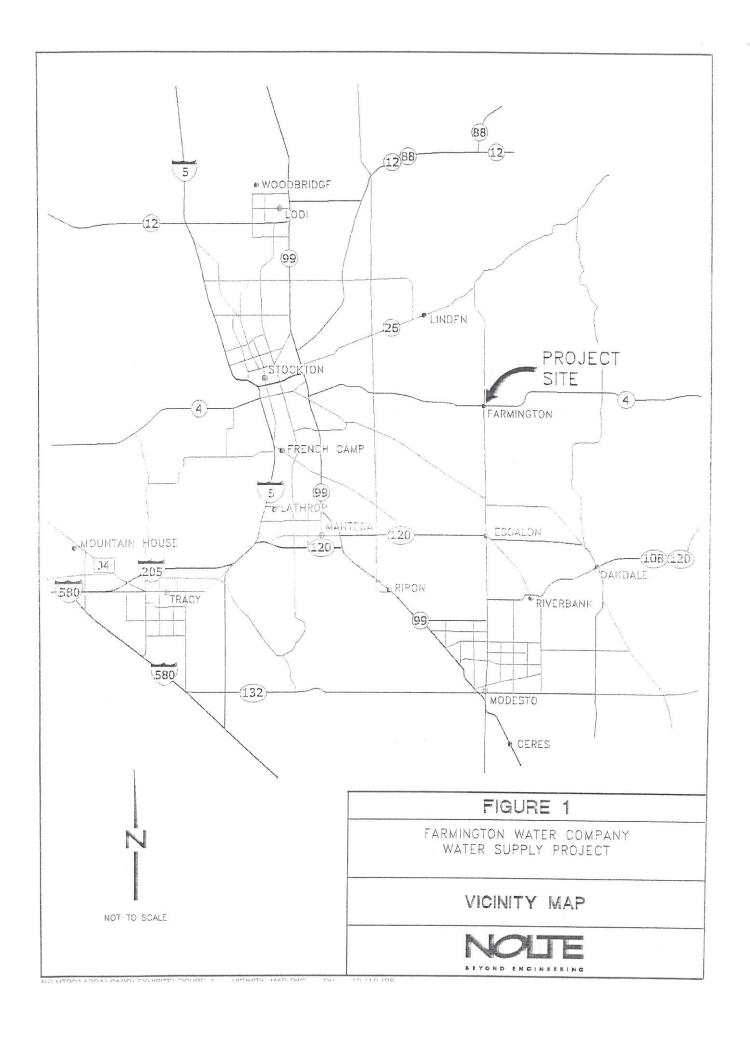
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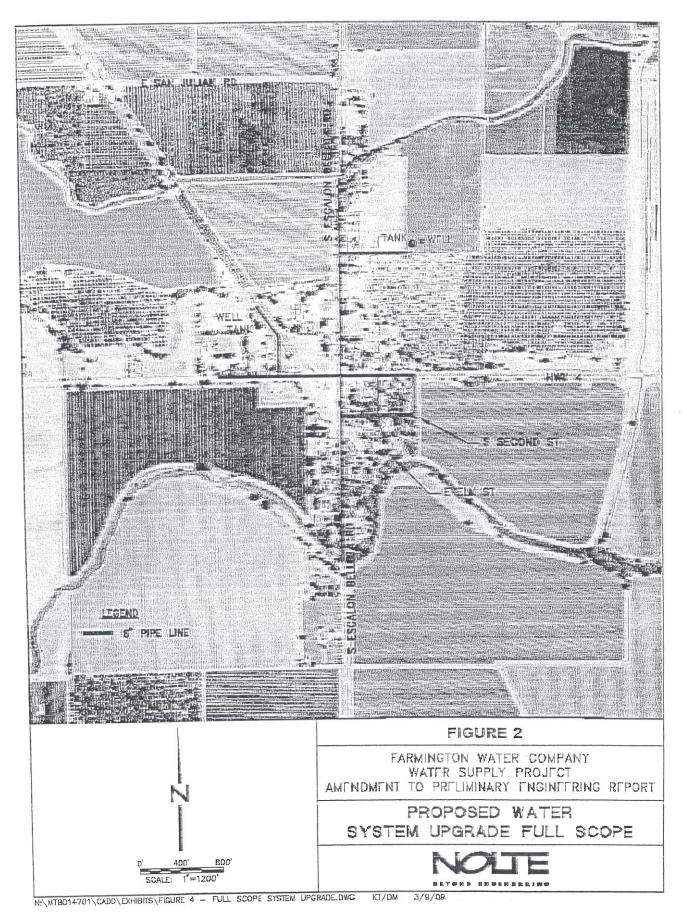
CHAPTER 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project Data

- 1. Project Title: Water System Facilities Improvement Project (herein after referred to as the Project)
- Lead Agency Name and Address: California Department of Public Health, 1616 Capitol Avenue, MS7416, Sacramento, CA 95899-7377
- 3. Lead Agency Contact Person and Phone Number: Veronica Malloy, (916) 449-5641
- 4. Project Location: The area served by the Farmington Water Company (FWC) is generally the community of Farmington, comprised of existing residences, businesses, schools, and a cemetery fronting on paved roads. Figure 1 is a vicinity map showing the location of the town of Farmington in eastern San Joaquin County, surrounding the intersection of State Route (SR) 4 and Escalon-Bellota Road. The community of Farmington and surrounding area has been historically in agricultural production. The water system facilities are located in roadways and previously disturbed easement areas (Figure 2).
- 5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: Farmington Water Company, Mary Anne Strojan, P.O. Box 77, Farmington, CA 95230, (209) 239-8765
- 6. General Plan Designation and Zoning: Well Site A is located on a parcel zoned General Agricultural, 160 acre minimum (AG-160) with a general plan land use designation of General Agricultural (A/G). Well Site B is located on the Farmington School property, which is zoned Public Facility (P-F) with a general plan land use designation of Public (P).
- 7. Description of Project: The proposed Project includes drilling two new wells at Sites A and B and interconnecting the wells with a backbone distribution line. Each well will be accompanied by a 75,000 gallon storage tank. Drilling wells at Sites A and B will require approximately 2,800 lineal feet of piping to connect the two wells and storage tanks. The wells will be a minimum of 400 feet deep and will have a 200 foot seal. Well Site A is owned by an individual who will sell the project area to the FWC. The site has ample room for a 75,000 gallon storage tank and hydropneumatic tank, and has direct access to Escalon-Bellota Road and a power supply. Well Site A is located in a fallow agriculture field and equipment storage area. Well Site B is located along SR 4 to the west of town center on school property. The well, 75,000 gallon storage tank, and hydropneumatic tank will be constructed in an unimproved portion of the school that is not used as part of the playground. It is accessed by an agricultural road from SR 4. An agreement will be executed with the school district to allow use of the property.

The Project also includes two booster pump stations, two new pressure regulated fire pumps, two new power drops from Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), and approximately 5,000 feet of new 8-inch distribution main. The new distribution mains will be located within existing agricultural roads and road rights-of-way. The area of disturbance will be limited to the width of the backhoe shovel used to dig the new trenches, approximately 2-3 feet wide. No other ground disturbance outside the area of the trench construction and the well and tank sites is expected.





- 8. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: Farmington is a small, rural farming community that serves as a rural service center for the surrounding agricultural area and for motorists on SR 4. Land uses surrounding Well Site A and Well Site B include, agriculture, rural residential, and public facilities (Farmington Elementary School).
- 9. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required: U.S. Department of Agriculture, California Department of Public Health, Caltrans (encroachment permit), San Joaquin County Department of Environmental Health, San Joaquin County Department of Public Works (encroachment permit), and the Joaquin County Community Development Department (building permit).

CHAPTER 2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Introduction

This Initial Study has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of an Initial Study is to determine whether the proposed Project could significantly affect the environment, requiring the preparation, and distribution of an Environmental Impact Report. Based on the following analysis, it appears that the environmental impacts of the Project would be less-than-significant and that the Project would be eligible for a Negative Declaration.

Project Location

The area served by the FWC is generally the community of Farmington, comprised of existing residences, businesses, schools, and a cemetery fronting on paved roads. Figure 1 is a vicinity map showing the location of the town of Farmington in eastern San Joaquin County, surrounding the intersection of SR 4 and Escalon-Bellota Road. The community of Farmington and surrounding area has been historically in agriculture production. The existing water system facilities are located in roadways and previously disturbed easement areas.

Project Description

The FWC Water System is a small community water system that supplies water drawn from two existing wells to 84 service connections serving a community of 270 people. The FWC Water System currently provides water for drinking, bathing, cooking, and irrigation purposes to residents and businesses. FWC Water System has been invited for a grant to upgrade the equipment since the quality of water in the existing system has been historically plagued by unacceptable bacterial problems at the wells which is believed to come from the groundwater supply. The system facilities are at the end of their service life and aging infrastructure is believed to have contributed to the situation. Also, the area is heavy agricultural which may be the source of contamination from the influence of penetration of surface water around the well seals. The community is currently under a compliance order from the County of San Joaquin Environmental Health which is the local primary agency for the system.

The proposed Project includes drilling two new wells at Sites A and B and interconnecting the wells with a backbone distribution line. Each well will be accompanied by a 75,000 gallon storage tank. Drilling wells at Sites A and B will require approximately 2,800 lineal feet of piping to connect the two wells and storage tanks. The wells will be a minimum of 400 feet deep and will have a 200 foot seal. Well Site A is owned by an individual who will sell the project area to the FWC. The site has ample room for a 75,000 gallon storage tank and hydropneumatic tank, and has direct access to Escalon-Bellota Road and a power supply. Well Site A is located in a fallow agriculture field and equipment storage area. Well Site B is located along SR 4 to the west of town center on school property. The well, 75,000 gallon storage tank, and hydropneumatic tank will be constructed in an unimproved portion of the school that is not used as part of the playground. It is accessed by an agricultural road from SR 4. An agreement will be executed with the school district to allow use of the property. Once the new wells are in operation, the two existing FWC Water System wells will be abandoned and sealed according to State and County standards.

The Project also includes two new hydropneumatic tanks, two booster pump stations, two new pressure regulated fire pumps, two new power drops from PG&E, and approximately 5,000 feet of new 8-inch distribution main. The proposed pipeline will replace existing lines within the community of Farmington. The proposed layout is shown in Figure 2. The pipeline will be constructed within the road right-of way of SR 4, Escalon-Bellota Road, South First Street, South Second Street, and East Elm Street. The water line will also be extended along agricultural roads to connect to Well Site A and Well Site B. The water line will be replaced along Escalon-Bellota Road between Duck Creek and Littlejohns Creek. The water line will not be extended across the bridge over either of these waterways. The residences to the north of Duck Creek and the south of Littlejohns Creek will continue to be served by existing water lines. The replacement water line will connect to the existing water line at prior to crossing each bridge. The area of disturbance will be limited to the width of the backhoe shovel used to dig the new trenches, approximately 2-3 feet wide. No other ground disturbance outside the area of the trench is expected.

Project Need and Objective

In addition to the water quality problems associated with bacteria, the FWC water system does not meet drinking water standards and does not provide adequate fire protection to the residents of the community. The Farmington water system does not meet the Water Works Standards because it has no storage and the wells are only 25 five feet apart; therefore, the system does not have redundant water sources. Also, the wells cannot meet the peak hour demand separately.

The system is not meeting the water quality standards per Title 22 California Code of Regulations. The system is over 42 years old and suffers from aging infrastructure as well as outdated technology. After continuous use, the water system has likely deteriorated, which may have caused problems such as rust and corrosion of the distribution lines. FWC is exceeding the MCL requirement for bacteria as described in the California Code of Regulations and was issued a compliance order on March 7, 2006

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) has reportedly examined the FWC fire suppression ability and determined that the fire supply and fire capacity are inadequate. AWWA standards typically require a nominal fire flow capacity of 1,000 gpm (gallons per minute) for a two hour period for hydrants with a 300 ft separation, but testing has shown that the fire supply only provides 434 gpm. It is clear that the fire supply for FWC must be increased. The State Revolving Fund PER included a fire flow of at least 1,250 gpm for two hours for compliance with recommendations in the ISO report.

Additionally, the distribution system is approximately 9,200 lineal feet of various sized distribution piping. Most of the existing system is undersized and in some cases does not meet the 4 inch minimum distribution pipe size.

CHAPTER 3. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

Introduction

The following section describes the environmental setting and identifies the environmental impacts anticipated from development of the proposed Project. The criteria provided in the CEQA environmental checklist was used to identify potentially significant environmental impacts associated with the Project. Mitigation is presented for potentially significant impacts. Sources used for analysis of potential impacts are cited in the checklist and provided in Chapter 4 of this Initial Study.

Checklist and Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

An explanation for all checklist responses is included, and all answers take into account the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts. In the checklist below the following definitions are used:

"Potentially Significant Impact" means that there is either substantial evidence that an effect may be significant or, due to lack of existing information, may have potential to be a significant effect.

"Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" means the incorporation of one or more mitigation measures can reduce the effect from potentially significant to a less than significant level. For purposes of this particular checklist, this category will not be utilized.

"Less Than Significant impact" means that there is sufficient evidence available to determine that the effect is less than significant and no mitigation is necessary to reduce the impact to a lesser level.

"No **impact**" means that the effect does not apply to the proposed project, or clearly will not impact nor be impacted by the project.

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this Project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics ☐ Biological Resources ☐ Hazards/Hazardous Materials ☐ Mineral Resources ☐ Public Services	 ☐ Agricultural Resources ☐ Cultural Resources ☐ Hydrology/Water Quality ☐ Noise ☐ Recreation ☐ Mandatory Findings of Si 	Population Transpor	
☐ Utilities/Service Systems	IVIandatory Findings of SI	gnificance	

Determination

On th	e basis of this initial evaluation:
	I find that the proposed project could not have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
	I find that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
	I find that the proposed project may have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only those effects that remain to be addressed.
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.
Califo	Mallon 4/3/09 Date Coordinator



Photo A. Well Site A.

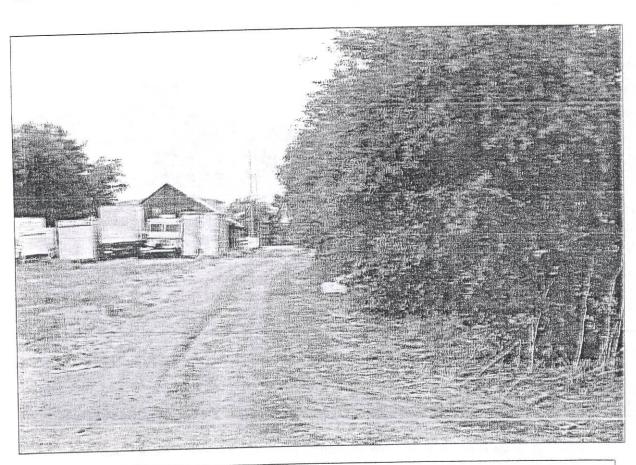


Photo B. Access road to Escalon-Beliota Road from Well Site A-water line will go down center of road.

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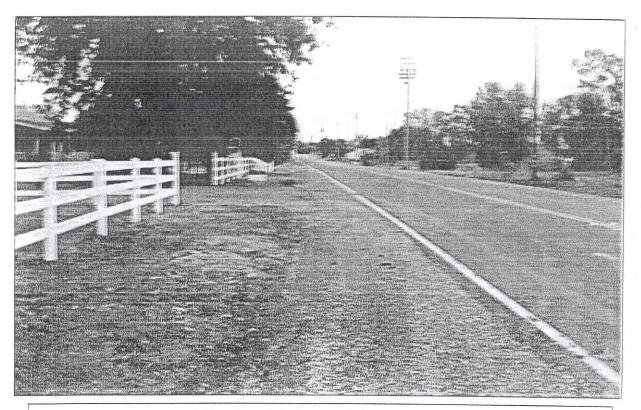


Photo C. Escalon-Bellota Road, facing south from access road to Well Site A.

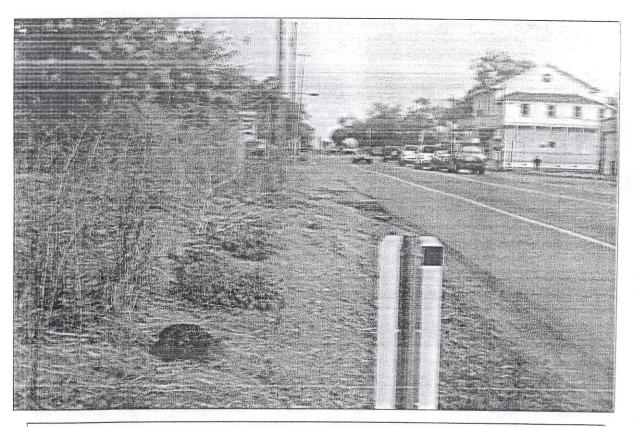


Photo D. State Route 4, facing intersection of SR 4 and Escalon-Bellota Road.

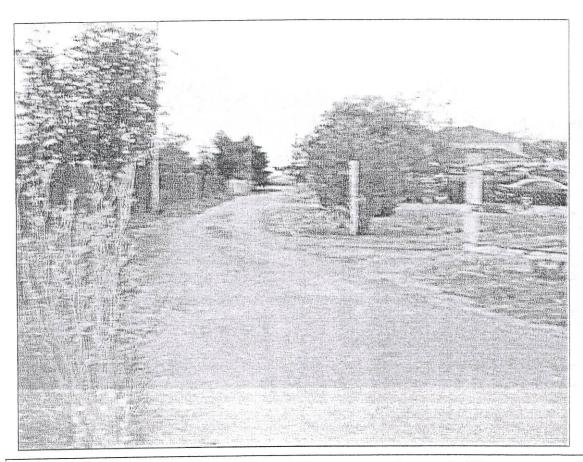


Photo E. Access road to Well Site B. Facing south towards SR 4.

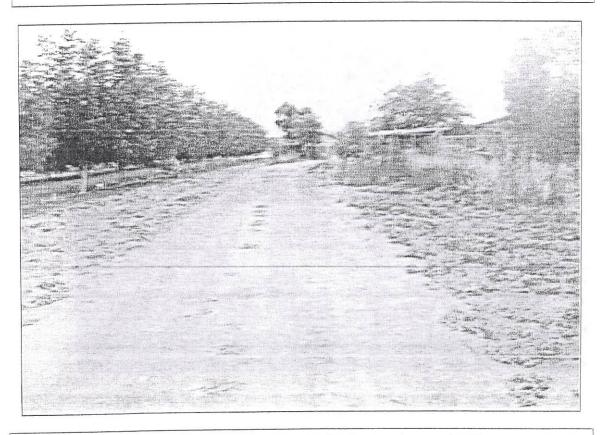


Photo F. Access road to Well Site B. Facing south towards SR 4.

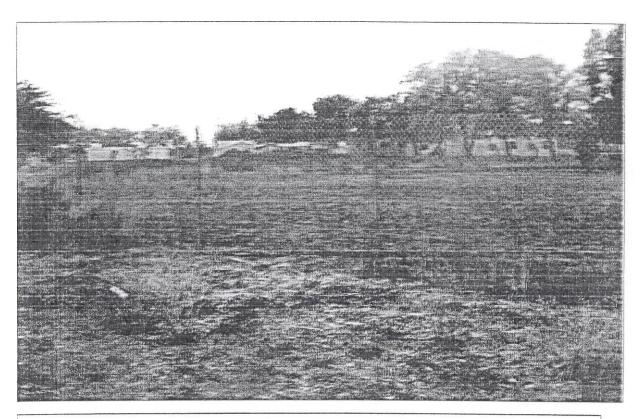


Photo G. Well Site B, located behind Farmington School buildings in unused playground area.



Photo H. Existing FWC facilities at northwest corner of intersection of SR 4 and Escalon-Bellota Road.

Environmental Analysis

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Aesthetics Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or pighttime views in the area?			\boxtimes	

Setting. The proposed water system facilities will be located in roadways and previously disturbed easement areas. Well Site A is located in a fallow agriculture field and equipment storage area. Well Site B is located on school property adjacent to SPRR right-of-way. The project vicinity is characterized primarily by agricultural parcels and scattered rural residential development. Each well site will include a 75,000 gallon above-ground storage tank that will be distantly visible from public roadways (SR 4 and S. Escalon Bellota Road).

Impact. The Project is considered compatible with the surrounding land uses. Aesthetic impacts are considered less than significant.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Agriculture Resources Would the projec	ŧ:			
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non- agricultural use?				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?				

Setting.

Well site B is located on a parcel zoned P-F (Public Facility). There are no existing agricultural uses or operations within the parcel. There are agricultural land uses to the north and east of the parcel.

Well Site A is located on a parcel designated AG-160 (General Agriculture, 160-acre minimum) by the San Joaquin County Zoning Ordinance. The parcel contains fallow agricultural fields and an equipment storage area, and is not under Williamson Act contract. The parcel is located in a predominantly agricultural area with agricultural production activities occurring on the surrounding properties in the immediate vicinity.

Under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), the Department of Agriculture (USDA) is authorized to identify the effects of federal actions on the conversion of farmland to non-agriculture use. If a project will convert farmland to non-agriculture use, it must be determined whether the land is protected by the FPPA. To be protected, it must be either "prime farmland which is not committed to urban development or water storage, or unique farmland, or farmland which is of state or local importance." The suitability of the local soil resource plays a crucial part in the determination of the Department of Conservation's (DOC's) farmland classification under the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP). The land capability classification system (LCC) developed by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), rates each of the soil types within each respective county in relation to its associated limitations for crop management. A soil rated as Class I would have few limitations whereas a soil rated as Class VIII could have severe limitations that, in most circumstances, would preclude it from commercial crop production.

The USDA Soil Survey for San Joaquin County (2008) maps Archerdale clay loam soil type on both of the Project parcels. Archerdale clay loam has a land capability classification (non-irrigated) of IVs and is not considered prime agricultural soil (NRCS, 2008)¹.

Impact. Based on the NRCS land use classifications, the Project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use. Construction at Well Site A will convert a portion of a fallow agricultural field and equipment storage area to non-agricultural use. The area expected to be converted is approximately 0.25 acre. The Project is considered compatible with the surrounding land uses and agricultural impacts are considered less than significant.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No impact
Air Quality Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?		\boxtimes		
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				

Setting. The Project site is located within the northern portion of the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB), which is comprised of eight counties in California's Central Valley: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and the SJVAB portion of Kern. The SJVAB is regulated by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD).

¹ Class IV (4) soils have very severe limitations that restrict the choice of plants or require very careful management, or both. Subclass s is made up of soils that have soil limitations within the rooting zone, such as shallowness of the rooting zone, stones, low moisture-holding capacity, low fertility that is difficult to correct, and salinity or sodium content.

The federal Clean Air Act (CAA) and the California Clean Air Act (CCAA) mandate the control and reduction of certain air pollutants. Under these Acts, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) have established ambient air quality standards (AAQS) for certain "criteria" pollutants. These pollutants are carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O3), sulfur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen oxides (NOx), particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM10), and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5). These pollutants are called "criteria" air pollutants because standards have been established for each of them to meet specific public health and welfare criteria. Criteria air pollutants of concern in the Project area include ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), and respirable particulate matter (PM10 & PM2.5). Diesel particulate matter (DPM) is also an air pollutant of concern with regard to public health.

The Federal Clean Air Act and the California Clean Air Act of 1988 requires the California Air Resources Board to designate portions of the state where the federal or state ambient air quality standards are not met as "nonattainment areas," based on air quality monitoring data. Table 1 provides the current attainment status of the Project area for each of the criteria pollutants.

Table 1 San Joaquin Valley Attainment Status

Pollutant	Designation/Classification		
Pollutant	Federal Standards	State Standards	
Ozone - One hour	No Federal Standard	Nonattainment/Severe	
Ozone - Eight hour	Nonattainment/Serious	Nonattainment	
PM 10	Attainment	Nonattainment	
PM 2.5	Nonattainment	Nonattainment	
Carbon Monoxide	Attainment/Unclassified	Attainment/Unclassified	
Nitrogen Dioxide	Attainment/Unclassified	Attainment	
Sulfur Dioxide	Attainment/Unclassified	Attainment	
Lead (Particulate)	No Designation/Classification	Attainment	
Hydrogen Sulfide	No Federal Standard	Unclassified	
Sulfates	No Federal Standard	Attainment	
Visibility Reducing Particles	No Federal Standard	Unclassified	
Vinyl Chloride	No Federal Standard	Attainment	
Source: SJVAPCD,2009			

Assembly Bill (AB) 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Núñez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006) requires a reduction in California's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. A collaboration of state agencies and universities determined that the average household in California produces 35 tons of CO2 each year. This is lower than the US average of 40 tons of CO2 per year, because Californians tend to use less fuel for air conditioning and heating than the rest of the country. However, this is markedly higher than the world average, which is 7.5 tons per year.

According to the *Proposed Scoping Report* published in June of 2008 and adopted December 11, 2008 by the California Air Resources Board (ARB) (the lead agency for implementing AB 32), in order to reach the AB 32 emission requirement, approximately 30 percent must be cut from business-as-usual emission levels projected for 2020, or about 10 percent from current emission levels. On a per-capita basis, this means reducing the ARB's estimated annual emissions from 14 tons of carbon dioxide for every man, woman and child in California down to about 10 tons per person by 2020.

There are specific gases in the earth's atmosphere that trap the sun's heat, like a greenhouse, and are therefore called "greenhouse gases". "Greenhouse gas" or "greenhouse gases" includes all of the following gases: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexaflouide. The most predominant greenhouse gas is carbon dioxide (CO2) which makes up about 65% of the total greenhouse gasses found in the atmosphere. Each household generates carbon dioxide due to vehicle trips per day, food, fuel and goods consumption and services consumed. The total carbon dioxide produce per household is called the carbon footprint.

Nearly all our actions result in the emission of greenhouse gases into the environment, primarily in the form of carbon dioxide. The earth needs greenhouse gases in order to maintain a livable temperature. But an increase in carbon dioxide emissions over the past 100 years has put the natural cycle out of balance. As the additional carbon dioxide in our environment increases, the earth gets warmer, which leads to changes in climate and weather conditions.

Sensitive receptors (or populations) are more susceptible to the effects of air pollution than are the general population. Sensitive populations who are near sources of particulate matter, toxic air pollutants, and CO are of particular concern. Land uses that are considered sensitive receptors include residences, schools, playgrounds, childcare centers, athletic facilities, long-term health care facilities, rehabilitation centers, convalescent centers, and retirement homes. The school site and residences to the south of Well Site B and the residences to the west of Well Site A are considered sensitive receptors in the area.

Impact. The Project involves the disturbance of approximately 0.5 acre at each well site, which includes the area needed for the storage tank and other related improvements. The operation of the Project would not create additional vehicle trips to the site that would generate long-term pollution emissions. The only trips that would be generated by the Project would be vehicles associated with the waterline construction and occasional maintenance vehicles that may access each well site for infrastructure inspections/repairs.

The Project would result in short-term air quality impacts during construction, generated primarily by particulates (i.e., dust). Construction-related impacts would be restricted to those areas under construction at any one time and are generally intermittent and temporary. Clearing and grading activities are the major source of construction dust emissions, but general disturbance of the soil also generates dust. Construction activities would increase local PM₁₀

levels downwind. The increase in dust could result in potentially significant short-term impacts on sensitive receptors in the area. The SJVAPCD has established regulations governing various activities that contribute to the overall PM10 problem by adopting a set of PM10 "Fugitive Dust Rules" collectively called Regulation VIII. Compliance with Regulation VIII and implementation of appropriate mitigation measures to control respirable particulate matter (PM10) emissions are considered to be sufficient to render a project's construction-related impacts less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Because the project involves the replacement of an existing water system, impacts to greenhouse gases above the existing baseline are less than significant. No new significant sources of carbon emissions are anticipated with this project.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Implementation of the following mitigation measure will reduce any air quality impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure AQ-1: The applicant shall comply with the SJVAPCD's Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts, which contains a list of feasible control measures for construction-related PM_{10} emissions. The following controls are required to be implemented at all construction sites:

- All disturbed areas, including storage piles, which are not being actively utilized for construction purposes, shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water, chemical stabilizer/suppressant, covered with a tarp, vegetative ground cover, or other suitable cover.
- All on-site unpaved roads and off-site unpaved access roads shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant
- All land clearing, grubbing, scraping, excavation, land leveling, grading, cut and fill, and demolition activities shall be effectively controlled of fugitive dust emissions utilizing application of water by presoaking.
- When materials are transported off-site, all material shall be covered, or effectively wetted to limit visible dust emissions, and at least six inches of freeboard space from the top of the container shall be maintained.
- All operations shall limit or expeditiously remove the accumulation of mud or dirt from adjacent public streets at the end of each workday. (The use of dry rotary brushes is expressly prohibited except where preceded or accompanied by sufficient wetting to limit the visible dust emissions; the use of blower devices is expressly forbidden.)
- Following the addition of materials to, or the removal of materials from, the surface of outdoor storage piles, said piles shall be effectively stabilized of fugitive dust emissions utilizing sufficient water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant.
- Within urban areas, trackout shall be immediately removed when it extends 50 or more feet from the site and at the end of each workday.
- Any site with 150 or more vehicle trips per day shall prevent carryout and trackout.
- Traffic speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 mph.
- Sandbags or other erosion control measures to prevent silt runoff to public roadways from sites with a slope greater than one percent.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Biological Resources Would the project: a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
b) 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 California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				

Setting. The Project site is located within the eco-region known as the Central Valley. The Central Valley is characterized by flat plains. The natural vegetation within this region is California steppe and tule marshes, although most of this vegetation has been replaced by irrigated agriculture, other cropland, and/or grazing land. The soils in the region are recent alluvium, lightcolored soils of the wet and dry sub-humid regions.

The Project site is located along the valley floor. The valley floor is composed of a limited number of plant communities due to the long history of agricultural disturbance. The Project site has three habitat types. These include non-native grassland, agricultural land, and built land. Each of these habitats is described below.

Non-native Grassland. Non-native grassland occurs throughout the San Joaquin Valley in areas that are typically characterized by past disturbance, such as fire, grazing, tilling, etc. Plants that can commonly be found in non-native grasslands include mustards (*Brassicaceae*), filarees (*Erodium* spp.), clovers (*Trifolium* spp.), wild oats (*Avena* spp.), bromes (*Bromus* spp.), foxtail barley (*Hordeum murinum* spp.), ryegrass (*Lolium* spp.), common tarweed (*Hemizonia* spp., *Holocarpha* spp.), and fiddle-neck (*Amsinckia menziesii*) among others. In some areas there may be native grassland plants located within this habitat type.

Agricultural Land. Agricultural land occurs in a large portion of the San Joaquin Valley. These areas are typically characterized by continued ground disturbance, from tilling, harvesting, etc. Agricultural land varies from orchards, vineyards, and grain fields, which typically receive infrequent disturbance compared to row crop, which is regularly disturbed. Because of the regular management of agricultural land, most plants are limited to the margins of the fields, with the exception of the crop. Plants that are typically found along field margins are similar to those found in non-native grasslands.

<u>Built.</u> Built areas consist of structures, roads, and parking areas. The plant diversity in this type of habitat is low and is composed primarily of non-native grasses and other ruderal plants. Viidlife in the area is very limited as food sources are scarce. Wildlife that is commonly found in these areas is generally passing through rather than occupying the area.

Impact. A reconnaissance-level biological survey was conducted on November 5, 2008 by Quincy Yaley, a biologist with Mother Lode Planning. The following discussion is based on a background search of special-status species that are documented in the California Department of Fish and Game's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and the observations that were made by Mother Lode Planning. The background search was regional in scope and focused on the documented occurrences within the Farmington and Peters USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle maps. The results of the search are contained in Appendix B. The database search revealed 10 special-status species within the regional vicinity of the Project site.

The following species and sensitive habitat types are documented in the region, but they are associated with vernal pool habitat, open water habitat, stream habitat, or marshes and swamps, which are absent from the Project site: tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*), California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), Delta button-celery (*Eryngium racemosum*), Greene's tuctoria (*Tuctoria greenei*), western spadefoot toad (*Spea hammondii*), and giant garter snake (*Thamnophis gigas*). These species were not observed on the Project site, nor are they expected to occur based on the habitat conditions that are present.

No federally threatened or endangered species have the potential for habitat on the Project site. No critical habitat is designated within the Project site. The Project will not affect a federally listed endangered or threatened species or listed critical habitat.

The following species have the potential for habitat on the Project site:

<u>Pallid bat (Antrozous pallidus)</u> is a state species of concern that is found in a variety of habitats, including grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests from sea level up through mixed conifer forests. The species is most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Day roosts are in caves, crevices, mines, and occasionally in hollow trees and buildings. Pallid bat prefers rocky outcrops, cliffs, and crevices with access to open habitats for foraging.

This species was not observed on the Project site, and the breeding conditions are not well suited for this species. However, this species could use the site for foraging habitat. Given the limited area of disturbance outside of paved roadways, and that the Project site does not provide the appropriate breeding habitat, impacts to pallid bat are expected to be less than significant.

<u>Swainson's Hawk (Buteo swainsoni)</u> is a state threatened species that is found foraging in grasslands, suitable grain or alfalfa fields, or livestock pastures. They typically occupy open desert, grassland, or cropland containing scattered, large trees or small groves. Swainson's hawk roosts on large trees, but will roost on the ground if no suitable trees are available. They nest in open riparian habitat, in scattered trees or small groves in sparsely vegetated flatlands. This hawk is usually found near water in the Central Valley, but have also been found nesting in arid regions.

This species was not observed on the Project site. However, this species could use the site for foraging and/or breeding habitat. Given the limited area of disturbance outside of paved roadways, the small area proposed for the well and tank structures, impacts to Swainson's hawk are expected to be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia) is a federal bird of conservation concern and state species of concern that is a small ground-nesting bird of prairie and grassland habitats. In many areas, burrowing owls have adapted to human altered habitats such as urban development and agriculture, and have eliminated natural grasslands. Burrowing owls rely upon burrows dug by burrowing mammals for nests, primarily those of ground squirrels. Burrowing owls also require open fields with adequate food supply for foraging habitat, low vegetative cover to allow owls to watch for predators, and adequate roosting sites. These owls can often be seen perched or standing by their burrow or hunting insects, rodents, amphibians, or small birds in open fields. The nesting season is from February through August.

This species was not observed on the Project site and the habitat conditions are not well suited for this species. Because the Project site does not provide the appropriate foraging or breeding habitat it is presumed absent. Impacts to burrowing owls are expected to be less than significant.

Raptor nests and nesting raptors (including, but not limited to Swainson's hawk and burrowing owl) are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code. There were not any raptors or raptor nests observed on the Project site or on the adjacent lands during reconnaissance-level biological survey. There are trees located in the vicinity of the Project site that could support nesting raptors. The Project site is considered low quality foraging habitat for raptors. Although raptors were not been observed on the Project site, the location and/or occurrences of biological resources (i.e. raptors) is not static through time and trees in the vicinity of the proposed construction could provide potential habitat for nesting raptors. The location and occurrences of these resources changes through time. Construction activities can disrupt nesting activities, causing abandonment of a nest, egg, or juvenile bird. Any potential impact to raptors can be mitigated below the level of significance through

implementation of specific mitigation measures. This impact is considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Areas meeting the regulatory definition of "Waters of the United States" (jurisdictional waters) are subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The USACE under provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (1972) has jurisdiction over "Waters of the U.S." These waters may include all waters used, or potentially used, for interstate commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, all interstate waters, all other waters (intrastate lakes, rivers, streams, mudflats, sandflats, playa lakes, natural ponds, etc.), all impoundments of waters otherwise defined as "Waters of the U.S.", tributaries of waters otherwise defined as "Waters of the U.S.", the territorial seas, and wetlands adjacent to "Waters of the U.S." (33 CFR, Part 328, § 328.3). Areas not considered to be jurisdictional waters include non-tidal drainage and irrigation ditches excavated on dry land, artificially-irrigated areas, artificial lakes or ponds used for irrigation or stock watering, small artificial water bodies such as swimming pools, and water-filled depressions (33 CFR, Part 328).

A review of the USGS Farmington and Peters quadrangle maps and the site inspection revealed that the water distribution main line located within the roadway of Escalon-Bellota Road will cross over an intermittent drainage north of its intersection with SR 4. The pipeline will not cross Duck Creek or Littlejohns Creek. The intermittent drainage crosses under the roadway through a culvert, and riparian vegetation is present along the drainage on either side of the culvert, outside of the road right-of-way. The proposed water line will be constructed within the existing roadway in a trench, and will be placed above or below the existing culvert. No construction will be done within the drainage, riparian vegetation, or culvert. Construction will not impact the waterway in any manner. Implementation of the proposed Project would have less than significant impact on riparian habitat, other sensitive natural habitats, wetlands, or jurisdictional waters. No mitigation is necessary.

Numerous water birds migrate through San Joaquin County each year. The majority of these birds are not documented in the CNDDB, although these birds are known to occur at times, but almost entirely within or along the major waterways. The appropriate habitat for waterfowl is absent from the Project site itself, although there could be potential for waterfowl to occur within the drainage located on both sides of Escalori-Bellota Road. No Project construction will occur within the drainage. The Project site does not contain migratory or movement corridors (other than the airways for waterfowl), and it is not considered a native wildlife nursery site.

The Project site is not identified as a biologically sensitive area in the San Joaquin County General Plan. Furthermore, the Project site does not contain any special status species, sensitive habitat types, protected wetlands, jurisdictional waters, or migration/movement corridors. The proposed Project does not conflict with any General Plan policies that are intended to protect sensitive biological resources, because they are not present on the Project site. Implementation of the proposed Project would not result in a conflict with San Joaquin County General Plan policies; therefore, the proposed Project would have no impact on this environmental topic.

The San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat and Open Space Plan covers San Joaquin County and includes two species with potential to be found on the Project site: Swainson's hawk and burrowing owl. The Multi-Species Habitat and Open Space Plan allows for agencies, such as San Joaquin County to allow for an "incidental take" of a covered species or allow for Project applicants to mitigate for impacts to a covered species listed in the plan. As described above, impacts to both Swainson's hawk and burrowing owl will be less-than-significant. The location,

design, and execution of this Project will not result in an "incidental take" of a covered species, and will not conflict with the programs and polices in the Multi-Species Habitat and Open Space Plan. Further, there is no Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan which is applicable to Project site. Implementation of the proposed Project would have no impact on this environmental topic.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Implementation of the following mitigation measure will reduce any biological resources impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Approximately 30 days prior to commencement of construction activities on the Project site a qualified biologist shall conduct raptor reconnaissance level surveys in the trees on the Project site and within ½ mile of Project activities to determine the presence of nesting raptors. If construction activities occur between March 1 and September 15, a survey for nesting Swainson's hawks shall also be conducted by a qualified biologist.

If raptors or raptor nests are found during the surveys, the Farmington Water Company shall implement appropriate mitigation, to ensure that the proposed Project will have a less-than-significant impact on raptors. Appropriate measures may include: delay construction activities until nesting is complete and the juveniles have fledged the nests, or establish an adequate no construction zone buffer around the nest. The results of the survey shall be documented in a letter report to the lead agency. This mitigation measure will ensure compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Department of Fish and Game code section 3503.5.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Cultural Resources - Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?		\boxtimes		
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?		\boxtimes		
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				

Setting. A records search of all pertinent survey and site data was conducted by staff at the Central California Information Center on March 5, 2009 (Appendix C). The records were accessed by utilizing the Farmington and Peters USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map and included the Project area and immediate vicinity. The record search included review of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the California Register of Historical Resources, the California Inventory of Historic Resources (1976), the California Historical Landmarks (1996),

the California Points of Historical Interest listing (May 1992 and updates), the Historic Property Data File (OHP current computer list, 2006), the Caltrans State and Local Bridger Survey (1989 and updates), the Survey of Surveys (1989), GLO Plat maps, and other pertinent historic data. The record search did not identify any significant prehistoric or historic archaeological resources or historic properties within the Project area or immediate vicinity.

Government Code §65352.3 requires local governments to consult with California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose of protecting, and/or mitigating impacts to cultural places. Appendix D contains correspondence with the NAHC and those tribes indentified by the NAHC as having traditional lands or cultural places located within the project vicinity. Letters regarding the proposed project were sent via certified mail to tribal contacts on February 3, 2009 and no responses were received.

Impact. There is always the potential to unearth historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources or human remains during excavation activities. This impact is considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Wiitigation/Conclusion. Implementation of the following mitigation measure will reduce any cultural resources impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure CR-1: If any artifacts, exotic rock types or unusual amounts of bone, or shell be uncovered are discovered during ground-disturbing activities associated with Project preparation, construction, or completion, all work within 100 feet of the find shall stop until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find, and, if necessary, develop appropriate mitigation measures in consultation with appropriate agencies and individuals. Concordant with the mandates of Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are discovered during the construction phase of a development, all work must stop in the immediate vicinity of the find, and the County Coroner must be notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which in turn will inform a most likely descendant. The descendant will then recommend to the landowner the appropriate method for the disposition of the remains and any associated grave goods.

		Potentially Significant impact	Less Than Significant with Wittigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
į,	Geology and Soils Would the project: a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				60°
	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			\boxtimes	
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			\boxtimes	
iv) Landslides?				
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			\boxtimes	
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				

Setting. A review of Special Publication 42 for areas in the vicinity of the Project indicates that the site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42). None of the known fault lines in San Joaquin County are classified as active by the State Geologist. The Project site could be subject to some ground shaking from regional faults. According to the County General Plan, ground shaking within San Joaquin County would most likely be caused by the San Andreas, Hayward, Calaveras, Midland, Green Valley-Concord, or Tracey-Stockton faults. Farmington is within Seismic Zone 3, as identified by the Uniform Building Code. As a requirement for approval, future building plans are required to comply with the Seismic Zone 3 design requirements of the Uniform Building Code.

The predominant general soil type for the Project area is Archerdale clay loam. This soil type is well drained with a depth to water table of more than 80 inches (NRCS). Permeability is slow, and the water capacity and shrink-swell potential are high. The soil is subject to rare flooding, which occurs during years of abnormally high precipitation. Soil liquefaction is a natural phenomenon that occurs when saturated, loose soils lose strength and liquefy during seismic ground shaking. Based on the soil information available, soils on the property have liquefaction potential and are considered expansive.

Impact. Application and enforcement of the Seismic Zone 3 requirements of the Uniform Building Code will ensure building safety under normal seismic conditions. Application of

Uniform Building Code requirements will also address any potential impacts associated with soil liquefaction or expansive soils. The existing regulatory environment is sufficient to reduce potential impacts to a level that is less than significant.

The Project site is relatively flat; there is no risk of exposing people or structures to potentially substantial adverse effects from landslides. As proposed, the Project will result in the disturbance of less than one acre. No significant impacts were identified that could not be addressed through standard ordinance requirements. Standard drainage and erosion control measures as required by ordinance will reduce any potential impacts to an insignificant level.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No impact
Hazards and Hazardous Materials Would	d the project:			
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	32			
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or				

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
working in the project area?				
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				

Setting. The FWC does not regularly use or store hazardous materials. Maintenance of equipment may involve the use of materials such as gasoline, oil, or other lubricants. Their storage, use, and transport are controlled by a framework of federal, state, and local regulations. Regulatory bodies include, but are not limited to, the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control, San Joaquin County Environmental Health Division, U.S. and California Department of Transportation, and the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health.

The only public airport in San Joaquin County is the Stockton Metropolitan Airport, located approximately 16 miles to the west of the Project site. Private airstrips are used in conjunction with the agriculture operations throughout the County. There is a private airstrip located approximately 1 mile west of Farmington.

impact. The proposed Project would not include the routine transport of hazardous materials. Construction on the Project site would involve the use and handling of small amounts of hazardous materials (i.e. gasoline, etc.). The Project would not create a significant hazard to the public or environment; and any use, storage, or handling of hazardous materials would be required to conform to applicable federal, state, and local laws to minimize potential impacts. The Project will not create a significant hazard to the environment through an accident that would involve the release of hazardous materials into the environment.

The Project site is not listed on, or near any sites listed on the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, Liability Information System, the California Department of Toxic Waste Envirostor system, or the State Water Regional Control Board Geotracker system. The Envirostor program lists federal Superfund sites, state response sites, voluntary cleanup sites, and school cleanup sites. The Geotracker program tracks regulatory data about leaking underground fuel tanks, Department of Defense sites, Spills-Leaks-Investigations-Cleanups and Landfill sites. Development of the Project site would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

The Farmington School is located on the property where Well Site B is proposed. The construction phase of the Project may involve the handling of construction-related materials

such as gasoline, oil, etc. These materials will all be used in a manner conforming to applicable federal, state, and local laws to minimize potential impacts. Impacts will be less than significant.

The Project is within two miles of a private airstrip, however given that the Project involves the construction and operation of a water distribution system, it will not result in a safety hazard for people working or residing in the area. The proposed Project does not conflict with the policies and programs in the Safety Element of the San Joaquin County General Plan. No wildlands exist in proximity to the Project site, as the site is located adjacent to residential and agricultural uses. Therefore, the proposed Project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
Hydrology and Water Quality Would the	project:			
a) Violate any water quality standards or				
waste discharge requirements? b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of preexisting nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage				
pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation onor off-site?				
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding onor off-site?				
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of				

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
polluted runoff? f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?			\boxtimes	
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				
 i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam? 				
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				\boxtimes

Setting. The community of Farmington is situated between Duck Creek to the north and Littlejohns Creek to the south. Duck Creek is shown as an intermittent stream and Littlejohns Creek is shown as a perennial stream on the USGS Farmington and Peters quadrangle maps. Several diversion structures are located on these waterways for agricultural uses.

Water is supplied by the FWC. Waste water disposal is provided by private, on-site septic systems for each individual lot. There are no plans for a private sewer system. Farmington has a limited storm water drainage system. The system includes a number of catch-basins and culverts, roadside borrow ditches, and a railroad borrow ditch. Terminal drainage from the community is to Duck Creek and Littlejohns Creek.

The Flood Insurance Rate Maps prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Project area indicate that Zones A, B, and C are all located within the community of Farmington. Zone A, the 100-year flood hazard area, extends along Duck Creek to the north of the Project area, and includes much of Farmington area east of the railroad to the north and south. Areas of Zone B and Zone C are scattered throughout the community. The unnamed drainage is also classified as Zone A. According to FEMA, areas designated Zone A are those with a 1 percent chance of flooding and a 26 percent chance of flooding over the life of a 30 year mortgage. Areas designated as Zone B or C are outside of the 1 percent annual chance floodplain area.

The FWC is required to comply with the National Clean Water Act regulations regarding the reduction of non-point source pollutants, as mandated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), regulated locally by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. The existing storm water program of the NPDES requires municipalities serving greater than 10,000 persons and projects disturbing greater than one acre of land to obtain a

NPDES storm water permit. The NPDES storm water program requires the implementation of a variety of measures, including best management practices, during and after construction.

impact. The Project would not result in changes to absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff. The proposed structures will not impact drainage on each site. The Project will not result in discharge into surface waters or other alteration of surface water quality. Silt fencing and other standard erosion control measures will be used where necessary, such as adjacent to the unnamed drainage on Escalon-Bellota Road. The Project will not disturb more than 1 acre of land, therefore a NPDES storm water permit is not required.

Currently, the FWC is served by two wells and one hydropneumatic tank. The Project proposed two replace these two wells in new locations, add one additional hydropneumatic tank, and two 75,000 gallon storage tanks. The community population is expected to remain stable with no planned or phased development. The replacement water system will be designed to meet the needs of the existing community with only a minimal 10 percent capacity allowance for growth. A 10 percent increase would allow for 8 new connections, since there are 84 existing connections. Because the Project will replace the existing system with a minimal increase in capacity, the Project is not expected to deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge.

The Project will not result in changes to the amount of surface water in any water body or degrade water quality in any way. The Project will not result in changes to currents or the course or direction of water movements. The unnamed drainage crossing under Escalon-Bellota Road through a culvert will not be diverted, altered, or changed in any way. There are no changes proposed to the existing storm water drainage system within the Farmington area. This Project is not expected to increase flows or impact the existing system in any way.

A portion of the water distribution lines within the roadways will be located within the 100-year flood hazard area. No housing is proposed as part of the Project, and all structures proposed, including the water tanks and wells are located outside of the 100-year flood hazard area. The Project is not located within a dam inundation area and will does not have the potential to be inundated by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No impac
Land Use and Planning Would the project a) Physically divide an established community?	et:			
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning				

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				

Setting. The Project site is located within San Joaquin County, in the unincorporated community of Farmington. Well Site A is located on a parcel zoned General Agricultural, 160 acre minimum (AG-160) with a general plan land use designation of General Agricultural (A/G). Well Site B is located on the Farmington School property, which is zoned Public Facility (P-F) with a general plan land use designation of Public (P). Prior to completion of the wells, each well site will be divided into its own legal parcel and will be sold or transferred to the FWC.

Impact. The Project will be limited to the construction of water tanks, wells, distribution lines, and accessory equipment. The Project will not divide an established community. Land use designations surrounding each well site are Rural Residential and General Agricultural, which is compatible with the proposed Project.

While wells and water storage tanks are compatible with the general zoning designations on each site, a zone change may be required prior to approval of a parcel map. Specifically, Well Site A is on a parcel (APN 187-200-050) with a 160 acre minimum parcel size. Despite the fact that parcel 187-200-05 is less than 160 acres, the County may not permit the parcel to be split further without a zone change to address the new parcel size. A zone change or any other necessary entitlements will be completed in accordance with County ordinance code and impacts will be less than significant.

The project will require approval from the San Joaquin County Department of Environmental Health, the California Department of Public Health, and the USDA. A destruction permit will be needed from the San Joaquin County Department of Environmental Health for abandonment of the two existing wells. An encroachment permit will be needed from both Caltrans and the San Joaquin County Department of Public Works to allow work within the road right-of-way. A building permit, issued by San Joaquin County, will also be needed for the construction of the water tanks and other on-site equipment. The Project does not conflict with the San Joaquin County General Plan, the San Joaquin County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (as discussed in the Biological Resources section), or any other applicable land use policy or regulation.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Mineral Resources Would the project: a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				

Setting. Pursuant to the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA), the mineral deposits in San Joaquin County have been identified and classified by the State Geologist in Special Report 160, issued August 1988. Also required by SMARA, the State Mines and Geology Board has designated sand and gravel deposits that are of regional and statewide significance. According to the San Joaquin County General Plan, no significant mineral resources have been identified in the vicinity of the Project site.

Impact. No impacts are anticipated.

Wittigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Noise Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				\boxtimes
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing		\boxtimes		

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
without the project?				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				

Setting. Noise is measured in decibels (dB) and is typically characterized using the A-weighted sound level or dBA. This scale gives greater weight to the frequencies to which the human ear is most sensitive. On this scale, the sound level that does not disturb normal talking is about 60 to 65 dBA. Because people are more sensitive to nighttime noise, sleep disturbance usually occurs at 40 to 45 dBA.

The most commonly used measurement scale used to account for a person's increased sensitivity to nighttime noise is the community noise equivalent level (CNEL). The CNEL is a noise scale used to describe the overall noise environment of a given area from a variety of sources. The CNEL applies a weighting factor to evening and night time values.

Excessive noise can be not only undesirable, but may also cause physical and/or psychological damage. The amount and nature of the noise, and the amount of ambient noise present before the impacts may be categorized as auditory or non-auditory. Auditory effects include interference with communication and, in extreme circumstances, hearing loss. Non-auditory effects include physiological reactions such as a change in blood pressure or breathing rate, interference with sleep, adverse effects on human performance, and annoyance.

Generally, noise levels diminish as distance from the noise source increases. Some land uses are more sensitive to noise than others. Noise sensitive land uses are generally defined as residences, transient lodging, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, churches, meeting halls, and office buildings.

The only public airport in San Joaquin County is the Stockton Metropolitan Airport, located approximately 16 miles to the west of the Project site. Private airstrips are used in conjunction with the agriculture operations throughout the County. There is a private airstrip located approximately 1 mile west of Farmington.

Major noise sources in the immediate Project vicinity include SR 4 and S. Escalon Bellota Road. Potentially sensitive noise receptors in the Project area include rural residences and the elementary school.

impact. Construction of the proposed Project would temporarily increase noise in the immediate Project area. Construction would occur in phases, including construction staging, trenching, and grading. Typical hourly average construction noise levels are 75 dBA to 80 dBA measured at a distance of 100 feet from the construction site during busy construction periods. (These noise levels decrease at a rate of about six dBA per doubling of distance.) Noise levels produced by heavy-equipment may impact nearby residences and the school. Construction noise impacts are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Construction and operation would not result in excessive groundbourne vibration or groundbourne noise levels. Temporary increased noise levels due to construction activities will not result in permanent increased ambient noise levels. Occasional use of the agricultural access roads for maintenance also will not result in permanent increased ambient noise levels. Due to the nature of the proposed Project, it would not expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels. The Project is within two miles of a private airstrip, however given that the Project involves the construction and operation of a water distribution system, it will not result expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Implementation of the following mitigation measure will reduce any noise impacts to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure NOI-1: During construction, the contractor will implement the following measures to minimize construction noise nuisance impacts:

- Choose construction equipment that is of quiet design, has a high-quality muffler system, and is well-maintained, including trucks used to haul materials;
- Install superior intake, exhaust mufflers, and engine enclosure panels wherever possible on gas diesel or pneumatic impact machines;
- Limit construction to 7 AM-7 PM, Monday through Saturday, for any onsite or offsite work within 100 feet of any residential unit;
- Eliminate unnecessary idling of machines when not in use;
- Locate all stationary noise-generating construction equipment, such as air compressors and portable power generators, as far as practical from existing residences and school buildings.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Population and Housing Would the proje	ct result in:			
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				\boxtimes
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				

Setting. Farmington is a small, rural farming community with approximately 85 households and a population of 262 (U.S. Census 2000). Farmington is a rural service center for the surrounding agricultural area and for motorists on SR 4. According to 2010 buildout projections in the County General Plan, Farmington will not experience any growth. Based on the rural and agricultural character of the community and potential flooding hazards, the population of Farmington will remain stable, with a slight decrease in population due to declining household sizes.

Impact. The Project would not impact housing/population since it consists of the construction of new wells and the replacement of waterline infrastructure. The replacement water system will be designed to meet the needs of the existing community with only a 10 percent capacity allowance for growth, which would allow for 8 new connections. Future residential development in Farmington will be limited to what is permitted by the current zoning and general plan designation within the community, which impacts have been already discussed and accounted for in the San Joaquin County General Plan. The Project would not induce substantial population or job growth nor displace housing. Therefore, the Project will have no impact on population and housing.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Significant Impact	with Mitigation incorporated	Significant impact	No impact
Public Services— Would the project result in a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios.				
response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?				
Police protection?				
Schools?				
Parks?				
Other public facilities?				

Potentially

Less Than

Significant

Less Than

Setting. The community of Farmington has limited public services. The following summarizes these services and are based on information from the San Joaquin County General Plan:

Police and Fire. The San Joaquin County Sherriff's Department provides law enforcement to Farmington. Fire protection is provided by the Farmington Rural Fire Protection District. The local fire station is located at the southwest corner of SR 4 and Escalon-Bellota Road in the center of town.

<u>Schools.</u> Farmington is located within the Escalon Unified School District. Students attend Farmington Elementary school (K-8) and Escalon High School.

Recreation. There is no park in Farmington. Based on the town's small size and projected growth, its proximity to open space, and its elementary school play area, no park is planned.

Impact. The proposed Project would not increase the demand for fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or any other public facilities. No impacts are anticipated.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Witigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Recreation Would the project result in: a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				
Setting. There is no park in Farmington. Baits proximity to open space, and its elementa				growth,
impact. Due to the nature of the proposed parks or recreational facilities and it do	es not includ	de recreational	facilities or	
construction or expansion of recreational fac	intioo. Ale impe	die are armorpa	iou.	
Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measured				
			Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measured by the mitigation of the mitigation of the measured by the mitigation of t	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	
Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measured	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	
Transportation/Traffic Would the project a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?		orporacou		
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				\boxtimes
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?				
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				
Setting. The community's road access is present Second Streets. Traffic volumes are constraint according to the San Joaquin Courtimpact. The proposed Project will not gene macts are anticipated	relatively light nty General Pla	and are not an.	considered a	growth
Witigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measu	ires are neces	sary.		
		Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Utilities and Service Systems — Would the a) Exceed wastewater treatment	project result i	in:		
requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				\boxtimes
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				\boxtimes
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				

1 --- Thou

Setting.

Water Supply and Distribution. The FWC (Project applicant) owns and operates the community's only water system. The FWC is cooperatively owned by customers and supplies most of the community and some areas outside of the planning area with drinking and fire protection water. The existing system has the capacity for 84 service connections.

Wastewater collection and treatment. Sewage disposal is provided by private individual septic systems with no present failure problems. There are no plans for a community-widie public sewer system.

<u>Solid waste.</u> Gilton Solid Waste Management, based out of Oakdale, CA, provides solid waste services to the community of Farmington once per week.

Impact. The proposed Project includes the construction of new water wells and the replacement of existing waterline infrastructure, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects. These potential impacts are addressed in the relevant sections of the Initial Study and all impacts have been mitigated to a level of insignificance. Due to the nature of the proposed Project there are no impacts associated with wastewater or solid waste.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No additional mitigation measures are necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Mandatory Findings of Significance- Woo	uld the project	result in:		
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				

Less Than

The Project would not result in significant impacts associated with the CEQA mandatory findings of significance. Based on the analysis provided in this Initial Study, the proposed water system replacement would not substantially degrade or reduce wildlife species or habitat, result in significant cumulative impacts, or cause adverse effects on humans.

CHAPTER 4. REFERENCES

Lead Agency

California Department of Public Health Veronica Malloy, CEQA Coordinator David Remick, Sanitary Engineer

Report Preparation

Mother Lode Planning Environmental Consultant Quincy Yaley, Principal Sarah Spann, Senior Planner

References

- 1. Amendment to Preliminary Engineering Report, Nolte Associates February 2009
- 2. Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Núñez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), filed with the Secretary of State September 27, 2006.
- 3. California Natural Diversity Database, Biogeographic Data Branch, Department of Fish and Game, January 4, 2009.
- 4. Central California Information Center records search, March 5, 2009
- CERCLIS, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/cursites/, accessed March 2, 2009
- 6. Climate Change Scoping Plan, California Air Resources Board, October 2008, approved December 11, 2008.
- 7. Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42
- 8. Envirostor, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/, accessed March 2, 2009.
- 9. Flood Rate Insurance Maps, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Community Panel Numbers 0602990495A and 0602990515A, May 15, 1980.
- 10. Geotracker, State Water Quality Control Board, http://geotracker.swrcb.ca.gov/, accessed March 2, 2009.
- 11. San Joaquin County Development Title
- 12. San Joaquin County General Plan
- 13. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts
- 14. Site Inspection, Mother Lode Planning
- 15. Soil Survey of San Joaquin County, CA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 1992

- 16. Uniform Building Code, 1994
- 17. USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, Peters and Farmington
- 18. Zeiner, D.C., W.F.Laudenslayer, Jr., K.E. Mayer, and M. White, eds. 1988-1990. California's Wildlife. Vol. I-III. California Depart. of Fish and Game, Sacramento, California

Appendix A. Summary of Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure AQ-1: The applicant shall comply with the SJVAPCD's Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts, which contains a list of feasible control measures for construction-related PM₁₀ emissions. The following controls are required to be implemented at all construction sites:

- All disturbed areas, including storage piles, which are not being actively utilized for construction purposes, shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water, chemical stabilizer/suppressant, covered with a tarp, vegetative ground cover, or other suitable cover.
- All on-site unpaved roads and off-site unpaved access roads shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant.
- All land clearing, grubbing, scraping, excavation, land leveling, grading, cut and fill, and demolition activities shall be effectively controlled of fugitive dust emissions utilizing application of water by presoaking.
- When materials are transported off-site, all material shall be covered, or effectively
 wetted to limit visible dust emissions, and at least six inches of freeboard space from the
 top of the container shall be maintained.
- All operations shall limit or expeditiously remove the accumulation of mud or dirt from adjacent public streets at the end of each workday. (The use of dry rotary brushes is expressly prohibited except where preceded or accompanied by sufficient wetting to limit the visible dust emissions; the use of blower devices is expressly forbidden.)
- Following the addition of materials to, or the removal of materials from, the surface of outdoor storage piles, said piles shall be effectively stabilized of fugitive dust emissions utilizing sufficient water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant.
- Within urban areas, trackout shall be immediately removed when it extends 50 or more feet from the site and at the end of each workday.
- Any site with 150 or more vehicle trips per day shall prevent carryout and trackout.
- Traffic speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 mph.
- Sandbags or other erosion control measures to prevent silt runoff to public roadways from sites with a slope greater than one percent.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Approximately 30 days prior to commencement of construction activities on the Project site a qualified biologist shall conduct raptor reconnaissance level surveys in the trees on the Project site and within ½ mile of Project activities to determine the presence of nesting raptors. If construction activities occur between March 1 and September 15, a survey for nesting Swainson's hawks shall also be conducted by a qualified biologist.

If raptors or raptor nests are found during the surveys, the Farmington Water Company shall implement appropriate mitigation, to ensure that the proposed Project will have a less-than - significant impact on raptors. Appropriate measures may include: delay construction activities until nesting is complete and the juveniles have fledged the nests, or establish an adequate no construction zone buffer around the nest. The results of the survey shall be documented in a letter report to the lead agency. This mitigation measure will ensure compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Department of Fish and Game code section 3503.5.

Mitigation Measure CR-1: If any artifacts, exotic rock types or unusual amounts of bone, or shell be uncovered are discovered during ground-disturbing activities associated with Project preparation, construction, or completion, all work within 100 feet of the find shall stop until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find, and, if necessary, develop appropriate mitigation measures in consultation with appropriate agencies and individuals. Concordant with the mandates of Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are discovered during the construction phase of a development, all work must stop in the immediate vicinity of the find, and the County Coroner must be notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which in turn will inform a most likely descendant. The descendant will then recommend to the landowner the appropriate method for the disposition of the remains and any associated grave goods.

Mitigation Measure NOI-1: During construction, the contractor will implement the following measures to minimize construction noise nuisance impacts:

- Choose construction equipment that is of quiet design, has a high-quality muffler system, and is well-maintained, including trucks used to haul materials;
- Install superior intake, exhaust mufflers, and engine enclosure panels wherever possible on gas diesel or pneumatic impact machines;
- Limit construction to 7 AM-7 PM, Monday through Saturday, for any onsite or offsite work within 100 feet of any residential unit;
- Eliminate unnecessary idling of machines when not in use;
- Locate all stationary noise-generating construction equipment, such as air compressore and portable power generators, as far as practical from existing residences and school buildings.

Appendix B. Special Status Species
These species were identified by the CNDDB as being documented within the Farmington and Peters USGS quadrangle maps.
CNPS: California Native Plan Society CDFG: California Department of Fish and Game

Species	Status	Habitat	Present on Site?
Delta button-celery (Eryngium raceinosum)	Federal: None State: Endangered CNPS: 1B.1	Riparian scrub, in seasonally inundated floodplains on clay.	No
Greene's tuctoria (Tuctoria greenei)	State: Rare CNPS: 1B.1	Vernal pools, valley and foothill grasslands. Dry bottoms of vernal pools in open grasslands.	N _O
Vernal pool fairy shrimp (Branchinecta lynchi)		Endemic to the grasslands of the central valley, in astatic rain-filled pools. Inhabit small, clear-water sandstone depression pools and grassed swale, earth slump, or basalt flow depression pools.	o _N
California tiger salamander (Ambystoma californiense)	Federal: Threatened State: None CDFG: Special Concern	Needs underground refuges, especially ground squirrel burrows and vernal pools or other seasonal water sources for breeding.	No
Western spadefoot (Spea hammondii)	State: None State: None CDFG: Special Concern	Occurs primarily in grassland habitats, but can be found in valley-foothill hardwood woodlands. Vernal pools are essential for breeding and egg laying.	Š
Giant garter snake (Thamnophis gigas)	Federal: Threatened State: Threatened	Prefers freshwater marsh and low gradient streams. Has adapted to drainage canals and irrigation ditches.	0 N
Pallid bat (Antrozous pallidus)	Federal: None State: None CDFG: Special Concern	Grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests from sea level up through mixed conifer forests.	Yes
Burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia)	Federal: None State: None CDFG: Special Concern	Open, dry grassland and desert habitats and in grass, forb and open shrub stages of pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine habitats.	Yes
Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni)	Federal: None State: Threatened	Desert, shrubsteppe, grassland, and agricultural habitats.	Yes
Tricolored blackbird (Agelaius tricolor)	Federal: None State: None CDFG: Special Concern	Highly colonial, requires open water, protected nesting and foraging area, and insect prey within a few km of colony.	N _o

Appendix C. CCIC Records Search



CENTRAL CALIFORNIA INFORMATION CENTER

California Historical Resources Information System
Department of Anthropology – California State University, Stanislaus
One University Circle, Turlock, California 95382
(209) 667-3307 - FAX (209) 667-3324

Alpine, Calaveras, Mariposa, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislans & Tuolumne Counties

Date: March 5, 2009

CCIC File #: 7346 L

Project: Farmington Water Company Water System Facilities Improvement Project

Quincy Yaley Mother Lode Planning P.O. Box 1201 Pinecrest, CA 95364

Dear Ms. Yaley,

We have conducted a records search as per your request for the above-referenced project areas located on the Peters and Farmington USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle maps in San Joaquin County.

Search of our files includes review of our maps for the specific project areas (the two parcels in question) and the immediate vicinity of the project areas, and review of the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, the California Inventory of Historic Resources (1976), the California Historical Landmarks (1990), and the California Points of Historical Interest listing (May 1992 and updates), the Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File (HPDF) (Office of Historic Preservation current computer list dated 11-10-2008), the Survey of Surveys (1989), GLO Plats, and other pertinent historic data available at the CCIC for each specific county.

The following details the results of the records search:

Prehistoric or historic resources within the project area:

No prehistoric or historic archaeological resources or historic properties have been reported to the Information Center.

Other historic and regional information:

• No building evaluations have yet been reported for the town of Farmington, even though it began its development as a town as early as 1852 and the first settlers at "Oregon

Ranch" arrived in 1848. References: Cities & Towns of San Joaquin County since 1847 (Hillman and Covello 1985) and History of San Joaquin County, California with Illustrations (Thompson and West 1879; 1968 reprint).

- The Farmington School on Parcel B may be the 1923 brick schoolhouse (plus various additions); however, sources on file are not clear as to whether the 1923 schoolhouse still exists or whether it was condemned and removed. The 1889 schoolhouse was originally just west of the tracks, not far from Parcel B but perhaps not directly adjacent to it. It was moved ca. 1923 to an unspecified location.
- The Southern Pacific Railroad line (also known as the Stockton and Visalia Railroad, and the Stockton and Merced Railroad Oakdale Branch) was in the area by the early 1870's.

Historic map information:

- The GLO Plat map for T1N/R9E (sheet #41-014, dated 1851-1855) shows two streams within Parcel A, one adjacent to Parcel B; no cultural features noted. Within ¼-mile: two roads and the "Oregon Ranch" (between Littlejohns Creek and the road that is later Farmington Road/SR 4).
- Map No. 2 from Thompson and West (1879; 1968 reprint) references Farmington and shows the railroad, the schoolhouse, creeks. The 150-acre estate of M.M. Church appears to subsume the Parcel B area (the ranch site may have been nearby); referenced in the SE ¼ of Section 17. The 315-acre estate of G.W. Andrews appears to subsume the Parcel 4 location; referenced in the SW ¼ of Section 16; ranch location not indicated.

Prehistoric or historic resources within the immediate vicinity of the project area:

No prehistoric or historic archaeological resources or historic properties have yet been reported to the Information Center for the immediate vicinity or within ¼-mile (the only archaeological or architectural surveys in the area to date have taken place along SR 4, in association with Caltrans projects).

Other historic information:

- The 1915 Trigo USGS 7.5' map (1:31680 scale) shows many buildings within ¼-mile at that time.
- Sanborn Maps on file:
 - --No maps for Parcel A area on file.
 - --No maps for Parcel B area on file.
 - -- The 1890 map references "Public School" and "Old School" west of the tracks not far from the Parcel B area. The 1895 map references "Shady Grove School House", and

shows 3 other smaller buildings on the same parcel as the school. The 1908 map shows the schoolhouse and only two of the other buildings. All 3 maps show a number of other buildings on them.

• Bridge #29C-171 (the 1928 Escalon-Bellota Road bridge at Duck Creek) *may* be within ¹/₄-mile (we are not sure which branch of Duck Creek this bridge crosses).

Resources that are known to have value to local cultural groups:

None have been formally reported to the Information Center.

Previous investigations within the project area:

Four have been reported for the Caltrans ROW along SR 4 where it lies at the southern boundary of Parcel "B" (but no studies reported for the tank or well site):

CCIC report #

Author/Date

S.J-

2540

Page (1992)

Department of Transportation Negative Archaeological Survey Report, District 10, San Joaquin County Route 4, Post Mile 20.7/33.1

5498

Leach-Palm et al. (2004)

Cultural Resource Inventory of Caltrans District 10 Rural Conventional Highways; Volume 1: Summary of Methods and Findings

5501

Rosenthal and Meyer (2004)

Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 10 Rural Conventional Highways; Volume III: Geoarchaeological Study

5503

Leach-Palm et al. (2004)

Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 10 Rural Conventional Highways; Volume II F: San Joaquin County.

No studies have been reported for Parcel "A".

Previous investigations within the immediate vicinity of the project area:

No other studies have been reported directly adjacent to either parcel, although one other study has been reported within ¼-mile:

CCIC report #

Author/Date

Noble and Rondeau (1985)

Negative Archaeological Survey Report 10 SJO 4 33.3/37.4.

Recommendations/Comments:

Based on existing data in our files, both parcels have a moderate-to-high sensitivity for the possible discovery of historic-era resources, including structure foundations and refuse and artifact deposits and scatters, as well as standing buildings, structures and objects over 45 years old. Parcel "B" may also be sensitive for features associated with the adjacent Southern Pacific Railroad line and the railroad crossing at Duck Creek (information on file indicates the line was abandoned in the 1980's; however, remnants may remain). Both parcels have a high sensitivity for surface and subsurface prehistoric resources, as both parcels are in close proximity to watercourses (Duck Creek and Littlejohns Creek) that have had prehistoric sites recorded in their vicinity.

We recommend:

- (1) Survey of all portions of the APE by a qualified professional archaeologist (the Caltrans ROW along SR 4 is an exception, as it appears to have been comprehensively surveyed).
- (2) On-site monitoring of all excavation by an archaeologist. This includes the proposed water line routes (your request form indicated that water line construction will take place)—even though you did not wish these areas to be included in the search, they are still sensitive areas if the excavation will exceed the depth of the current road "lens".

A copy of the Referral List for Historical Resources Consultants is attached for your use.

Please be advised that a historical resource is defined as a building, structure, object, prehistoric or historic archaeological site, or district possessing physical evidence of human activities over 45 years old. There may be unidentified features involved in your project that are 45 years or older and considered as historical resources requiring further study and evaluation by a qualified professional of the appropriate discipline.

We advise you that in accordance with State law, if any historical resources are discovered during project-related construction activities, all work is to stop and the lead agency and a qualified professional are to be consulted to determine the importance and appropriate treatment of the find. If Native American remains are found the County Coroner and the Native American Heritage Commission, Sacramento (916-653-4082) are to be notified immediately for recommended procedures.

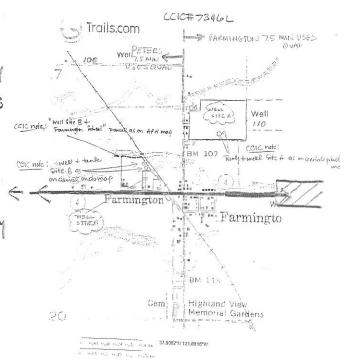
We further advise you that if you retain the services of a historical resources consultant, the firm or individual you retain is responsible for submitting any report of findings prepared for you to the Central California Information Center, including one copy of the narrative report and two copies of any records that document historical resources found as a result of field work.

We thank you for contacting this office regarding historical resource preservation. Please let us know when we can be of further service. Billing is attached, payable within 60 days of receipt of the invoice.

Sincerely,

Robin Hards, Assistant Research Technician Central California Information Center

California Historical Resources Information System

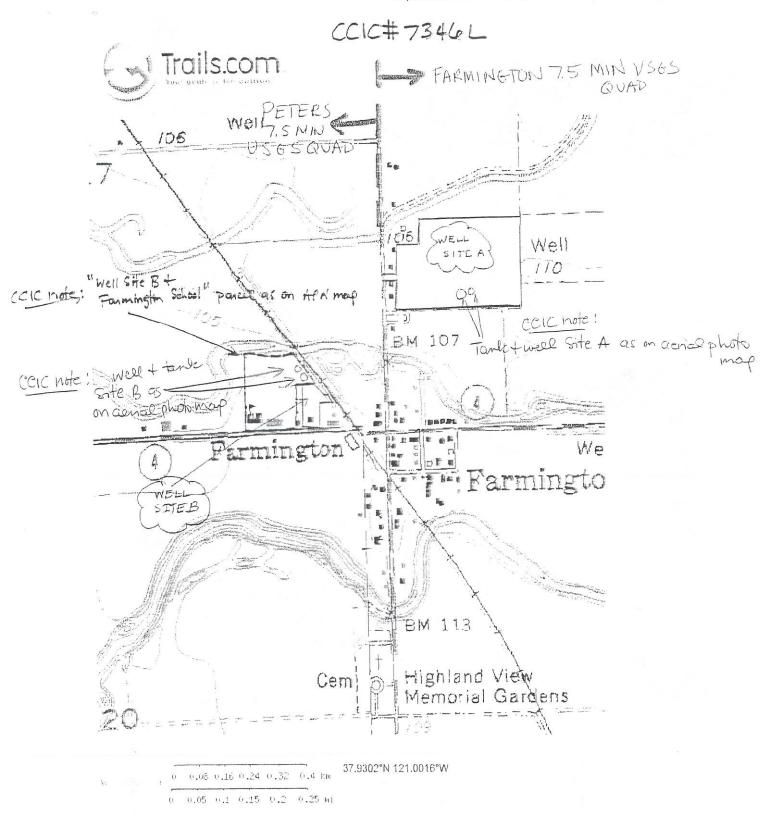


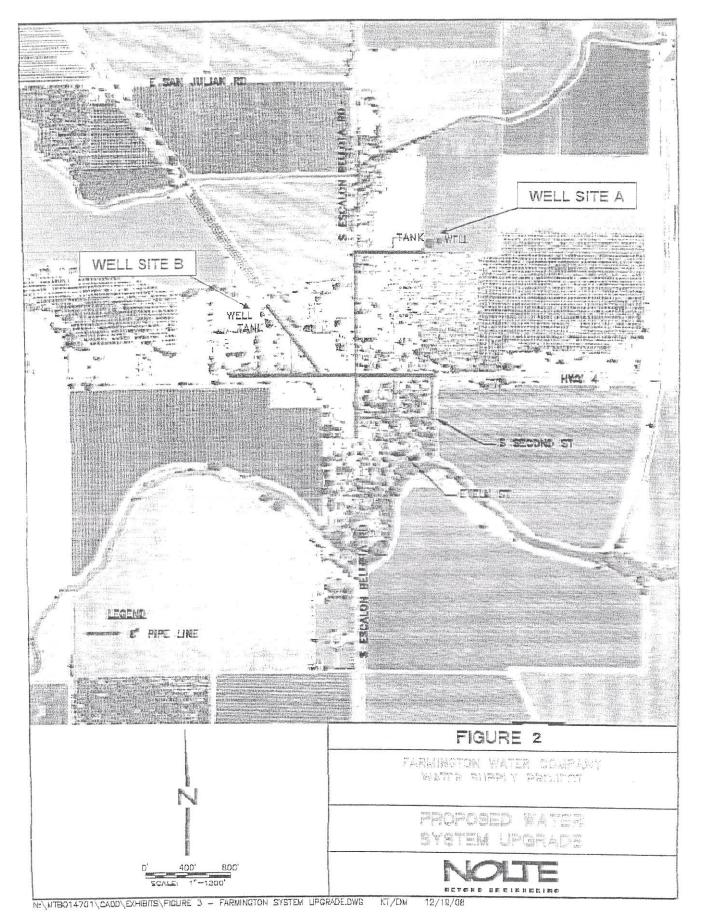
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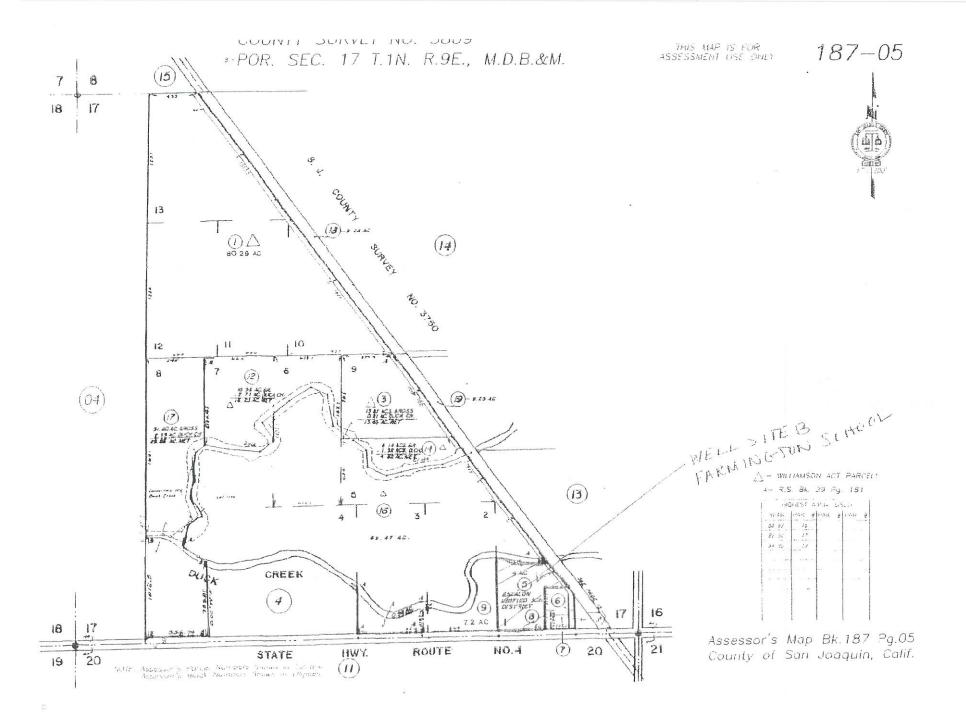
CCIC # 7346 L

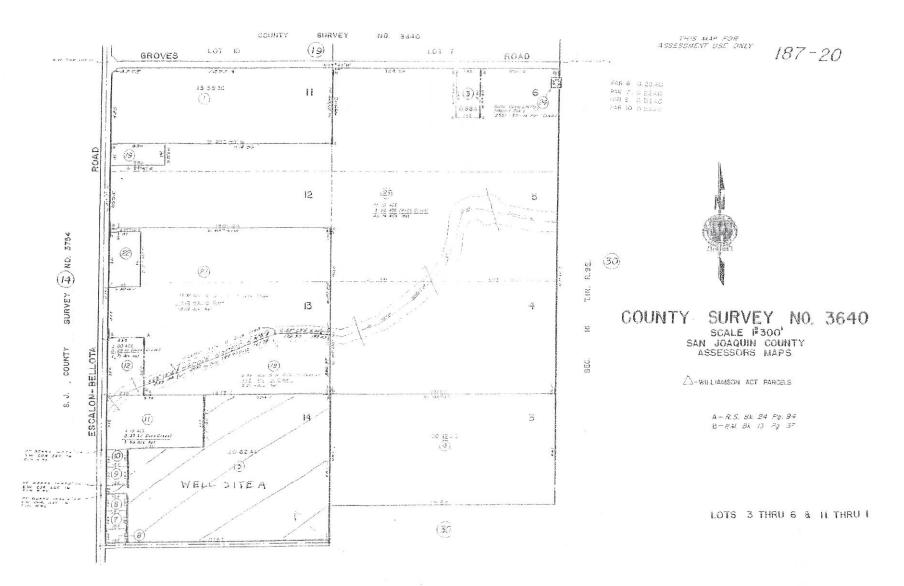
in the 7.5' usas 41: 24000 scale)





CCIC# 7346L





William Filt A

CC1C#7346L

Appendix D. NAHC Correspondence

NATIVE AMERICAN FIERITAGE COMMISSION 915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364 SACHAMENTO, CA 95814 (916) 653-4082 Fax (916) 657-5390



January 29, 2009

Quincy Yaley, Consultant Farmington Water Company 25433 E. Hwy 4 (P.O. Box 77) Farmington, CA 95230

Fax #: 209-762-6806

of Pages: 2

RE: SB 18 Tribal Consultation. Water System Improvement Project, City of Farmington, San Joaquin County..

Dear Mr. Yaley:

Government Code §65352.3 requires local governments to consult with California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose of protecting, and/or mitigating impacts to cultural places. Attached is a consultation list of tribes with traditional lands or cultural places located within the requested plan amendment boundaries.

As a part of consultation, the NAHC recommends that local governments conduct record searches through the NAHC and Gairornia Historic Resources information System (CHRIS) to determine if any cultural places are located within the area(s) affected by the proposed action. NAHC Sacred Lands File requests must be made in writing. All requests must include county, USGS quad map name, township, range and section. Local governments should be aware, however, that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive, and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a cultural place. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a cultural place.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from Tribes, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our consultation list contains current information.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 653-4040.

Kell

Debbiè Pilas-Treadway Environmental Specialist III

lative American Tribal Consultatio ist City of Farmington January 28, 2009

North Valley Yokuts Tribe Katherine Erolinda Perez PO Box 717 Linden , CA 95236

Ohlone/Costanoan Northern Valley Yokuts Bay Miwok

(209) 887-3415

Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation Anthony Brochini, Chairperson

P.O. Box 1200

Miwok

Mariposa

, CA 95338

tony_brochini@nps.gov

Paulte Northern Valley Yokut

209-379-1120 209-628-0085 cell

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.

This list is applicable only for consultation with Native American tribes under Government Code Section 65352.3.

February 3, 2009

CERTIFIED MAIL

Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation Anthony Brochini, Chairperson P.O. Box 1200 Mariposa, CA 95338

SUBJECT:

Farmington Water Company Water System Improvement Project

Dear Mir. Brochini,

My name is Quincy Yaley, Project Manger with Mother Lode Planning, a land use and environmental planning firm. We are assisting the Farmington Water Company with their water system improvement project. On March 1, 2005, the State of California established procedures for consultation between local governments and tribal governments. While this project does not involve an amendment or addition to a local plan, the USDA Environmental Report process, of which the Farmington Water Company must comply with requires notification of local tribal agencies.

The Farmington Water Company is a small community water system (System No. 3900505) with 84 service connections serving 270 people. The water is supplied by two existing wells for drinking, bathing, cooking, and irrigation purposes for residents and businesses. The quality of water in the existing system has been historically plagued by unacceptable bacterial problems at the wells which may be from contaminated groundwater near the well site. The system facilities are at the end of their service life and aging infrastructure is believed to have contributed to the situation.

The project is located in the town of Farmington in eastern 5an Joaquin County surrounding the intersection of State Route (SR) 4 and Escalon-Bellota Road. The project includes the drilling new wells at Well Sites A and B and interconnecting the wells with a backbone distribution line. Drilling wells at Sites A and B will require roughly 2,800 lineal feet of piping to connect the two wells and storage tanks. The project also includes two 75,000 gallon storage tanks, two new hydropneumatic tanks, two booster pump stations, two new pressure regulated fire pumps, two new power drops from PG&E, and 5,000 feet of new 8-inch distribution main. The new tanks, wells, and distribution lines will be within agricultural fields and roadways or within the existing road right-of-way along State Route 4 and Escalon Bellota Road.

Pursuant to Section 65352.3 of the California Government Code, I am notifying you of the project and requesting a consultation at your convenience. If you so desire, you can comment on the proposal on the enclosed form and return it to Mother Lode Planning. Thank you in advance for taking the time to review this issue. I look forward to receiving your response. I can be reached at (209) 626-9868 or by mail at PO Box 1201, Pinecrest, California, 95364.

Sincerely,

Quincy Yaley

Project Manager

MOTHER LODE PLANNING

Project: Farmington Water Company Water System Improvement Project

Description: The project is located in the town of Farmington in eastern San Joaquin County, surrounding the intersection of State Route (SR) 4 and Escalon-Bellota Road. The project includes the drilling new wells at Well Sites A and B and interconnecting the wells with a backbone distribution line. Drilling wells at Sites A and B will require roughly 2,800 lineal feet of piping to connect the two wells and storage tanks. The project also includes two 75,000 gallon storage tanks, two new hydropneumatic tanks, two booster pump stations, two new pressure regulated fire pumps, two new power drops from PG&E, and 5,000 feet of new 8-inch distribution main. The new tanks, wells, and distribution lines will be within agricultural fields and roadways or within the existing road right-of-way along State Route 4 and Escalon Bellota Road.

Comments:		
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NAME	DATE	
-		
AGENCY	CONTACT NUMBER	

Please return this form to Quincy Yaley, Project Manager at Mother Lode Planning, PO Box 1201, Pinecrest, CA 95364.

Questions can be sent to quincy@motherlodeplanning.com or to (209) 626-9868

February 3, 2009

CERTIFIED MAIL

North Valley Yokuts Tribe Katherine Erolinda Perez P.O. Box 717 Linden, CA 95236-0717

SUBJECT:

Farmington Water Company Water System Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Perez.

My name is Quincy Yaley, Project Manger with Mother Lode Planning, a land use and environmental planning firm. We are assisting the Farmington Water Company with their water system improvement project. On March 1, 2005, the State of California established procedures for consultation between local governments and tribal governments. While this project does not involve an amendment or addition to a local plan, the USDA Environmental Report process, of which the Farmington Water Company must comply with, requires notification of local tribal agencies.

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Comments:	
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MAINE	
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Questions can be sent to quincy@motherlodeplanning.com or to (209) 626-9868

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	STATE GLEARING HOUSE # (#app.gable) 200904203 $DATE \angle Z / 2 / 2$	Rairey Gar Franchischer Liberary	ACKLINICAD STATE ZROOP 14/3 (91/C) 5400	State Age		\$50.00 \$	69	TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 10035	CAK	GOLDEN ROD - COUNTY CLERK FG 753.5a (Rev. 11/09)
State of California—The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME 2010 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT	SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY EADAGENCY DOPP. DE PRINT CLEARLY SOLITION OF THE PRINT CLEARLY SOLITION OF	ter System Facilities	Kelvir Yarmadu Ess MMS 14114 OTK.	:HECK APPLICABLE FEES: Province and Public Agency School District Other Special District Intermedial Image Control of the Special District School District Control of the Special District Contro	Mitigated/Negative Declaration (ND)(MND) Application Fee Water Diversion (State Water Resources Control Board Only) Projects Subject to Certified Regulatory Programs (CRP)	y Administrat of that is exer Jotice of Exer JFG No Effec	HOD:	GNATURE Credit Check Other		YELLOW - DFG/ASB PINK - LEAD AGENCY

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Water System Facilities Improvments Project

water System Facilities Improvments Project
SCH Number: 2009042031
Document Type: NOD - Notice of Determination
Project Lead Agency: Health Services, Department of
Project Description
The proposed project includes drilling two new wells and interconnecting the wells with a backbone distribution line. Each well will be accompanied by a 75,000 gallon stoage tank and a hydropneumatic tank.
Contact Information
Primary Contact: Kelvin Yamada California Department of Public Health (916) 449-5600 1616 Capitol Avenue, MS 7418 Sacramento, CA 95899-7413
Project Location
County: San Joaquin City: Region: Cross Streets: Latitude/Longitude: Parcel No: Township: Range: Section: Base: Other Location Info: City/Nearest Community: Farmington
Determinations
This is to advise that the Kead Agency Responsible Agency California Department of Public Health has approved the project descriabove on 4/26/2010 and has made the following determinations regarding the project described above.
1. The project will will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. \square An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
■ A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures ☐were were not made a condition of the approval of the project.

4. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was was not adopted for this project.
5. Findings ★ were □ were not made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
Final EIR Available at: Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management 1616 Capital Ave Sacramento, CA 95899-7413
Date Received: 5/3/2010
CEQAnet HOME NEW SEARCH