

**COMMISSIONERS***KATHY MAC LAREN-GOMEZ, Chair**ROBERT PARRIS, Vice Chair**LEO THIBAULT, Treasurer-Auditor**DON WILSON, Secretary**KEITH DYAS, Commissioner**BARBARA HOGAN, Commissioner***OFFICERS***PETER THOMPSON II, General Manager**DENNIS HOFFMEYER, Controller*

October 3, 2024

**Agenda for the Special Meeting of the Commissioners
of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association
to be held at Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency at
6450 West Avenue N, Palmdale 93551**

Teleconference: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID 839 3795 7835, Passcode 0

Video Conference:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83937957835?pwd=ak1XbmprdBuQnRZOWszWU91VHdyUT09>

Thursday, October 10, 2024

6:00 p.m.

NOTICE: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (b), this Special Meeting of the Commissioners will include teleconference participation by Commissioner Dyas from: 2856 Owens Way, Rosamond, CA 93560.

NOTE: To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to participate in any Association meeting please contact Angel Fitzpatrick at 661-943-3201 x0211 at least 48 hours prior to an Association meeting to inform us of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

Agenda item materials, as well as materials related to agenda items submitted after distribution of the agenda packets, are available for public review at the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency's office located at 6500 West Avenue N, Palmdale or at <https://www.avswca.org/commissioner-meetings>. Please call Angel Fitzpatrick at 661-943-3201 x0211 for public review of materials.

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES: The prescribed time limit per speaker is three-minutes. Please refrain from public displays or outbursts such as unsolicited applause, comments, or cheering. Any disruptive activities that substantially interfere with the ability of the Association to conduct its meeting will not be permitted and offenders will be requested to leave the meeting.

Each item on the agenda shall be deemed to include any appropriate motion, resolution, or ordinance to take action on any item.

- 1) Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) Roll call.
- 3) Adoption of agenda.

- 4) Public comments for non-agenda items.
- 5) Consideration and possible action on meeting minutes for the regular meeting held on August 8, 2024, and the special meeting held on August 28, 2024.
- 6) A review of 2024 Fish Protections: Lessons learned for the new 2024 Incidental Take Permit. (John Yarbrough, SWP Deputy Director, DWR, Lenny Grimaldo, SWP Environmental Director, DWR, and Molly White, Assistant O&M Division Manager-Waste Management, DWR)
- 7) Presentation on the Resilience Center at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds. (Dan Jacobs, Chief Executive Officer, Antelope Valley Fair & Event Center)
- 8) Payment of bills.
- 9) Update on the Littlerock Creek Project. (Tom Barnes, AVEK)
- 10) Consideration and possible action on acceptance of the Draft Initial Study for the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project. (Tom Barnes, AVEK)
- 11) Report on Water Resources and Activities. (Pam Clark, AVEK)
 - a) Grant Programs for the Culverts Projects.
- 12) Report of Controller.
 - a) Update on revenue, expenses, and change in net position.
- 13) Report of General Manager.
 - a) Status updates:
 - 1) Antelope Valley Watermaster meetings.
 - 2) Future agenda items.
- 14) Report of Commissioners.
- 15) Report of Attorney.
- 16) Commission Members' requests for future agenda items.
- 17) Consideration and action on scheduling the next Association meeting on December 12, 2024.
- 18) Adjournment.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, AUGUST 8, 2024.

A regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was held Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 6450 West Avenue N, Palmdale, CA 93551, at 2856 Owens Way, Rosamond, CA 93560, and via teleconference. Chair Mac Laren-Gomez called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

At the request of Chair Mac Laren-Gomez, Commissioner Parris led the pledge of allegiance.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Chair
Rob Parris, Vice Chair
Leo Thibault, Treasurer
Don Wilson, Secretary
Keith Dyas, Commissioner
Barbara Hogan, Commissioner

Others Present:

Matthew Knudson, AVEK General Manager
Tom Barnes, AVEK
Pam Clark, AVEK
Pamela Lee, Legal Counsel
Scott Kellerman, PWD Board Director
Audrey Miller, AVEK Board Director
Peter Thompson II, General Manager
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Controller
Angel Fitzpatrick, Administrative Technician
0 members of the public

EXCUSED ABSENCE~

None

3) Adoption of Agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Hogan, seconded by Commissioner Parris, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to adopt the agenda, as written:

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Parris – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye

~ 1 ~

Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – aye

4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.

There were no public comments.

5) Consideration and Possible Action on Minutes of Regular Meeting Held June 13, 2024.

It was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held June 13, 2024, as written:

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Parris – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – aye

6) Payment of Bills.

It was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Parris, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve payment and ratification of payment of the bills received from AVEK in the amount of \$2,558.35 for staff services of Tom Barnes, Pam Clark and Angel Fitzpatrick for the periods of June 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024, and from ACWA/JPIA in the amount of \$100.00 for the 2024-2025 Cyber Liability Coverage.

Controller Hoffmeyer stated that the Woodard and Curran invoice for \$4,252.50 shown in the payment of bills memo, which is pass-through funds received from the Department of Water Resources on behalf of the AV IRwmp Group for Prop. 1, Round 1 Grant funding project, is not recommended for payment as it has already been paid.

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Parris – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – aye

7) Consideration and Possible Action on Accepting and Filing the Audit for the Year Ending June 30, 2023 (Controller Hoffmeyer)

Controller Hoffmeyer provided a detailed overview of the Association’s audit for the year ending June 30, 2023, after which it was moved by Commissioner Parris, seconded by Commissioner Thibault, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to accept and file the Association’s audit for the year ending June 30, 2023:

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Parris – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – aye

8) Consideration and possible Action to accept the Restricted Funds Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 as presented. (Controller Hoffmeyer)

Controller Hoffmeyer provided a detailed overview of the proposed Restricted Funds Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025, including the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Ground Water Monitoring/CASGEM Program and the expenditure for the Littlerock Creek Joint Groundwater Recharge Program. A brief discussion followed this, and the items were voted on separately.

It was then moved by Commissioner Hogan, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the USGS Restricted Funds Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 for the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Ground Water Monitoring/CASGEM Program.

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Parris – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – aye

It was then moved by Commissioner Hogan, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting following a roll call vote to approve the expenditure for the Littlerock Creek Joint Groundwater Recharge Program.

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Parris – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – aye

9) Update on the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project. (Tom Barnes, AVEK)

Tom Barnes with AVEK updated the Association on the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project. The update included a brief description of the project and an update on the progress of CEQA environmental work, including the current status of the project such as HELIX is reviewing provided project information, CEQA Initial Study is being prepared to determine the Project's potential environmental impacts that will result information as to what level of compliance is required and that a draft Initial Study should be ready for review by early September.

10) Report on Water Resources and Activities. (Pam Clark, AVEK)

1) Potential grant programs for the culvert projects

Pam Clark with AVEK provided the following updates on the potential grant programs to fund the construction of the culverts for the Upper Amargosa Creek, Littlerock Creek, and Big Rock Creek Recharge Projects:

Staff is collaborating with Los Angeles County Waterworks staff and their consultants to identify potential grant opportunities for culvert installations; two potential grant opportunities have been identified for culver installations that will enable improved recharge at Big Rock Creek Recharge Site, Littlerock Creek Recharge Project; the two grants identified were the WaterSMART Drought Response Program as a Drought Resiliency Project and the WaterSMART Small Storage Program.

The Drought Resiliency Program focuses on projects related to storing water or recharging groundwater supplies/storage of additional water supplies that can be made available during drought:

- Maximum cost of \$10M with up to 50% cost share
- Projects need to be identified in a drought contingency plan
- Notice of funding opportunity was published on July 24, 2024
- Applications are due by October 7, 2024

The Small Storage Program focuses on water storage capacity that increases surface water or groundwater storage:

- Maximum project size of \$30M with a cost share of 25%
- The project must have a completed feasibility study to determine the eligibility
- Applications are due for the second round of funding April 30, 2025

The SWRCB Storm Water Grant Program has offered grant programs that fit this project in the past, but no grants are currently available.

The following steps are to continue project development discussions with LA County staff to participate in an informational webinar on August 15 for the WaterSMART Drought Response Program, determine if the project qualifies for a disadvantaged community cost-share waiver, and monitor future grant funding opportunities for consideration.

2) Update on conservation garden sponsorship

Pam Clark with AVEK provided the following updates on the conservation garden sponsorship:

Pam Clark provided an overview of the background of the sponsorship, which included the sponsorship of the Antelope Valley Fair Conservation Garden, which began in 2018 for a total sponsorship of \$75,000 over three (3) years (time extended through 2024 due to COVID-19), an additional \$5,000 per year for maintenance, years 2021 and 2022 (extended to include years 2023 through 2026). To date, town community areas have been developed with drought-tolerant landscaping. The project includes the Back Yard, which is across from the H.W. Hunter Pavilion, and the La Plaza area, which is at the rear of the Primrose stage area. These areas include educational signage for plant locations and names identifying the AVSWCA's sponsorship.

It was also reported that staff recently visited the AV Fairgrounds to observe the conservation garden areas. They noted that the areas continue to be well-maintained with appropriate signage, but some minor weeding improvements were needed.

11) Report of Controller.

a) Update on Revenue, Expenses, and Change in Net Position.

Controller Hoffmeyer provided an overview of the Association's revenue, expenses, and change in net position for the month ending June 30, 2024.

12) Report of General Manager.

a) Status Updates:

1) Antelope Valley Watermaster Meetings.

General Manager Thompson II stated that the Watermaster interviewed Provost & Pritchard and Regional Government Services for the administrative services of the Watermaster; that following the interviews, both were selected to receive a Request for proposals; that Todd Groundwater's contract was renewed for 2025-2027 which included the development of a production reporting application; that the 2023 Annual Report was approved; and that the Watermaster will review the proposals from Provost & Pritchard and Regional Government Services at the August meeting.

2) Future Agenda Items.

He then stated that future agenda items would include an update on CEQA for the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project, an update on development on the Culvert Projects, a presentation from DWR on the 2024 Water Year, and the potential Edmonston Pumping Plant Tour.

In addition, he expressed his gratitude to Tom Barnes and Pam Clark from AVEK for filling in and taking on additional responsibilities in his absence at the June meeting. He mentioned that the Association will focus on distributing its duties more evenly among the member agencies to balance the workload among the staff. The plan is to have a formal plan will be completed by the end of the year.

13) Reports of Commissioners.

Commissioner Parris reported that individuals with AVEK met with Dan Jacobs at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds (Fair) and later met with the AVEK planning committee. The meetings aimed to discuss how AVEK can assist the Fair and the City of Lancaster with the development of the Resilience Center and contribute to the emergency preparedness for the Antelope Valley. He mentioned that the Fair has already planned a resilient power supply using a hydrogen plant to supply an off-grid electrical system. However, the Fair currently does not have an off-grid water supply system and is working on a plan. Additionally, there is a possibility that the member agencies and other water agencies can contribute to a machine shop that can be used by the high schools regularly and be used by the water agencies in an emergency to fix water systems and store generators and equipment.

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez reported that Palmdale Water District has an MOU with the United Water Conservation District, and she toured all of its facilities, including the Frances Dam.

14) Report of Attorney.

General Counsel Lee reported and provided detailed information on the State Water Resources Control Board's adoption of a new rule requiring water agencies to reduce their water use over the next 15 years.

15) Commission Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

Commissioner Parris requested that the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds and the City of Lancaster present to the Association for a possible discussion on how the member agencies can contribute to the Resilience Center's development.

16) Consideration and Possible Action on Scheduling the Next Association Meeting on a special date of October 3, 2024.

After a discussion among the Commissioners, it was agreed that the next meeting would be held on its regular date and time of October 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

17) Adjournment.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the regular meeting of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association Commissioners was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Secretary, Don Wilson

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, AUGUST 28, 2024.

A special meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was held Thursday, August 28, 2024, at 6450 West Avenue N, Palmdale, CA 93551, at 2856 Owens Way, Rosamond, CA 93560, and at 35141 87th Street East, Littlerock, CA 93543 and via teleconference. Chair Mac Laren-Gomez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

At the request of Chair Mac Laren-Gomez, Commissioner Van Dam led the pledge of allegiance.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Chair
Scott Kellerman, Alt. Cmsnr.
Leo Thibault, Treasurer
Barbara Hogan, Commissioner
Gary Van Dam, Alt. Cmsnr.

Others Present:

Peter Thompson, General Manager
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Controller
Pamela Lee, Legal Counsel
Matthew Knudson, AVEK General Manager
James Chaisson, LCID General Manager
Dennis LaMoreaux, PWD General Manager
Audrey Miller, AVEK Board Director
Pam Clark, AVEK
Tom Barnes, AVEK
Angel Fitzpatrick, AVEK
Jack Husted, LA County Public Works
0 members of the public

EXCUSED ABSENCE~

Robert Parris, Vice Chair
Keith Dyas, Commissioner
Don Wilson, Secretary

3) Adoption of Agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Kellerman, seconded by Commissioner Van Dam, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to adopt the agenda, as written:

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Van Dam – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Kellerman – aye
Commissioner Hogan – aye

4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.

There were no public comments.

5) Special Presentation: Culverts Project and Grant Funding. (Tom Barnes, AVEK / Jack Husted, Senior Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works)

Included in the presentation, Tom Barnes with AVEK explained that AVSWCA staff is collaborating with Los Angeles County Waterworks staff and their consultants to identify potential grant funding opportunities for proposed flood control culverts that will enable improved recharge at the Big Rock, Littlerock, and Upper Amargosa Creeks.

Jack Husted with Los Angeles County Public Works explained the two potential grant funding opportunities identified, the Drought Resiliency Program and the Small Storage Program; he then provided a breakdown of the collaboration efforts by the Los Angeles County Public Works for this project, including preparing the grant application, providing construction permit to construct at county roads and the design and hydrology review. He also touched on the next steps of continuing project development, which included the Association's continuing development discussions with LA County and kicking off the grant application process for WaterSMART, beginning weekly meetings, and gathering data.

6) Consideration and Possible Action on approval to recommend to the Association's representative boards to cooperate with Los Angeles County Public Works on the preparation and submission of grant applications for the Culvert Project. (General Manager Thompson II)

After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Van Dam, seconded by Commissioner Kellerman, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the recommendation to the Association's representative boards to cooperate with Los

Angeles County Public Works on the preparation and submission of the grant applications.

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Van Dam – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Kellerman – aye
Commissioner Hogan – aye

7) Report of General Manager.

General Manager Thompson II reported that DWR staff will present at the next meeting on the lessons learned over the past year for the State Water Project. He then reported that that staff is working on scheduling a tour of the Edmundston Pumping Plant, which will allow each agency to send eight representatives.

8) Commission Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

There were no requests for future agenda items from the Commissioners.

9) Adjournment.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the regular meeting of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association Commissioners was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Secretary, Don Wilson



COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

DATE:: October 2, 2024
TO: AVSWCA COMMISSIONERS
VIA: Mr. Tom Barnes, AVEK
RE: *AGENDA ITEM 10 – CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ACCEPTANCE OF THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY FOR THE LITTLEROCK CREEK RECHARGE PROJECT. (TOM BARNES, AVEK)*

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Association approve the provided Draft Initial Study as prepared by HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc. as required per CEQA for the Association’s Littlerock Creek Recharge Project.

Note: The work completed to date by HELIX is within their approved Scope of Work per the AVSWCA Contract with HELIX approved June 13, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

With the success of the pilot Littlerock Creek Recharge Project by the Association’s agencies in 2023, the next step in the development of the Littlerock Project has included gaining environmental compliance with the help of the consultant, HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc.

STATUS:

Brief Summary from HELIX of the Project’s CEQA Status:

- HELIX has submitted a complete first draft of the Initial Study to the Association for review
- Initial Study was prepared to determine whether significant environmental impacts are anticipated to occur as a result of the implementation of the Project
- No significant environmental impacts have been identified by HELIX
- The Project can be cleared of CEQA via a Notice of Exemption (NOE).

NEXT STEPS:

Next steps in the CEQA process:

- AVSWCA provides concurrence on the recommended CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) based on their review of the draft Initial Study
- HELIX prepares the recommended CEQA document (NOE) for filing.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Draft Initial Study - HELIX Environmental

Little Rock Creek Recharge Project

Initial Study

October 2024 | 02700.00001.001

Prepared for:

Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association
6450 West Avenue N
Palmdale, CA 93551

Prepared by:

HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc.
7578 El Cajon Boulevard
La Mesa, CA 91942

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFY	acre-feet per year
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
AVSWCA	Antelope Valley State Water Contactors Association
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
cfs	cubic feet per second
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EIR	environmental impact report
GHG	greenhouse gas
SWP	State Water Project
VHFHSZ	very high fire hazard severity zone

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 INITIAL STUDY INFORMATION SHEET

1. Project title: Littlerock Creek Recharge Project
2. Lead agency name and address: Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association
6450 West Avenue N, Palmdale, CA 93551
3. Contact person and phone number: Tom Barnes, Water Resources Manager
661-943-3201
4. Project location: Littlerock, Los Angeles County, CA
5. Project sponsor’s name and address: See Item 2
6. General plan designation: N/A
7. Zoning: N/A
8. Description of project:

The Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association (AVSWCA) was created in 1999 as a joint powers authority in an effort to optimize the use of water resources and protect surface water and groundwater storage within the Antelope Valley. AVSWCA has contracts with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for entitlement to and delivery of State Water Project (SWP) water from the California Aqueduct, which traverses the Antelope Valley. In response to DWR’s request for AVSWCA to find creative ways to maximize the use of SWP water in a 100 percent SWP allocation year and proactively respond to Executive Order N-4-23 issued on March 10, 2023, by Governor Newsom to maximize groundwater recharge in wet years, AVSWCA conducted a pilot project in 2023 for direct recharge of SWP water to Littlerock Creek. Based on the success of the pilot project, AVSWCA is now pursuing a permanent recharge project, which is the proposed Littlerock Creek Recharge Project (Project) considered in this Initial Study.

As with the pilot project, the proposed Project would involve diverting water from the California Aqueduct into Littlerock Creek, where it would naturally percolate into the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin (Figure 1, *Regional Location*, and Figure 2, *Aerial Photograph*). The water would be diverted using an existing turnout with a capacity of 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) located along the California Aqueduct. Specifically, water would be diverted into an existing 24-inch diameter pipeline by opening a sluice gate at the turnout. The water would then flow through an existing DWR meter to an existing distribution box by opening a second sluice gate located at the distribution box. From the distribution box, water would flow into an existing basin and then into Littlerock Creek via an existing pipeline.

Recharge would only occur when there are surplus SWP supplies available and would total up to 15,000 acre-feet per year (AFY). The maximum daily diversion would be 39.6 acre-feet. The Project does not involve physical improvements (i.e., construction). Operational activities associated with the Project

would be limited to opening and closing of the two sluice gates to divert flows into the creek. No changes in other operational/maintenance activities from existing conditions would occur.

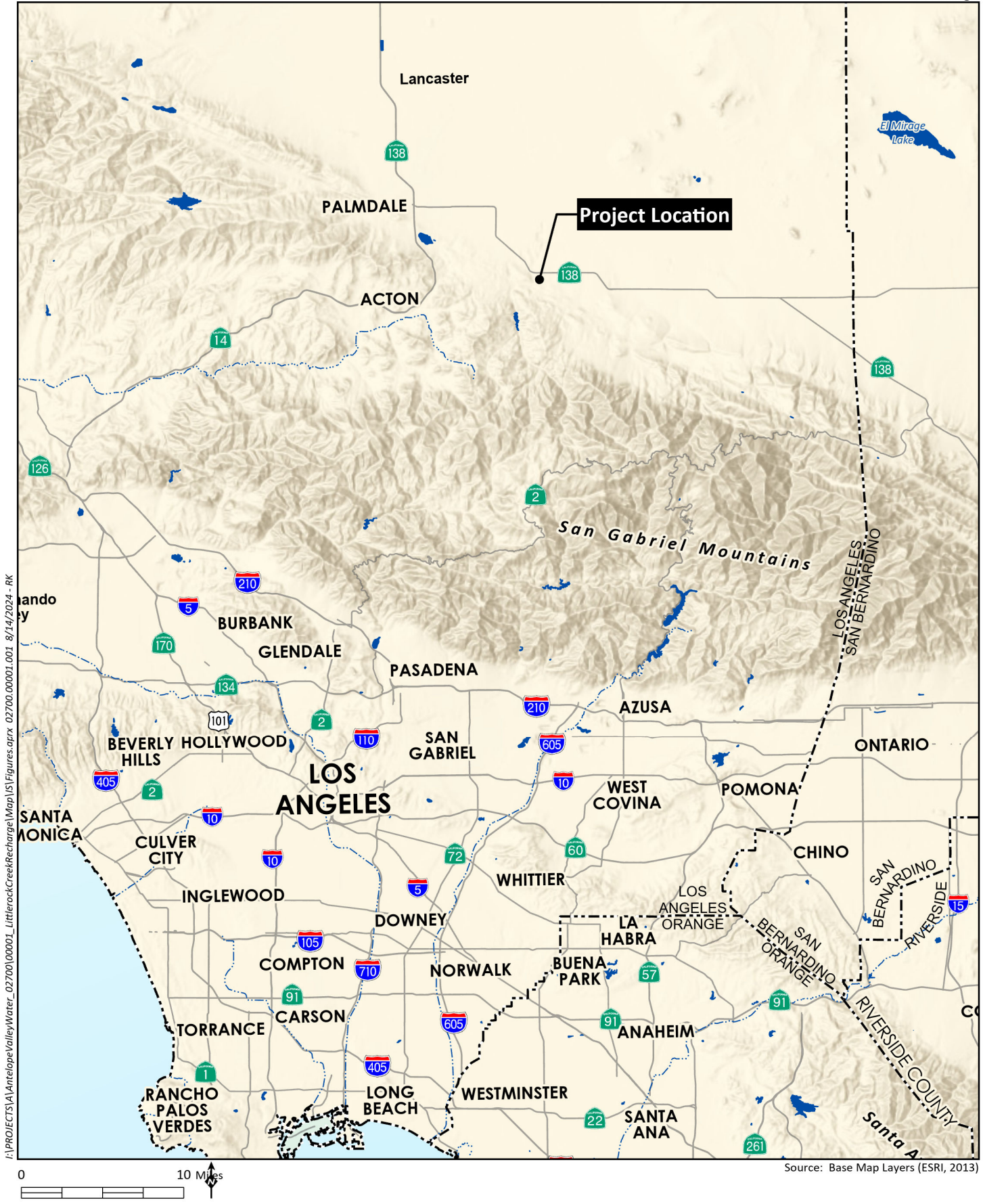
10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

No further approvals are required.

1.2 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” or “Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy
<input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials
<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance





Source: Aerial Photo (Esri, 2021)

Littlerock Creek Recharge

1.3 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NOTICE OF EXEMPTION will be prepared.
- 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 (EIR) is required, but it must analyze only the 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.

Signature

Date

Printed name

For

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

The lead agency has defined the column headings in the environmental checklist as follows:

- A. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- B. “Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the inclusion of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” All mitigation measures are described, including a brief explanation of how the measures reduce the effect to a less than significant level. Mitigation measures from earlier analyses may be cross-referenced.
- C. “Less Than Significant Impact” applies where the project does not create an impact that exceeds a stated significance threshold.
- D. “No Impact” applies where a project does not create an impact in that category. “No Impact” answers do not require an explanation if they are adequately supported by the information sources cited by the lead agency which show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project would not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project specific screening analysis).

The explanation of each issue identifies the significance criteria or threshold used to evaluate each question; and the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration [CEQA Guidelines Section 15063(c)(3)(D)]. Where appropriate, the discussion identifies the following:

- a) Earlier Analyses Used. Identifies where earlier analyses are available for review.
- b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identifies which effects from the checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and states whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
- c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated,” describes the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

I. Aesthetics

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

No impact. The Project does not involve the introduction of aboveground components and would therefore not have the potential to have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista. No impact would occur.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements that would have the potential to substantially damage scenic resources. No impact would occur.

c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and would therefore not alter the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings. No impact would occur.

- d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

No impact. The Project would not introduce new components and would therefore not create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.

II. Agriculture and Forestry Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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?

No impact. There is no land designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance in the immediate vicinity of the Project facilities (California Department of Conservation 2022). In addition, the Project does not propose new components that would have the potential to convert land from existing uses. No impact would occur.

- b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

No impact. The Project facilities are located on land zoned as Heavy Agriculture; however, these are existing facilities. The Project does not propose new components that would have the potential to conflict with zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract. No impact would occur.

- c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?

No impact. There is no land zoned as forest land or timberland in the vicinity of the Project facilities. In addition, the Project does not propose new components that would have the potential to conflict with zoning for forest land or timberland. No impact would occur.

- d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No impact. There is no forest land in the vicinity of the Project facilities. In addition, the Project does not propose new components that would have the potential to result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impact would occur.

- e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No impact. The Project does not involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impact would occur.

III. Air Quality

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

No impact. Local air quality districts are required, pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act, to reduce emissions of criteria pollutants for which their air basin is in nonattainment. Strategies to achieve these

emissions reductions are developed in air quality management plans (AQMPs). These strategies typically focus on land use and transportation controls, which are directly tied to population growth forecasts. Generally, if a project would not result in unplanned population growth, it would not conflict with the AQMP. The proposed Project would capture surplus SWP water supplies for groundwater storage to provide a buffer against hydrologic variability in the State. The Project would not generate population growth. In addition, as discussed below in Item III(b), the Project itself would not result in air pollutant emissions. As such, the Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan, and no impact would occur.

b) 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?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and would therefore not require the use of construction equipment or vehicles that would generate criteria pollutants. Similarly, the Project does not involve new operational/maintenance activities beyond existing conditions that would result in new sources of criteria air pollutants during operations. As such, the Project would not 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. No impact would occur.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

No impact. As mentioned above in Item III(b), the Project would not result in air pollutant emissions; therefore, the Project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. No impact would occur.

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

No impact. The Project would not result in other emissions adversely affecting a substantial number of people. No impact would occur.

IV. Biological Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less than significant impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and therefore would not result in direct effects, through means such as habitat removal, or indirect effects, through means such as noise generation, to special-status species. In addition, as discussed below in Item IV(b), the provision of water in Littlerock Creek would not result in habitat modifications that could affect species. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less than significant impact. Mojavean Semi-Desert Wash Scrub, a sensitive natural community, occurs along Littlerock Creek. Increased inundation would have the potential to affect this habitat through conversion; however, this natural community is associated with areas along Littlerock Creek that are outside of the low-flow channel (Conservation Biology Institute 2024). Since flows associated with the Project’s discharges to the creek would be contained within the low-flow channel, the Project’s discharges would not inundate, and would therefore not affect, the Mojavean Semi-Desert Wash Scrub. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

Less than significant impact. Flows associated with the Project’s discharges to Littlerock Creek, a jurisdictional resource, would be limited to the existing low-flow channel and would therefore not result in a substantial adverse effect on the creek. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

- 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?

No impact. The Project would discharge flows into an existing creek bed, which would not interfere with or create a new impediment to the migration of migratory fish or wildlife species or the use of native wildlife nursery sites. No impact would occur.

- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

No impact. The Project would not adversely affect biological resources and would therefore not have the potential to conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. No impact would occur.

- 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?

No impact. The Project would not adversely affect biological resources and would therefore not have the potential to conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impact would occur.

V. Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements that would have the potential to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. No impact would occur.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or other ground-disturbing activities that would have the potential to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource. No impact would occur.

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or other ground-disturbing activities that would have the potential to disturb human remains. No impact would occur.

VI. Energy

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not require the direct use of energy. Diverted water would be conveyed from the California Aqueduct to Littlerock Creek via gravity; no pumping, or associated energy use, would be required. In addition, while the conveyance of water through the California Aqueduct requires energy consumption for pumping, the Project would not result in the conveyance of water in the California Aqueduct that would not already be conveyed. The Project would divert existing flows. As such, the Project would not result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during construction or operation. No impact would occur.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

No impact. As discussed above in Item VI(a), the Project would not require the use of energy; therefore, the Project would not have potential to conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. No impact would occur.

VII. Geology and Soils

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. 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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
- i. 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?
 - ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?
 - iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?
 - iv. Landslides?

No impact. The Project would not introduce new structures or uses that would have the potential to result in the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of an earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seism-related ground failure, or landslides. No impact would occur.

- b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Less than significant impact. Flows associated with the Project’s discharges to Littlerock Creek would be contained within the existing low-flow channel and would be substantially less than the capacity of the low-flow channel. The Project’s flows would therefore not result in substantial erosion or the loss of topsoil. Impacts would be less than significant.

- 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?

No impact. The Project would not introduce new structures or uses that would be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or would become unstable as a result of the Project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. No impact would occur.

- d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

No impact. The Project would not introduce new structures or uses that would be located on expansive soil. No impact would occur.

- 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?

No impact. The Project does not involve the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems. No impact would occur.

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or other ground-disturbing activities that would have the potential to directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. No impact would occur.

VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not result in the direct generation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Diverted water would be conveyed from the California Aqueduct to Littlerock Creek via gravity; no pumping, or associated energy use that could result in GHG emissions, would be required. In addition, while the conveyance of water through the California Aqueduct requires energy consumption (resulting in GHG emissions) for pumping, the Project would not result in the conveyance of water in the California Aqueduct that would not already be conveyed. The Project would divert existing flows. As such, the Project would not generate GHG emissions, either directly, or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment. No impact would occur.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

No impact. As discussed above in Item VIII(a), the Project would not result in GHG emissions; therefore, the Project would not have potential to conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing emissions of GHGs. No impact would occur.

IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not require the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. No impact would occur.

- 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?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not introduce the potential to 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. No impact would occur.

- c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not result in hazardous emissions or the handling of hazardous materials. In addition, there are no schools within one-quarter mile of the Project facilities. No impact would occur.

- 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?

No impact. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (Cortese List) requirements, the State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker database (2024) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database (2024) were searched for hazardous materials sites in proximity to the Project facilities. No hazardous materials sites are listed at or near the Project facilities. No impact would occur.

- 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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

No impact. The closest airport to the Project facilities is Palmdale Regional Airport, located approximately 8.5 miles to the north. The Project facilities are not located within the airport influence area of Palmdale Regional Airport (Los Angeles County Airport Land Use Commission 2003). As such, the Project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area. In addition, the Project would not introduce people to the area that could be subject to aircraft safety hazards or noise. No impact would occur.

- f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities that could affect roadways; therefore, the Project would not have the potential to impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. No impact would occur.

- g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

Less than significant impact. The Project facilities are located within a very high fire hazards severity zone (VHFHSZ; California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 2024). However, the Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not introduce new people or structures to the site. As such, the Project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. Impacts would be less than significant.

X. Hydrology and Water Quality

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional resources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

Less than significant impact. Water recharged by the Project is comprised entirely of SWP water; therefore, adverse water quality impacts to existing water in the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin are not anticipated (Kennedy Jenks 2019). The quality of SWP water delivered at the Project location is tested by AVSWCA member agencies at several water treatment plant locations along the SWP. Groundwater quality is also tested at pumping wells throughout the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin. As such, the Project would not violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirement or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality. Impacts would be less than significant.

- b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

Less than significant impact. The Project would recharge up to 15,000 AFY of water into the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin. It would therefore increase groundwater supplies and contribute to sustainable groundwater management of the basin. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

- c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:
- i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?
 - ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?
 - iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional resources of polluted runoff?
 - iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?

Less than significant impact. The Project would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area. Flows associated with the Project's discharges would be contained within the existing low-flow channel of Littlerock Creek and would be substantially less than the capacity of the low-flow channel. The existing channel would thus be able to accommodate both Project and non-Project flows, and the Project would not alter the course of Littlerock Creek. The Project would also not add impervious surfaces. As such, the Project would not alter the existing drainage pattern in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation, increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding, create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional resources of polluted runoff, or impede or redirect flood flows. Impacts would be less than significant.

- d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

No impact. The Project does not involve new facilities or changes in operational/maintenance activities that could introduce pollutants to the Project area. As such, the Project would not release pollutants due to inundation. No impact would occur.

- e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

Less than significant impact. The Project would recharge SWP water into the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin. As indicated above in Items X(a) and X(b), the Project would not substantially degrade groundwater quality, would increase groundwater supplies, and would contribute to sustainable groundwater management of the basin. As such, the Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Impacts would be less than significant.

XI. Land Use and Planning

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Physically divide an established community?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and therefore would not introduce a new physical feature that could physically divide an established community. In addition, the Project’s discharged flow would follow an existing watercourse and would also not introduce a new physical impediment. No impact would occur.

b) Cause significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No impact. The Project would utilize existing facilities, thus being consistent with the current land use. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not introduce new uses that would have the potential to conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. No impact would occur.

XII. Mineral Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- 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?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and would therefore not introduce structures or uses that would have the potential to result in the loss of availability of mineral resources. No impact would occur.

XIII. Noise

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and would therefore not require the use of construction equipment or vehicles that would generate noise. Similarly, the Project does not involve new operational/maintenance activities beyond existing conditions that would result in new sources of noise during operations. As such, the Project would not result in the generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the Project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. No impact would occur.

- b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and would therefore not require the use of construction equipment or vehicles that would generate vibration. Similarly, the Project does not

involve new operational/maintenance activities beyond existing conditions that would result in new sources of vibration during operations. As such, the Project would not result in the generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. No impact would occur.

- c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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?

No impact. The closest airport to the Project facilities is Palmdale Regional Airport, located approximately 8.5 miles to the north. The Project facilities are not located within the airport influence area or mapped noise contours of Palmdale Regional Airport (Los Angeles County Airport Land Use Commission 2003). In addition, the Project would not introduce new people to the area that could be subject to aircraft noise. As such, the Project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. No impact would occur.

XIV. Population and Housing

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Induce substantial unplanned 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)?

No impact. The Project does not propose new homes or businesses and would therefore not directly induce population growth. The water diverted for the Project would be recharged to help provide a buffer against hydrologic variability in California; it is not intended to provide a new source of water to support new population growth. As such, the Project would not indirectly induce population growth. No impact would occur.

- b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and would therefore not have the potential to directly displace people or housing. Discharged flows into Littlerock Creek would be contained within the existing channel and would not have the potential to result in flooding and the subsequent displacement of housing or people downstream. No impact would occur.

XV. Public Services

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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:				
a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Fire protection?
- b) Police protection?
- c) Schools?
- d) Parks?
- e) Other public facilities?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements, changes in operational/maintenance activities, or population growth and would therefore not require fire protection or police protection or result in the use of schools, parks, or other public facilities. As such, the provision of new or altered facilities would not be necessary, and no impact would occur.

XVI. Recreation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) 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?

No impact. The Project would not result in population growth and would therefore not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. As such, no impact would occur.

- 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?

No impact. The Project does not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. As such, no impact would occur.

XVII. Transportation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not require construction within roadways or generate vehicular traffic along roadways. As such, the Project would not have the potential to conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. No impact would occur.

- b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not generate vehicular traffic. As such, the Project would not have the potential to conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b). No impact would occur.

- c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not have the potential to increase hazards due to a geometric design features or incompatible uses. No impact would occur.

- d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not require construction within roadways or generate vehicular traffic along roadways that could impede emergency access. No impact would occur.

XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

- i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k)?
- ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or other ground-disturbing activities that would have the potential to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource. No impact would occur.

XIX. Utilities and Service Systems

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

No impact. The Project would utilize existing water conveyance infrastructure. It would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities. As such, no impact would occur.

- b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

Less than significant impact. The Project entails the recharge of water when there is surplus SWP water available. Water supplies are thus inherently sufficient when the Project is operating. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

- c) 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?

No impact. The Project would not generate wastewater. No impact would occur.

- d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not generate solid waste. No impact would occur.

- e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

No impact. As indicated above in Item XIX(e), the Project would not generate solid waste; therefore, it would not conflict with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. No impact would occur.

XX. Wildfire

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities that could affect roadways; therefore, the Project would not have the potential to impair implementation an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. No impact would occur.

- b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities and would therefore not have the potential to exacerbate wildfire risks. In addition, the Project would not introduce new occupants that could be exposed to pollutants concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire. No impact would occur.

- c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

No impact. The Project would utilize existing water conveyance infrastructure. It does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities, such as the installation or maintenance of infrastructure, that could exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. No impact would occur.

- d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

Less than significant impact. The Project would not introduce new people or structures that could be exposed to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. While the Project would increase flows within Littlerock Creek, the Project would not exacerbate flooding risks to existing people or structures downstream since the existing creek channel would be able to accommodate both Project and non-Project flows. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of past, present and probable future projects)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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?

No impact. The Project does not involve physical improvements and would therefore not substantially 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, substantially 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. In addition, the flows within Littlerock Creek associated with the Project’s discharges would not result in habitat modifications or otherwise adversely affect biological resources. No impact would occur.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of past, present and probable future projects)?

No impact. Since the Project does not involve physical improvements or changes in operational/maintenance activities from existing conditions, it would not have the potential to result in cumulatively considerable impacts.

- c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

No impact. The Project does not physical improvements and would not result in significant environmental effects, including those which could cause a substantial adverse effect on human beings. No impact would occur.

3.0 REFERENCES

- California Department of Conservation. 2022. California Important Farmland Finder. Available at: <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/>. Accessed August 14, 2024.
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- California Department of Toxic Substances Control. 2024. EnviroStor. Available at: <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>. Accessed August 15, 2024.
- Conservation Biology Institute. 2024. Data Basin: Mojavean Semi-Desert Wash Scrub - Natural Community Distribution, DRECP. Available at: <https://databasin.org/maps/new/#datasets=2b258a8338bb47b18a604c77de92581a>. Accessed August 2024.
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- State Water Resources Control Board. 2024. GeoTracker. Available at: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>. Accessed August 15, 2024.

4.0 PREPARERS

Hunter Stapp, Project Manager

Vanessa Toscano, Quality Assurance Reviewer

ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS
Balance Sheet
For the Three Months Ending 9/30/2024

	YTD
ASSETS	
Cash - General Fund	\$147,824.80
Restricted - AVRWMG	59,733.18
Accounts Receivable	91,386.00
Prepaid Insurance (Premium Period 10/1 - 9/30)	0.00
Prepaid Expense	0.00
Total Assets	\$298,943.98
 LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$11,172.26
Pass-Through Grant Funding	0.00
Total Liabilities	11,172.26
 FUND BALANCE	
Unassigned	287,771.72
Total Fund Balance	287,771.72
 Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	 \$298,943.98

ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS
Profit & Loss Statement
For the Three Months Ending 9/30/2024

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Revenues:		
Contributions - Member Agency		\$30,000.00
Contributions - Member Programs (USGS & CASGEM)		
Contributions - Member Programs (Financial Analysis PSA)		
Contributions - Member Programs (Big Rock Creek)		
Contributions - Member Programs (AV Fair-Conservation Garden)		
Contributions - Non-Member Programs (USGS)		
Contributions - Others (AVRWMG)		
Contributions - Others (DACI)		
Water Sales - Replacement Water Assessments		
Miscellaneous Refund		
Interest Earnings	6.70	18.08
Total Revenue		\$34,270.58
Expenditures:		
General Government		
Bank Fees		
Insurance	181.87	645.53
Memberships		
Outreach		
Purchased Water		
Miscellaneous		
		645.53
Public Resource		
Contract Services - Administration	3,223.51	4,274.69
Contract Services - USGS & CASGEM		
Contract Services - AVRWMG		
Contract Services - IRWMP 2013 Update		6,503.75
Contract Services - DACI		
Contract Services - BIG ROCK CREEK		
Contract Services - FINANCIAL ANALYSIS		
Contract Services - General Projects	1,445.00	1,445.00
Contract Services - AV Fair Conservation Garden		
Contract Services - Home Show/WaterSmart Expo		
Contract Services - Rural Museum		
Contract Services - Other		
		12,223.44
Total Expenditures		\$12,868.97
Change in Net Position		\$21,401.61
Net Position - Beginning of Year		266,370.11
Net Position - End of Year		\$287,771.72