



NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND SCOPING MEETING

Carpinteria Valley Water District Carpinteria Advanced Purification Project

TO: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

DATE: January 7, 2019

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting for Environmental Impact Report

Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD) is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Carpinteria Advanced Purification Project (CAPP, or Proposed Project). CVWD is working in partnership with Carpinteria Sanitary District (CSD) on construction and operation of the CAPP. The EIR will be a joint document intended to comply with both CEQA and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (see California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15222 and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 40, Sections 1502.25, 1506.2, and 1506.4 for authority for combining federal and state environmental documents).

The CAPP would consist of construction and operation of an advanced purification and groundwater injection project in the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin. The CAPP would include a one million gallon per day (mgd) (up to 1.5 mgd in future) Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF), a pump station, equalization tank, conveyance pipelines, injection and monitoring wells, ocean outfall modifications, and other facilities to produce advanced treated water for groundwater recharge, storage, and potable reuse (see detailed Project Description on following page). CVWD is requesting identification of environmental issues and information that you or your organization believes should be considered in the EIR.

SCOPING PERIOD: January 7, 2019 through February 8, 2019

SCOPING COMMENTS: Please indicate a contact person for your agency and send your responses and comments by February 8, 2019 to:

Mr. Robert McDonald
Carpinteria Valley Water District
1301 Santa Ynez Ave.
Carpinteria, CA 93013

Phone: (805) 684-2816 x112
E-mail: bob@cvwd.net

SCOPING MEETING: CVWD will hold one community meeting to receive input on the scope and content of the CAPP EIR. You are welcome to attend and present environmental information that you believe should be considered in the EIR. The scoping meeting is scheduled as follows:

January 24, 2018

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Carpinteria Veterans Memorial Building

941 Walnut Ave

Carpinteria, CA 93013

AGENCIES: CVWD requests your views on the scope and content of the EIR relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities, in accordance with CEQA and NEPA. CVWD anticipates that your agency will need to concur with the CAPP EIR when considering permits or approvals that your agency must issue for the CAPP.

PROJECT LOCATION: The CAPP is located primarily within the central portion of the City of Carpinteria, in Santa Barbara County, California, with a small portion located in unincorporated Santa Barbara County adjacent to the City of Carpinteria. The Project Location is shown in **Figure 1**. Conveyance pipelines would extend from the existing CSD Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP; located at 5300 6th Street) west to Linden Avenue, north along Linden Avenue for approximately one mile to just south of Highway 192/Foothill Road. The Primary Pipeline alignment is shown in dark blue on Figure 1. Potential alternative alignments are still being considered, shown in red in Figure 1, should a potential issue arise with the proposed primary alignment. Injection wells would be located at up to three of the six sites indicated on Figure 1, generally adjacent to the pipeline alignment.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The CAPP, proposed by CVWD in partnership with CSD, would advance treat local wastewater flows and beneficially reuse them for groundwater recharge. The CAPP would consist of construction and operation of a new AWWP, conveyance pipelines, injection and monitoring wells, ocean outfall modifications, and other facilities to produce advanced treated water for groundwater recharge, storage, and potable reuse. The purpose of the CAPP is to increase local water supply and reliability through groundwater injection and storage. The CAPP aims to produce 1,100 acre-feet per year (AFY), or 1.0 mgd advanced treated water initially, with the potential for ultimate expansion to 1.5 mgd. A new AWWP would be constructed at the existing CSD WWTP, located entirely within the existing footprint of the site. Approximately 8,100 linear feet of pipeline would be installed to convey the advanced treated water to groundwater injection wells, and up to 1,400 linear feet of pipeline would be installed to convey backwash water to existing sewers or stormwater conveyance systems.

Six potential groundwater injection well sites have been identified, with up to three groundwater injection wells to be installed as part of the CAPP. Groundwater injection would put the advanced treated water into the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin for storage and later recovery by CVWD. Each injection well would be accompanied by backwash pumps and a 42,000-gallon tank. Up to six monitoring wells would be constructed down-gradient of the injection wells to allow for monitoring of groundwater quality and levels. The conveyance pipelines would largely be constructed within roadway rights of way, as would some of the monitoring wells. Advanced treated water stored in the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin would be later recovered through CVWD's existing groundwater wells. By recycling additional wastewater flows, the CAPP would reduce WWTP discharge volumes to the Pacific Ocean.

As a result, the CAPP would also include modifications to the existing CSD ocean outfall, namely installation of duckbill valves to prevent backflow into the outfall.

At various locations along the construction route, staging areas would be required to store pipe, construction equipment, and other construction-related material. Staging areas would be established where space is available, generally on vacant and CVWD or CSD-owned parcels in the vicinity of the construction activities, such as the District Yard. Staging for the AWPf will be located within the WWTP site, and injection well staging is anticipated to be established within or adjacent to the selected well sites. Typical construction activities during construction of the CAPP would include site preparation, grading, pipe installation, structural improvements (foundations and footings), well drilling, paving, electrical/ instrumentation installation, startup, and testing work.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: An EIR will be prepared to evaluate the CAPP’s potential environmental impacts and analyze project alternatives. The resources anticipated to be discussed in the EIR are listed in the following table (indicated by an “x”) and described further below. An Initial Study completed for the CAPP in December 2018 found the CAPP is likely to have no impact or a less than significant impact on the remaining resources areas. This EIR will be a joint document intended to comply with both CEQA and NEPA; accordingly, topic areas specific to NEPA, such as Environmental Justice, will also be evaluated with respect to the CAPP.

X	Aesthetics		Agricultural Resources	X	Air Quality
X	Biological Resources	X	Cultural Resources	X	Energy
X	Geology and Soils	X	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	X	Hazards and Hazardous Materials
	Hydrology and Water Quality	X	Land Use and Planning		Mineral Resources
X	Noise		Population and Housing		Public Services
	Recreation	X	Transportation	X	Tribal Cultural Resources
	Utilities and Service Systems	X	Wildfire		Environmental Justice
X	Mandatory Findings of Significance				

An “X” indicates a resource area with potentially significant impacts that may require mitigation.

Aesthetics – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine if it would have an adverse impact on scenic vistas, degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings, or create any new sources of light or glare. The AWPf, equalization tank, pump station, injection wells, and backwash tanks are anticipated to generally integrate with the existing surroundings, the monitoring wells would be underground, and the outfall modifications would be underwater. However, in some instances, their installation would potentially alter the visual character of the site and the need for mitigation such as visual screening or other measures may be considered.

Air Quality – The CAPP will be analyzed as compared to applicable air quality plans and its potential to violate air standards or contribute to existing violations, increase criteria

pollutants, expose sensitive receptors, and generate odors. Potential air quality impacts from the CAPP are anticipated to primarily result from construction-related emissions and odors.

Biological Resources – The CAPP will be analyzed for its potential effects on sensitive or special status species, riparian habitat or natural communities identified by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife, wetlands, or migration of species. Local policies and conservation plans protecting biological resources will be reviewed to determine if conflicts are present. CAPP facilities located adjacent to Carpinteria Creek are the most likely to result in adverse biological resource impacts. CAPP facilities are not anticipated to have substantial biological resource impacts on Franklin Creek because the creek is channelized throughout the project area. Mitigation measures to reduce impacts to protected species may be considered, such as focused surveys, restrictions on construction during nesting seasons, and tree inventory and protection measures.

Cultural Resources – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine if it would have any substantial, adverse changes in the significance of historic or archaeological resources; directly or indirectly destroy a unique cultural resources feature; or disturb any human remains. Because of their location primarily within roadways and developed areas (e.g., WWTP), CAPP facilities are not anticipated to impact local cultural resources. Mitigation measures may be considered, such as archeological monitoring and construction restrictions.

Energy – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine if it would conflict with a plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency, and if it would have significant environmental impact due to wasteful or inefficient energy use. Although the AWWPF would require energy use to advance treat wastewater, recycling wastewater for future potable use typically reduces overall energy demands for a water supply system when compared to energy demands of imported water that would otherwise be needed to meet water demands that would be served by the CAPP.

Geology and Soils – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine if it would expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects through seismic movement, shaking, landslides, or liquefaction; result in substantial erosion, or be located on an unstable or expansive soil. Geological and soil impacts associated with the CAPP are anticipated to be minor.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine impacts to the public or environment (including nearby schools) from the transport, use, or encounter of hazardous substances; and review of potential interference with emergency response plans. The AWWPF would require transport and use of various treatment chemicals, which would be controlled through expansion of the CSD's hazardous materials handling plans.

Noise – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine if it would result in exposure of persons to excessive noise or ground vibrations, either temporary or overall increases in ambient noise levels. Potential noise and vibration impacts are anticipated due to construction activities, including drilling of the injection and monitoring wells. Mitigation measures, including noise control measures and preconstruction noticing, may be considered.

Transportation – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine if it would cause an increase in traffic (temporary or long-term), increase hazards due to a design feature, result in inadequate emergency access, or conflict with transportation plans or policies, including those supporting alternative transportation. Temporary impacts to transportation patterns are anticipated due to construction activities and a contractor-led traffic management plan may be considered to mitigate potential impacts.

Tribal Cultural Resources – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine if it would result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is eligible for listing as a historical resource or one that is determined by CVWD to be significant pursuant to the Public Resources Code Section 5024. Due to the historical presence of Chumash in the project area, there is potential for the CAPP to encounter buried tribal cultural resources during construction. Mitigation measures may be considered, such as tribal monitoring and construction restrictions.

Wildfire – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine the potential to impair wildfire emergency response or evacuation plans, expose occupants to wildfire or wildfire-related pollution, require installation of infrastructure that may exacerbate fire risk, or otherwise expose people to significant risks associated with wildfire impacts, including flooding or landslides. CAPP facilities are not anticipated to increase exposure to wildfire risk, except during construction-related roadway detours.

Environmental Justice – The CAPP will be analyzed to determine if it would disproportionately impact minority or low-income populations. No environmental justice impacts are anticipated for this project.

Mandatory Findings of Significance – The CAPP will be analyzed in the appropriate sections, above, to determine if it would degrade the quality of the environment including species reduction or adverse effects on human beings, or have impacts that are cumulatively considerable in combination with other projects (current or future). The need to implement mitigation measures to address such impacts will be considered as part of the analysis.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: This notice, an Initial Study, and additional details on the CAPP can be viewed on CVWD's website at: http://www.cvwd.net/water_info/projects.htm

If you require additional information, please contact Bob McDonald at (805) 684-2816.

Figure 1: Proposed Project Facilities

