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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001



2013 APR 10 PM 3:02

April 8, 2013

Carl Lischeske , P.E.
Delta Stewardship Council
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Notice of Intent, Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Delta Flood Emergency Facilities Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Lischeske:

In accordance with CEQA Article 6, Sections 15070 to 15075, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), Division of Flood Management, is providing you a 30-day Notice of its Intent (NOI) to adopt the enclosed Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Delta Flood Emergency Facilities Improvement Project (FIP), a Component of the Delta Flood Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Program. DWR intends to adopt an MND for the subject FIP following a 30-day review and comment period of April 8, 2013, through May 10, 2013.

Project Purpose: The purpose of the Delta Flood Emergency Facilities Improvement Project (FIP), a Component of the Delta Flood Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Program (DFEPRRP) <http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/hafoo/fob/dfeprrp/> — is to ensure that State agencies have the appropriate infrastructure and supplies in the Delta to respond to and recover quickly and effectively from major flood or earthquake disasters in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The FIP is focused on identifying, evaluating, selecting, acquiring, and improving barge loading sites, which can also serve as Incident Command Posts (ICPs) and storage locations for flood fight materials at strategic locations in the Delta region.

Project Description: The proposed project will establish two new material storage and transfer facility sites; one at West Weber Avenue in Stockton and another at Brannan Island State Park, modify an existing material storage facility at Rio Vista, establish new flood fight supply facilities at all three locations, and make site preparations to support ICPs at Stockton's West Weber Avenue and Brannan Island State Recreation Area. In addition to the 223,000 tons of quarry rock stockpiled by DWR at Rio Vista and within the Port of Stockton, DWR would also stockpile up to 40,000 tons of flood fight material each at Stockton's West Weber Avenue and at Brannan Island, and 20,000 tons of sand in Rio Vista, for a total additional increment of 100,000 tons.

Environmental Review Process: DWR has prepared an Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) on the proposed project in accordance with the requirements of CEQA. The IS/MND indicates that any potentially significant impacts that may result from the proposed project can be avoided, eliminated, or reduced to levels that are less than significant by the adoption and implementation of specified mitigation measures.

Public Review Period: The IS/MND is being circulated for public review and comment for a review period of 30 days starting April 8, 2013. Written comments should be submitted and received at the following address no later than close of business (5:00 pm) on Friday, May 10, 2013. Written comments may be submitted by regular mail, email, or fax to the addresses shown below:

John Paasch
California Department of Water Resources
Division of Flood Management
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 200
Sacramento, California 95821

Phone: (916) 574-2167
Fax: (916) 574-2767
Email: John.Paasch@water.ca.gov

Public Workshops: Informational public workshops will be held on Monday, April 22, 2013, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm in the City of Rio Vista City Hall, Council Chambers, One Main Street, Rio Vista, CA 94571; and on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm in the Mokelumne Classroom within the San Joaquin County – Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center, located at 2101 E Earhart Avenue, Stockton, CA 95206.

To Review or Obtain Additional Copies of the Environmental Document: Copies of the draft IS/MND may be reviewed at the following locations:

1. Contact: John Paasch
California Department of Water Resources
Division of Flood Management
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 200
Sacramento, California 95821
2. Online: http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/docs/Delta_Flood_Emergency_FIP_IS-MND_April_2013.pdf
3. Sacramento Public Library: Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
4. Stockton Public Library: 605 North El Dorado Street, Stockton, CA 95202
5. Rio Vista Library: 44 South Second Street, Rio Vista, CA 94571

DWR looks forward to receiving any comments you may have on the subject IS-MND for the Delta Flood Emergency Facilities Improvement Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at (916) 574-2167 or email me at John.Paasch@water.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Paasch', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Paasch, Chief
Regional Flood Preparedness Section
Division of Flood Management
Department of Water Resources

Enclosure