Rancho California Water District

Serving the areas of Temecula and Murrieta since 1965

Final Environmental Impact Report

Recycled Water Storage Pond No. 5

(Project No. D1567)

State Clearinghouse No. 2011071055

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Environmental Setting

Hazards

Hazards are defined as natural and man-made conditions that must be respected if life and property are to be protected as growth and development occur. These hazards include seismic and other geologic hazards, fire and flooding. These hazards are explained in more detail in the following paragraphs.

Seismicity

As stated previously, the Project area lies in one of the most seismically active zones in Southern California. Northwest trending faults comprising the San Jacinto, San Andreas and Elsinore Fault Zones dominate the structural geology of the area. As previously described, the maximum credible earthquakes associated with these three faults range from 6.8 to 8.25.

Liquefaction

The liquefaction potential at the Project site is remote. *(Alta California Geotechnical, Inc., September 3, 2010)*

Slope Instability and Erosion

The potential for erosion at the Project site is high.

Fire

The Project site is not in a high fire area or in a fire responsibility area.

Flooding

Portions of the Project sites are within the 100-year flood plain (Unprinted FIRM Panel 06065C2695G) and are subject to flood plain review by the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

Hazardous Materials

Several standard environmental record services are available to determine the potential for recognized environmental conditions in an area. Those databases are briefly described in the following paragraphs.

National Priorities List (NPL)

The National Priorities List (NPL) is a federal database of uncontrolled hazardous waste sites that warrant further investigation to determine if long-term "remedial action" is necessary. There are no NPL sites located in the immediate vicinity of the Project sites.

Envirostor

Envirostor is a database maintained and primarily used by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to determine the location of all hazardous waste sites. There are no sites listed in Envirostor located in the vicinity of the Project sites.

Geotracker

Geotracker is the State Water Resources Control Board's data management system for managing sites that impact groundwater, especially those that require groundwater cleanup (Underground Storage Tanks, Department of Defense, Site Cleanup Program) as well as permitted facilities such as operating USTs and land disposal sites. There is one site listed in Geotracker within the area of the Project sites. That site is a permitted (Facility ID 359) underground storage tank at Verizon-Temecula Co. at 41611 Reagan Avenue, Murrieta, CA 92562.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as Superfund, was enacted by Congress on December 11, 1980. In implementing this law, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) compiles a list of known hazardous waste sites that are under consideration for the Superfund list. This list is known as the CERCLIS database. There are no CERCLIS sites located in the immediate vicinity of the Project sites.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

The primary goals of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) are to protect human health and the environment from the potential hazards of waste disposal, to conserve energy and natural resources, to reduce the amount of waste generated, and to ensure that wastes are managed in an environmentally sound manner. In implementing this law, EPA compiles a list of known hazardous waste generators. There are no known hazardous waste generators within the immediate vicinity of the Project sites.

Hazardous Materials Response Plans and Inventory

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) administers the Hazardous Materials Response Plans and Inventory program (Article 1, Chapter 6.95, Health and Safety Code). As part of this program, OES maintains a database of all hazardous materials spills in the State (RIMS). According to that database, there have not been any hazardous materials spills within the immediate vicinity of the Project sites.

Leaking Underground Storage Tank Information System (LUSTIS)

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) administers the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Information System (LUSTIS). The LUSTIS database includes all reported leaks from underground storage tanks. There are no facilities in the LUSTIS database within the immediate vicinity of the Project sites.

Site Mitigation Program Property Database (formerly CalSites)

The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) administers the CalSites program. Information in the CalSites database is preliminary in nature; therefore, most sites listed in the database need additional work to determine if contamination exists. There are no sites in the CalSites database within the immediate vicinity of the Project sites.

Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List (Cortese)

California's Government Code §65962.5 requires the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to develop, at least annually, an updated list of Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites. This list, known as the Cortese List, is a planning document used by the State, local agencies and developers to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act requirements in providing information about the location of hazardous materials release sites. DTSC is responsible for a portion of the information contained in the Cortese List. Other State and local agencies are required to provide additional hazardous materials release information for the Cortese List. The Cortese List is to be submitted to the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency. There are no sites on the Cortese List within the immediate vicinity of the Project sites.

Solid Waste Information System (SWIS)

The Solid Waste Information System (SWIS) is a database provided by the California Integrated Waste Management Board which consists of both open as well as closed and inactive solid waste disposal facilities and transfer stations. There are no sites in the SWIS database within the area of the Project sites.

Data used to prepare this section were taken from several sources. Full bibliographic entries are provided at the end of this chapter.

Environmental Impact Analysis

Threshold Criteria

The following thresholds of significance are based on Appendix G of the 2011 State CEQA Guidelines. For purposes of this FEIR, implementation of the proposed Project may have a significant adverse impact if it would result in any of following:

- Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials.
- Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably upset accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment.
- Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.
- Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.
- For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.
- For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.
- Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.
- Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands.

Environmental Analysis

Potential Impact. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials.

Implementation of the proposed Project would not create any significant hazards as a result of the routine transport, use, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials. However, construction would include the temporary use and transport of fuels, lubricating fluids, solvents and other hazardous materials. The contractor would be required to adhere to the requirements of a *Health and Safety Plan* that it would develop for the Project.

Significance of Impact:

Potentially significant.

Mitigation Measures:

To reduce potentially hazardous conditions and minimize the impacts from the handling of potentially hazardous materials, RCWD shall include the following in its construction contract documents:

- The contractor(s) shall enforce strict on-site handling rules to keep construction and maintenance materials out of receiving waters and storm drains. In addition, the contractor(s) shall store all reserve fuel supplies only within the confines of designated construction staging areas, refuel equipment only within the designated construction staging areas, and regularly inspect all construction equipment for leaks.

- The contractor(s) shall prepare a *Health and Safety Plan* in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 6.95, Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code (§§ 25500—25532). The plan shall include measures to be taken in the event of an accidental spill.

Level of Significance After Mitigation:

Implementation of the above mitigation measures would reduce the impacts to a level of less than significant.

Potential Impact. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably upset accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment.

Construction equipment used to construct the Project would have the potential to release oils, grease, solvents and other finishing products through accidental spills.

Significance of Impact:

Potentially significant.

Mitigation Measure:

- The construction staging areas shall be designed to contain contaminants such as oil, grease, and fuel products so that they do not drain towards receiving waters or storm drain inlets.

Level of Significance After Mitigation:

Implementation of the above mitigation measure would reduce the impacts to a level of less than significant.

Potential Impact. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.

There are no existing or proposed schools within one-quarter mile of the Project site. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated and no mitigation is required.

Significance of Impact:

No Impact.

Mitigation Measure:

None required.

Potential Impact. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

Several standard environmental record services are available to determine the potential for recognized environmental conditions in an area. As previously described, those databases were researched to determine the location of potential hazardous waste sites within the proposed Project area. In summary, the Project sites are not on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and other standard lists.

Significance of Impact:

No Impact.

Mitigation Measure:

None required.

Potential Impact. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

The Project would not be 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.

Significance of Impact:

No Impact.

Mitigation Measure:

None required.

Potential Impact. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

The Project site is not within the vicinity of a private airstrip *(The Thomas Guide, 2008)*.

Significance of Impact:

No Impact.

Mitigation Measure:

None required.

Potential Impact. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

Implementation of the proposed Project would not physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

Significance of Impact:

No Impact.

Mitigation Measure:

None required.

Potential Impact. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands.

The Project sites are not within a high fire hazard area or a fire responsibility area *(www.countyofriverside.us, 4/23/2011)*. In addition, the proposed Recycled Water Storage Pond No. 5 would be located at a recycled water storage facility that could supply water to help fight any fire at the site, if necessary. The Santa Rosa Wastewater Reclamation Facility – North site is adjacent to RCWD's Santa Rosa Wastewater Reclamation Facility which could also supply water to help fight any fire at that site, if necessary. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated and no mitigation is required.

Significance of Impact:

No Impact.

Mitigation Measure:

None required.

References

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