



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Report

Date: April 10, 2013
Case No.: 2008.1396E
Project Title: Regional Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project
Project Location: The project would be located in northern San Mateo County, overlying the Westside Groundwater Basin. Groundwater production well facilities would be constructed and operated in Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Millbrae, and unincorporated San Mateo County.
Zoning: Various
Block/Lot: Various
Project Sponsor: Kelley Capone, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, 415-934-5715, kcapone@sfgwater.org
Staff Contact: Tim Johnston, Environmental Planning, 415-575-9035, timothy.johnston@sfgov.org

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A draft environmental impact report (EIR) has been prepared by the San Francisco Planning Department in connection with this project. The report is available for public review and comment on the Planning Department's SFPUC Negative Declarations and EIRs web page (<http://tinyurl.com/puccases>). CDs and paper copies are also available at the Planning Information Center (PIC) counter on the first floor of 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco. Referenced materials are available for review by appointment at the Planning Department's office on the fourth floor of 1650 Mission Street (call 415-575-9035 or email timothy.johnston@sfgov.org).

Project Description:

The proposed Project would be located in San Mateo County and is sponsored by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) in coordination with its partner agencies, which include the cities of Daly City and San Bruno, and the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) in its South San Francisco service area (collectively referred to as Partner Agencies).

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is proposing a project to increase water supply reliability during dry years and in emergencies, by increasing water storage in the South Westside Groundwater Basin during wet and normal years for subsequent recapture during dry years. The proposed project consists of the construction and operation of 16 new groundwater production wells and water treatment facilities to recover the stored groundwater. Each well facility would include the construction of a groundwater production well and associated fenced enclosure or treatment building, distribution pipelines to connect the well to the existing regional water system or to the local distribution system, and overhead or underground utility connections. Most well facilities would provide disinfection and additional treatment (i.e., pH adjustment, fluoridation, and/or iron/manganese removal). In addition, the proposed project includes upgrades to the Westlake Pump Station to serve three new well facilities (Sites 2, 3, and 4), including new fluoride, chlorine, and ammonia chemical storage tanks, replaced or

upgraded chemical metering pumps, a resized transformer, and up to three new booster pumps to deliver the additional water into the Daly City distribution system, all of which would be located within the existing pump station building.

The SFPUC is proposing this project in coordination with its partner agencies, which include the cities of Daly City and San Bruno, and the California Water Service Company (Cal Water) in its South San Francisco service area (collectively referred to as Partner Agencies). The project includes operation of groundwater well facilities at 16 different locations in Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Millbrae, and in unincorporated San Mateo County.

The Partner Agencies currently supply potable water to their retail customers through a combination of groundwater from the South Westside Groundwater Basin and purchase of SFPUC surface water. The project would provide supplemental SFPUC surface water to the Partner Agencies during normal and wet years. During normal and wet years, the Partner Agencies would reduce their groundwater pumping by a comparable amount to increase the amount of groundwater in storage through natural recharge during these periods. During normal and wet years, the volume of groundwater in the South Westside Groundwater Basin would increase due to natural recharge and reduced groundwater pumping by the Partner Agencies. During dry years, the Partner Agencies and the SFPUC would pump the stored groundwater using 16 new well facilities. This new dry-year water supply would be blended with water from the regional water system, and would thereby increase the available water supply to all regional water system customers. An Operating Agreement between the SFPUC and its Partner Agencies would guide overall groundwater management and surface water deliveries associated with the proposed project.

The Draft EIR found that implementation of the proposed project would lead to significant unavoidable construction-related land use character, noise, and aesthetics impacts and, potentially, operations-related well interference impacts. The well facility sites contain no known hazardous materials as defined under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

A **public hearing** on this draft EIR and other matters has been scheduled by the City Planning Commission for May 16, 2013, in Room 400, City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, beginning at 12:00 p.m. or later (call 415-558-6422 the week of the hearings for a recorded message giving a more specific time). An additional public hearing is scheduled for May 14, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in San Mateo County at the South San Francisco Municipal Services Building at 33 Arroyo Drive in South San Francisco.

Public comments will be accepted from April 10, 2013 to 5:00 p.m. on May 28, 2013. Written comments should be addressed to Sarah B. Jones, Acting Environmental Review Officer, San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. Comments received at the public hearing and in writing will be responded to in a Response to Comments document.

If you have any questions about the **environmental review** of the proposed project, please call Timothy Johnston at (415) 575-9035.