



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
700 NORTH ALAMEDA STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

### for the Inland Feeder-Foothill Pump Station Intertie Project

**DATE:** May 20, 2024

**TO:** Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties

**LEAD AGENCY:** The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

**PROJECT TITLE:** Inland Feeder-Foothill Pump Station Intertie Project

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) has prepared an Initial Study-Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) for the Project listed above pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines. Anyone desiring to comment on the Draft IS-MND may do so in writing within the 30-day public review period from Monday, May 20, 2024 through 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2024. In addition to making the IS-MND available for public review, the document is being sent to responsible, trustee, and interested agencies as part of the review process required under CEQA (Section 21092 of the Public Resources Code) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15072 of the California Code of Regulations).

#### **PROJECT LOCATION:**

The Project Area is located immediately south of the intersection of Greenspot Road and Cone Camp Road in the city of Highland. The Project Area is owned by Metropolitan, the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD), and San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District, and encompasses a total area of approximately 6.6 acres. The Project Area is not included on any of the lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code (hazardous waste facilities). The Project Area is depicted in Figure 1.

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

To enhance Metropolitan's water delivery flexibility in response to drought conditions and limited State Water Project (SWP) allocations, Metropolitan is proposing an intertie connection between its Inland Feeder pipeline and SBVMWD's Foothill Pump Station (proposed Project). The proposed Project would allow Metropolitan to pump and deliver water from its Diamond Valley Lake (DVL) reservoir to the Rialto service area, which is currently only able to receive SWP water. An intertie connection is needed with the Foothill Pump Station to provide hydraulic lift to allow water delivery from DVL into the Department of Water Resource's Devil's Canyon Afterbay and ultimately Metropolitan's Rialto Pipeline.

The proposed Project consists of the installation of two new pipeline connections between the Inland Feeder and the SBVMWD-Inland Feeder Interconnection Line 1 and Foothill Pump Station. Both new pipelines would have their own valves, valve vault structures, and surge tanks. Additionally, a vault structure with valve will be installed on the Inland Feeder to control direction of water flow along Inland Feeder. The two pipelines are referred to as the supply connection and the discharge connection. The supply connection pipeline would be approximately 500 feet in length and send water from the Inland Feeder to the Foothill Pump Station for pumping. The discharge connection pipeline would be approximately 1,000 feet in length and send the pumped water back into the Inland Feeder, allowing it to have enough pressure flow to its final destination of the Rialto Pipeline. Both the supply and discharge pipelines would be approximately 54 inches in diameter.

Construction staging and storage would occur on the open dirt and gravel space within Metropolitan's fee property in the Project Area. Operations and maintenance activities at the Inland Feeder and Foothill Pump Station, including the frequency of staff visits, maintenance, and shutdowns, would be similar to existing conditions once construction activities are completed. The Inland Feeder, Foothill Pump Station, and all pipelines within the Project Area are unmanned structures.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:**

Pursuant to the requirements of CEQA, an Initial Study was prepared for the Project. The Initial Study describes the environmental impacts of the proposed Project and concludes that, with the implementation of mitigation measures for biological resources and noise, the proposed Project will not have a significant effect on the environment. Based on this assessment, a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/REVIEW:**

In accordance with Section 15073 of the State CEQA Guidelines, hard copies of the IS-MND are available for public review for 30 days from Monday, May 20, 2024 through 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2024 at:

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
700 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

A copy of the IS-MND will also be posted on Metropolitan’s website at: [www.mwdh2o.com/CEQA](http://www.mwdh2o.com/CEQA)

Please contact Michelle Morrison via telephone or email at [EP@mwdh2o.com](mailto:EP@mwdh2o.com) to make arrangements for viewing the document at Metropolitan’s office or to request a hard copy of the IS-MND if you are not able to access the document online or at the location listed above.

When submitting written comments to Metropolitan, please provide the name and email address of a contact person. All comments and questions regarding the Project should be directed to:

Ms. Michelle Morrison  
Environmental Planning Section  
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
P.O. Box 54153  
Los Angeles, California 90054  
(213) 217-7906



Comments may also be submitted via e-mail to: [EP@mwdh2o.com](mailto:EP@mwdh2o.com)

Reference: “Inland Feeder-Foothill Pump Station Intertie Project” in the subject line.







Metropolitan will notify commenters of the date, time, and place of the public meeting at which Metropolitan’s Board of Directors will consider the proposed Project and IS-MND, including comments received during the public review period. This information will also be posted on the website referenced above. Information on how to access the meeting will be found in the meeting agenda published at the following website 72 hours in advance of the meeting:

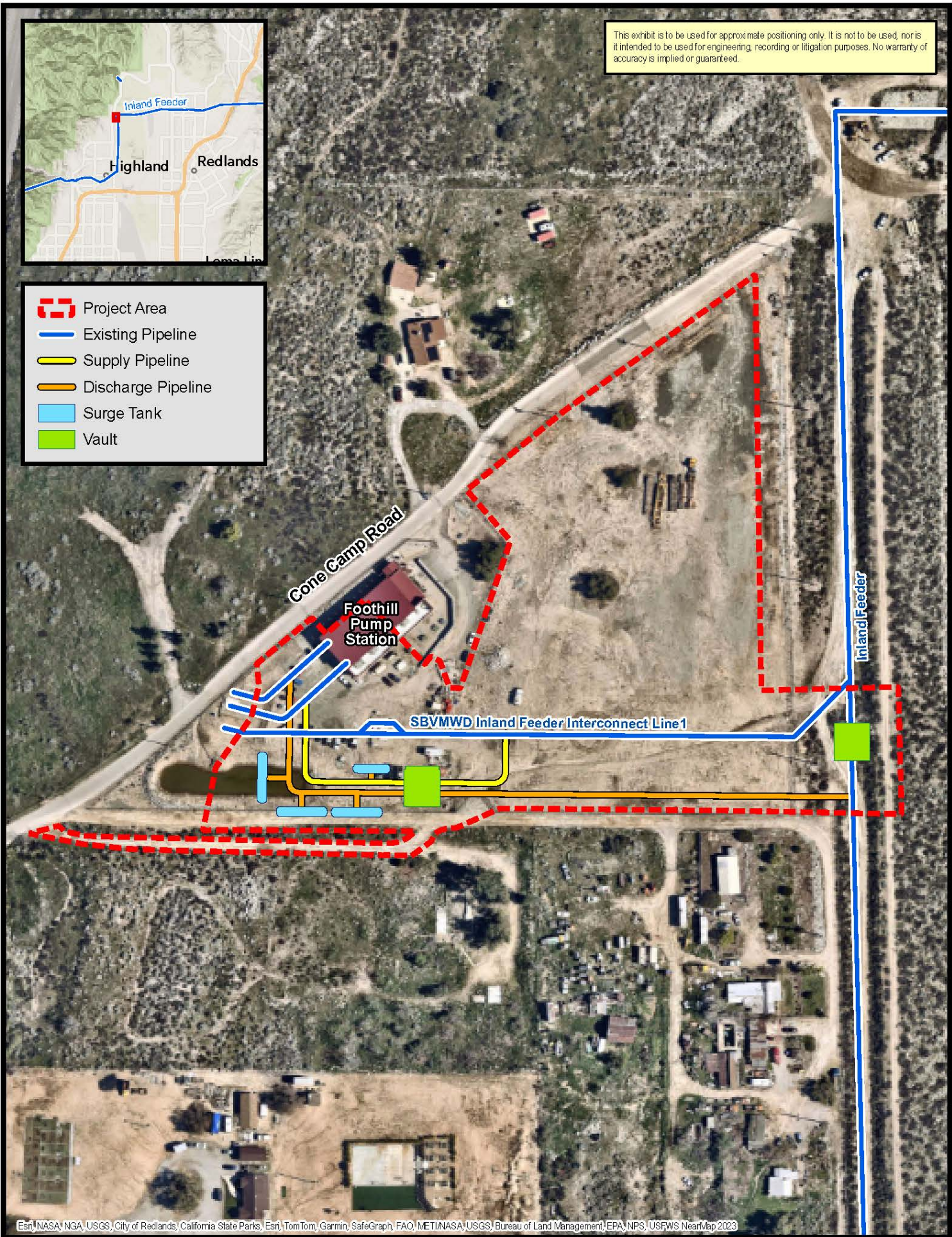
<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

\\waterapp01\Infrastructure\_Reliability\_Section\Infrastructure\_Unit\Geodetics\_and\_Mapping\_Team\_1\Projects\Environmental\_Planning\Inland\_Feeder\_Foothill\_Pump\_Station\_Intertie.aprx (F:\Foothill\_Pump\_Station\_Intertie.aprx) [Printed: 4/23/2024] Prepared by: Enrique Chen (GWM) Requestor: Michelle Morrison Job#: GIS24-04-19 (GIS23-10-10)

This exhibit is to be used for approximate positioning only. It is not to be used, nor is it intended to be used for engineering, recording or litigation purposes. No warranty of accuracy is implied or guaranteed.



-  Project Area
-  Existing Pipeline
-  Supply Pipeline
-  Discharge Pipeline
-  Surge Tank
-  Vault



Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, City of Redlands, California State Parks, Esri, TomTom, Garrin, SafeGraph, FAO, METINASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USFWS Nearmap 2023