REQUEST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

Report Control Symbol
RCS: 813-09-032

INSTRUCTIONS: *Section I to be completed by Proponent; Sections II and III to be completed by Environmental Planning Function. Continue on separate sheets as necessary. Reference appropriate item number(s).*

SECTION I - PROPONENT INFORMATION

1. TO *(Environmental Planning Function)*	2. FROM *(Proponent organization and functional address symbol)*	2a. TELEPHONE NO.
30 CES/CEVP	30 CES/CC	(805) 606-6855

3. TITLE OF PROPOSED ACTION
Casmalia Community Services District, Water System Improvements Project

4. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION *(Identify decision to be made and need date)*
Casmalia Community Water District (CCSD) requires replacement of existing tank and upgrade pipeline to provide the Casmalia Community with a clean, reliable source of water. All work is to be done on currently leased land.

5. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES *(DOPAA) (Provide sufficient details for evaluation of the total action.)*
See continuation sheet.

6. PROPONENT APPROVAL *(Name and Grade)*	6a. SIGNATURE	6b. DATE
David C. Piech, Lt Col Commander, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron	David C Piech	17 Mar 2009

SECTION II - PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY. *(Check appropriate box and describe potential environmental effects Including cumulative effects.) (+ = positive effect; 0 = no effect; - = adverse effect; U= unknown effect)*	+	0	-	U
7. AIR INSTALLATION COMPATIBLE USE ZONE/LAND USE *(Noise, accident potential, encroachment, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
8. AIR QUALITY *(Emissions, attainment status, state implementation plan, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
9. WATER RESOURCES *(Quality, quantity, source, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
10. SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH *(Asbestos/radiation/chemical exposure, explosives safety quantity-distance, bird/wildlife aircraft hazard, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
11. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTE *(Use/storage/generation, solid waste, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
12. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES *(Wetlands/floodplains, threatened or endangered species, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
13. CULTURAL RESOURCES *(Native American burial sites, archaeological, historical, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
14. GEOLOGY AND SOILS *(Topography, minerals, geothermal, Installation Restoration Program, seismicity, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
15. SOCIOECONOMIC *(Employment/population projections, school and local fiscal impacts, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
16. OTHER *(Potential impacts not addressed above.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐

SECTION III - ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DETERMINATION

17. ☒ PROPOSED ACTION QUALIFIES FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CATEX) # A2.3.14 ; OR
☐ PROPOSED ACTION DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR A CATEX; FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS IS REQUIRED.

18. REMARKS
A categorical exclusion (CATEX), A2.3.14, is applicable for this project. This CATEX is allowed based on that the new 200,000 gallon tank is being installed in place of the existing 86,000 gallon tank "on previously developed land, equipment that does not substantially alter land use".

19. ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING FUNCTION CERTIFICATION *(Name and Grade)*	19a. SIGNATURE	19b. DATE
ANDREW EDWARDS, GS-12 NEPA Project Manager	Andrew Edwards	17 MAR 2009

Background

The community of Casmalia is located east of the City of Santa Maria in Northern Santa Barbara County. Casmalia has a critical need for water system improvements that will ensure that it has a safe, secure water supply. In December 2006, bacterial contamination of its drinking water resulted in a "boil water" order. The Casmalia Water System Improvements Project will replace deficient infrastructure including water pipelines and the existing water storage tank.

The Casmalia Community Services District (CCSD) provides storage and distribution of potable water to the community of Casmalia. The community is supplied with potable groundwater from the Casmite Company at a meter south of the town. CCSD facilities include 2"-4"pipeline connecting the meter to an 84,000 gallon (bolted steel) storage tank as well as the storage tank and an 8" pipeline connecting the tank to the town distribution system (Figure 1). The tank is located at an approximate elevation of 410 feet on an easement granted by Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB) to CCSD. Elevation in the town varies from approximate 285 to 265 feet resulting in estimated static pressures of 54-62 psi. The access road leading to the tank is in generally poor condition with little or no paving.

Pipelines at the tank are solvent welded Schedule 40 PVC. Pipe crossing the roadway bridge (4" and 8" diameter respectively) is ductile iron and appears to be in generally good condition. Mainline piping within town streets is AWWA C900 PVC with laterals to service connections within the community. An unspecified flexible plastic material used in many of the laterals is experiencing an increasing frequency of failure as reported by system operations staff.

The tank currently has significant and severe corrosion damage on the roof, leaking sidewall joints and sidewall corrosion (severe in some locations). The poor condition of the current tank does not provide for reliable storage or protection of the water supply. The capacity of the existing tank is deficient and does not provide the recommended fire storage and potential resistance of the aging tank to seismic events is also uncertain. Filling of the tank is controlled by a control valve which is not currently functional. There is currently no provision to monitor or record fluctuations in tank level or notify operations staff of overflow or low water level. The existing tank also lacks security fencing typically recommended by California Department Public Health (CDPH).

Proposed Project

The proposed Project would replace portions of the water system that are in poor condition and/or that have exhibited poor reliability. The proposed Project includes providing a replacement storage tank with an approximate capacity of 200,000 gallons; repair of the tank access road and adjacent piping; and replacement of plastic service laterals (Project). An increase in tank size is needed to meet fire code requirements. The existing access road is between 9 and 12 feet in width and approximately 450 feet long running west from the tank site and then north to Black Road.

The proposed Project is being funded by a Proposition 50 Grant administered by State Water Resources Control Board and a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) administered by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).Other funding sources are also being currently explored.

Project Construction

The new tank will be approximately 200,000 gallons to meet current fire code requirements. The footprint of the new tank will be approximately 1,600 square foot (Sq. Ft.). The existing tank has an approximate 700 Sq. Ft. footprint. The footprint /construction limits of the project will be approximately 80 feet in diameter roughly centered on the location of the existing tank. Ground Disturbance which will include digging, grading, trenching and/or scraping will be to a maximum excavation depth of 10 feet over the 80 feet in diameter area. Minor vegetation removal may be required for preparing the tank area for construction. No new areas will be disturbed outside of the existing easement as part of the proposed Project.

The existing access road will be resurfaced and improved as part of the proposed Project. Since the pipeline from the existing tank runs under the current access road, the access road may require some trenching for pipe replacement, as appropriate. The access road would then be re-paved.

Construction equipment to be used includes an electrical generator and compressor, front-end loader, backhoe, tractor with blade, crane, concrete trucks, dump trucks, asphalt paver and work trucks. Some materials will need to be hauled to off site locations including export soil, asphalt paving material and concrete. Appropriate disposal sites will be identified prior to construction. Truck trips will be infrequent in nature on Black Road wherein traffic is already very intermittent.

Construction will include implementation of construction Best Management Practices (BMP's) to prevent potential stormwater runoff from transmitting silt from the site into local drainages. Construction is expected to occur from April through November 2009.

The comments provided are for the replacement of the Casmalia water supply tank and reflect environmental requirements for the project as it is currently defined. If there are design changes or updates that may affect these requirements, please coordinate through 30 CES/CEV.

CEVP (Environmental Planning):

A categorical exclusion (CATEX), A2.3.14, is applicable for this project. This CATEX is allowed based on that the new 200,000 gallon tank is being installed in place of the existing 86,000 gallon tank "on previously developed land, equipment that does not substantially alter land use".

CEVNN (Natural Resources):

Biologist Tracy Curry surveyed the area 2 February and no T&E concerns.

If vegetation clearing/trimming should take place, contact CEVNN (605-8399 or 606-0190) 3 to 5 days before work is to be started for a qualified biologist to evaluate the site for nesting birds. If nesting native birds are present on-site, it may be necessary to postpone activities until young have fledged to prevent impacts associated with disturbance and abandonment.

Or we recommend clearing vegetation now to prevent nesting and possible delay in the project. Contact CEVNN (605-8399 or 606-0190) 3 to 5 days before vegetation is to be removed for a biologist to evaluate for nesting birds.

When possible leave native vegetation in place or crush instead of complete removal. Use already cleared area for storage of material and equipment when possible instead of removing even more vegetation.

Remove all material and trash at the completion of the project.

If project gets delayed and is to occur in more than a year from this notice, contact CEVNN (606-4198 or 606-0190) prior to starting work.

Tracy Curry
30CES/CEVN
606-0190

CEVNC (Cultural Resources):

This email represents official comments from the Cultural Resources Section (CEVNC) regarding the proposed project.

1. Earlier, preliminary comments from James Carucci to Andrew Edwards (sent via email on 5 Feb 09; see this message string below) are incorporated here by inclusion and reference. The earlier comments were based upon an incomplete electronic copy of the proponent's 813 submittal. The following summary comments are based on a more

recent electronic link provided by Mr Edwards to the subject AF Form 813. The new version of the document is a scanned PDF file that is thorough, clear, and complete, and includes historical information, project details, legal authority, and summary statements related to field surveys for biological and visual resources. The proponent listed is Bill Ostini, and the scanned 813 PDF is dated 15 Jan 09.

2. In my opinion, the newly available, complete Form 813 adequately demonstrates that CEQA (and NEPA) guidelines for analysis are being followed.

3. VAFB Cultural Resources site records and the GIS show no evidence of historic, prehistoric or cultural resources in the vicinity of the existing water tank, which is to be replaced. Work on the tank or on the waterline buried in the pipeline easement on VAFB property should not affect any cultural resources.

4. However, the project apparently includes some work to replace portions of the existing buried waterline. The exact location(s) and amount of excavation needed to accomplish this task is not included in the 813.

5. Although the "Exemption Memorandum" included with the Form 813 summarizes results of the field surveys, saying on page 7 that "none of the construction activities would cause a substantial change in the significance of a historical resource," the basis of this statement is not clear. That is, there is no discussion of any archaeological site surveys or other related studies for this pipeline replacement. Because of this, I must assume that all work on the waterline will affect only the original linear trench in which the existing waterline was placed. If new excavations into undisturbed soils constitutes a substantial component of this project, the Exemption Memorandum should have addressed this issue.

6. As currently described, the Casmalia Community Services District water service enhancement project will not affect any historic properties located on Vandenberg property. In addition, assuming there is no new soil disturbance, the project is not likely to affect any historic properties located off of VAFB property. This project can go forward without further oversight or comments from CEVNC - Cultural Resources.

7. These comments pertain only to historic properties. Other office sections within the environmental flight may have comments as well.

8. Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposed project.

James Carucci, Ph.D.
Staff Archaeologist
30 CES/CEVNC
1028 Iceland Avenue
Vandenberg AFB, CA 93437-6010

Water Quality:

Water discharge from water supply sources is eligible for the waiver from Waste Discharge Requirements (permit) and reporting as long as:

a. The discharger implements management practices to dissipate energy and prevent erosion.

b. The discharger implements management practices to preclude discharge to surface waters and drainages – The project description includes this.

c. The discharge shall not have chloride or bromine concentrations that could impact water quality

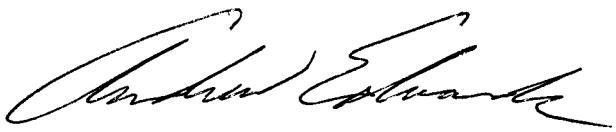
- Prior to discharge of the tank water, obtain approval from 30 CES/CEVC, Water Resource Manager, (805) 606-7541. "Discharge to Grade Characterization Form" may be required.

d. The discharge area shall not be within 100 feet of a stream, water body or wetland. The nearest drainage is over 400 feet away.

(Reference Regional Water Quality Control Board Resolution No. R3-2002-0115 Waiver Conditions)

Tara Wiskowski
30 CES/CEVC Water Quality
605-0503

Environmental Planning can be reached at (805) 606-2044 to answer any questions regarding this project review.



Andrew Edwards, GS-12
NEPA Project Manager