



January 6, 2023

Jignesh Ladhawala, PE  
Project Manager  
Coachella Valley Water District  
51501 Tyler Street  
Coachella, CA 92236

Subject: WRP 7 NPW Phase 1 Improvements WR7022/WF0912436 PO # 054966  
Amendment No. 7 – IS/MND

Dear Mr. Ladhawala,

Since the WRP 7 Phase 1 NPW Improvements Project includes upsizing the existing MP113.2 pump station and NPW pumping facilities, an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) is anticipated to be the appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document. Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) will serve as the CEQA Lead Agency. The IS/MND will be prepared by our subconsultant ECORP in accordance with CEQA (as amended) (Public Resources Code §§21000-21189.3), the 2022 State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations [CCR], Title 14, Chapter 3, §§15000-15387), and CVWD's 2022 Local CEQA Guidelines.

The proposed scope of services to complete Amendment 7 work, along with the Amendment No. 7 fee of \$64,208.00, are attached.

**Summary**

We are eager to continue work on this project and look forward to providing comprehensive services for the WRP7 Phase 1 NPW Improvements. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 530-520-5246, or [mckinleycb@bv.com](mailto:mckinleycb@bv.com).

Very truly yours,

Black & Veatch Corporation

Charlie McKinley, P.E.  
Project Manager

cc: Jeff Neemann, P.E.

# Scope of Services – Amendment 7

## Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

The WRP 7 Phase 1 NPW Improvements Project includes upsizing the existing MP113.2 pump station and NPW pumping facilities. The associated mechanical, electrical, and telemetry assets for these pumping facilities will also be replaced as part of the Project. An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) is anticipated to be the appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document. Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) will serve as the CEQA Lead Agency. The IS/MND will be prepared in accordance with CEQA (as amended) (Public Resources Code §§21000-21189.3), the 2022 State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations [CCR], Title 14, Chapter 3, §§15000-15387), and CVWD's 2022 Local CEQA Guidelines.

The Project will receive funds from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Partially funded by the USEPA, the SRF Loan Program is subject to federal environmental regulations. To comply with applicable federal statutes and authorities, EPA established specific CEQA-Plus (also known as Federal Cross Cutters) requirements with SWRCB for administering the loan program and federal grants. CEQA-Plus requires detailed information to obtain clearance for projects involving: species protected under the federal Endangered Species Act; wetlands; wild and scenic rivers; coastal zone areas; floodplains, important agricultural land; cultural resources/NHPA Section 106; and non-attainment areas for air quality. The IS/MND and technical studies will be prepared to comply with environmental review requirements for the SRF Loan Program.

### 1.0 IS/MND Preparation

#### Task 1 – CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

**Task 1A – Administrative Draft IS/MND.** An IS/MND will be prepared using the approved checklist format from Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines and CVWD's Environmental Assessment Committee (EAC) procedures. ECORP will prepare a description of the Project including the location of the project area (including a project map), a brief description of the environmental setting, an identification of environmental effects using the above-referenced checklist format, a brief substantiation of the checklist entries, and a list of references and preparers. ECORP will provide mitigation measures (if required) that can be developed using existing data. A site visit by an Environmental Analyst will be conducted. The air quality, greenhouse, noise, and energy sections of the checklist will include quantitative analysis (modeling) which will be included as attachments to the IS/MND (see Task 2). Record/database searches for biological resources, paleontological resources, and hazards/hazardous materials will also be conducted.

**Task 1B – Prepare and Distribute Draft IS/MND.** After receipt of one (1) set of integrated comments on the Administrative Draft IS/MND from CVWD, ECORP will prepare a complete Draft IS/MND. Following CVWD review, ECORP will make any necessary changes and the document will be mailed to addressees on CVWD's CEQA mailing list and to the State Clearinghouse. ECORP will also prepare the Notice of Intent (NOI) to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Notice of Completion (NOC) and file them with the Riverside County Clerk

and the State Clearinghouse, as appropriate. The NOI will be published in the newspaper in both English and Spanish.

**Task 1C – Final IS/MND and MMRP.** The Lead Agency (CVWD) must consider any comments received on the IS/MND when making a decision on the Project. A Final IS/MND will be prepared and will include copies of the comment letters, responses to the comments, any errata or other changes to the Draft IS/MND, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP, if required). For costing, we have assumed that ten (10) comment letters containing four (4) comments each will be received (or a total of 40 comments). A Notice of Determination (NOD) will also be prepared and filed. It has been assumed that CVWD will pay any fees associated with the NOD. The NOD fee effective January 1, 2023 is \$2,764. The County Clerk filing fee is \$50.

### **Task 1 Deliverables:**

- Electronic submittal of the Administrative Draft, Draft, and Final IS/MND
- Five (5) bound copies and one (1) electronic copy of the Draft and Final IS/MND for CVWD use
- Five (5) copies of the Draft IS/MND and up to fifty (50) copies of the NOI to mailing list
- Electronic upload of the IS/MND, notices, and State Clearinghouse summary form to the CEQA Database
- NOI, NOC, and NOD

## **Task 2 – Technical Studies/Analyses**

The following technical studies/analyses will be prepared for the Project:

Task 2A: Biological Resources

Task 2B: Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Task 2C: Noise

Task 2D: Energy

The scope of work for these technical studies is detailed below.

### **Task 2A – Biological Resources**

The Project Site is located within the Coachella Valley MSHCP plan area. A brief review of the Coachella Valley MSHCP determined that the Project Site is not located within a conservation area. ECORP will conduct a biological resources assessment of the project site to support the project's CEQA requirements. Prior to conducting the site survey, biologists will conduct queries of the latest versions of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants. In addition, other documentation, range maps of sensitive species, and other site-specific reports regarding biological resources that are relevant to evaluating the biological resources on the site will be reviewed.

Once the literature review is completed, ECORP biologists with knowledge of the species that could occur on or in the vicinity of the Project Site will use the literature review results as background information and conduct a reconnaissance-level survey of the Project Site and an appropriately sized buffer. Biological resources that are

known to occur or potentially occur on the property will be searched for during the survey. The survey will consist of a site walkover, taking photographs to document the site conditions, developing plant and wildlife species lists, mapping vegetation communities, and characterizing the habitats within the project area. The habitat assessment will identify any areas of suitable habitat for sensitive plant and wildlife species that may or may not require focused wildlife surveys, and any areas that may be potentially under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or CDFW will be identified. If special-status species are detected, occurrences will be documented using a global positioning system (GPS) device.

Following the completion of the biological survey, ECORP will prepare the biological resources section of the CEQA document (IS/MND) detailing the results of the literature review and field survey. The biological documentation will contain a summary of the results of the literature review and biological survey and will include an impacts analysis for any sensitive biological resources with potential to occur in order to conform to the information needs of CEQA.

#### ***Task 2A Deliverables:***

- Biological Resources subsection of the IS Checklist

#### **Task 2B – Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

The assessment of air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions will quantify Project emissions using the California Emissions Estimator Model version 2020.4.0 (CalEEMod) software. CalEEMod is a statewide land use emissions computer model designed to quantify pollutant emissions associated with a variety of land use projects. A general description of the phases of construction and its timing will be required. Project criteria air pollutant and GHG emissions will be compared to the thresholds of significance promulgated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), including SCAQMD's recommended Localized Significance Thresholds (LSTs). LSTs were developed in response to SCAQMD Governing Boards' Environmental Justice Enhancement Initiative (I-4). The LST methodology assists lead agencies in analyzing localized impacts associated with project-specific level proposed projects. ECORP proposes to evaluate potential air quality and GHG emission-related impacts in the body of the IS/MND. The analysis will be supported by modeling documentation, which would be included as an attachment to the IS/MND.

#### ***Task 2B Deliverables:***

- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases Emissions subsections of the IS Checklist; modeling results will be appended to the IS/MND

#### **Task 2C – Noise**

The applicable noise criteria for the Project Area will be reviewed and discussed for land uses adjacent to, and nearby, the Project Site as they will be the basis for the Project impact determination and whether mitigation is necessary. The Proposed Project includes the replacement of the existing pump system and a new pipeline. The Project would result in replacement of a permanent stationary sources of noise and therefore baseline noise measurements will be acquired.

Construction would occur during implementation of the Proposed Project. Noise levels from construction sources will be analyzed using the Federal Highway Administration Roadway Construction Noise Model and based on the anticipated equipment to be used. In order to evaluate the potential health-related effects (physical damage to the ear) from construction noise, construction noise will be evaluated in terms of hourly equivalent continuous noise levels (Leq) and the frequency of occurrence at the nearby residences to the south of the Project Site. In addition to construction noise, an analysis of vibration impacts will be prepared.

The evaluation of the Project's contribution to noise increases over existing conditions will also be addressed; however, due to the nature of the Project, the contribution to noise in the existing environment is expected to be nominal as the Project is only proposing infrastructure improvements. Therefore, post-construction Project noise will be addressed qualitatively.

ECORP proposes to evaluate noise impacts in the body of the IS/MND. Where appropriate, the analysis would be supported by modeling documentation, which would be included as an attachment to the IS/MND.

***Task 2C Deliverables:***

- Noise subsection of the IS Checklist; modeling results will be appended to the IS/MND

**Task 2D – Energy**

ECORP proposes to analyze Project energy consumption in the body of the IS/MND where potential impacts related to Project energy consumption will be assessed against the Office of Planning and Research's proposed standards of significance: i.e., whether the Project result in the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy, or wasteful use of energy resources; and, whether the Project would conflict with an applicable plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. There are no established thresholds of significance, statewide or locally, for what constitutes a wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy for a proposed infrastructure project. Therefore, for the purposes of this analysis, the amount of energy necessary for Project implementation will be quantified and compared to that consumed in Riverside County as a whole. Where appropriate, the analysis would be supported by modeling documentation, which would be included as an appendix to the IS/MND.

***Task 2D Deliverables:***

- Energy subsection of the IS Checklist; modeling results will be appended to the IS/MND

**Task 3 – Project Coordination and Meetings**

The ECORP Project Manager will facilitate communication between CVWD/Black & Veatch and the project team, be available for phone calls, be responsible for accurate and timely accounting (monthly invoices) and document deliverables and develop and maintain the project schedule. The ECORP Project Manager will coordinate with CVWD/Black & Veatch for the location, date, and time of all project meetings and field work unless directed otherwise. For costing purposes 20 hours have been estimated for project coordination and meetings.

### ***Task 3 Deliverables:***

- Meeting attendance

### **Optional Task 4 – AB 52 Tribal Cultural Resources Consultation Assistance**

ECORP will coordinate with CVWD to determine which tribes have submitted general requests to consult under Assembly Bill (AB) 52. AB 52 requires that each group that has requested consultation will be contacted by letter to provide them with information about the project and ask if they wish to consult with the agency. ECORP will draft the letter for CVWD and submit the draft letter to CVWD electronically. We have assumed that CVWD staff will print the letters on agency letterhead, obtain the required internal signatures, and mail the letters to the tribes and individuals named on the list within 14 days of determining that the project application is complete, as required by AB 52. For tribes that respond within 30 days with a request to consult, ECORP will assist CVWD in initiating consultation. Consultation must be initiated within 30 days of receiving the written request to consult. After comments have been addressed in the CEQA document as appropriate, or a robust administrative record has been assembled to document unsuccessful attempts to consult with one or more tribes under AB 52, ECORP will draft an AB 52 conclusion letter for CVWD to send to the tribes. The purpose of the letter is to officially conclude the AB 52 consultation and close out the administrative record, thereby demonstrating compliance. Senate Bill (SB) 18 would not apply to this project as it does not include a General Plan or Specific Plan Amendment.

### ***Optional Task 4 Deliverables:***

- Consultation letters

## **2.0 IS/MND Schedule**

ECORP anticipates that the expected time frame for the completion of the IS/MND can be met according to the schedule below (Table 1). This schedule can be modified based on the needs of CVWD. We propose to prepare the Administrative Draft IS/MND concurrently with the technical studies/analyses to stay on schedule. The technical studies will need to be completed prior to the Draft IS/MND (Task 1B) being completed and the start of the 30-day public review period. Assuming a December 1 notice to proceed the CEQA document approval is expected in 27 to 28 weeks (approximately 7 months – June 2023).

**Table 1: Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Tasks	Time Frame for Completion
Task 1 – CEQA Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)	
Task 1A – Administrative Draft IS/MND and Project Description	2 weeks from completion of the technical studies (technical studies as listed under Task 2 will be incorporated into this draft as will the results of the AB 52 tribal consultation)
CVWD Review	2 weeks
Task 1B – Prepare and Distribute Draft IS/MND	2 weeks from receipt of CVWD comments
Notice of Intent/Notice of Completion	With Draft IS/MND
Public/Agency Review	30 calendar days
Task 1C – Administrative Final IS/MND & MMRP (includes Responses to Comments)	3 weeks from end of public review period
CVWD Review	2 weeks
Task 1C – Final IS/MND & MMRP	2 weeks from CVWD comments
Notice of Determination (NOD)	Filed with the Riverside County Clerk within 5 business days of MND adoption
Task 2 – Technical Studies/Analyses	
Task 2A – Biological Resources	8 to 10 weeks from receipt of project description/site plan
Task 2B – Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions	
Task 2C – Noise	
Task 2D – Energy	
Task 3 – Project Coordination and Meetings	
Project Management and Meetings	Ongoing
Optional Task 4 – AB 52 Tribal Cultural Resources Consultation Assistance	
Assist CVWD with AB 52 compliance	Although AB 52 stipulates a schedule for the initiation of consultation (within 14 days of the initiation of the CEQA process), the law contains no timeline for the conclusion of consultation. The schedule for AB 52 consultation is dependent on whether or not any Tribes request consultation and the presence or absence of Tribal Cultural Resources within the project area.

# BLACK & VEATCH PROJECT FEE SHEET

CLIENT Coachella Valley Water District

Project WRP-7 Non Potable Water Improvements - Amendment 7 IS/MND

Task Description	Project Director Jeff Neumann	Project Manager Andy Kiatly	Technical PM Chaine McKinley	Technical Advisor Zeynep Edal	QC Manager Bruce Chow	Engr Manager James Reitmeier	Senior Project Engineer	Project Engineer	Assistant Engineer	Staff Engineer	CAD Manager	CADD/GIS	Cost Estimator	Project Controls	Administration	Hours	Labor	Direct Costs	BV FEE	ECORP	Total Sub FEE	TOTAL FEE
Billing Rate	\$350	\$300	\$300	\$275	\$270	\$220	\$175	\$160	\$150	\$140	\$160	\$120	\$150	\$150	\$95							
Task 1 - Project Management & QC																						
Task 1 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 2 - Project Meetings																						
Task 2 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 3 - Preliminary Design Report																						
Task 3 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 4 - Basis of Design Report																						
Task 4 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 5 - Drawings and Specifications																						
Task 5 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 6 - Opinion of Probable Construction Cost																						
Task 6 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 7 - Title 22 Engineering Report																						
Task 7 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 8 - Bidding Support																						
Task 8 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 9 - CEQA and Community Outreach Support																						
IS/MND	2		16			16		24						4	2	64	\$13,650		\$13,650	\$50,558	\$50,558	\$64,208
Task 9 Subtotal	2	0	16	0	0	16	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	64	\$13,650	\$0	\$13,650	\$50,558	\$50,558	\$64,208
Task 10 - Recycled Water Planning Grant																						
Task 10 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL TASKS 1 to 10	2	0	16	0	0	16	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	64	\$13,650	\$0	\$13,650	\$50,558	\$50,558	\$64,208