Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

Town Center Force Main Replacement Phase 2

June 28, 2017

El Dorado Irrigation District

Project # 16025.01

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TOWN CENTER FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT PHASE 2

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The El Dorado Irrigation District (District) plans to install 12,885 feet of new ten inch force main sewer pipe in El Dorado Road and Mother Lode Drive. The existing force main pipeline consists of approximately 12,885 feet of eight inch asbestos cement (AC) pipe and 1,208 feet of ten inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe. The Town Center Lift Station and related force main receives all the District's sewer flows in the El Dorado Road and Missouri Flat area north of Highway 50. Major connections include the Safeway and Kmart shopping centers, Indian Creek Elementary School, El Dorado County Office of Education, Folsom Lake College, Green Valley Church and the 40 parcel Long View Estates subdivision.

1.1 Background

The original Town Center Force Main was constructed in 1980 and 1981 as an eight inch asbestos cement pipe connecting the Town Center Lift Station to the Mother Lode Force Main. The existing eight inch asbestos cement pipe had a large failure back in 2013 that caused the District to very quickly replace approximately 915 feet of the force main at El Dorado Road and Mother Lode Drive. This failing pipe has continued to leak including four leaks within the last year. One leak required an additional 303 feet of force main to be installed in Mother Lode Drive. The other repairs were difficult to complete due to not having reliable existing pipe to tie back into. The larger ten inch pipe will provide adequate pumping capacities during high flow events.

1.2 CEQA Review

To comply with the District's requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this Initial Study (IS) and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) has been prepared (per CEQA Guidelines §15070-15075) to identify and address potential environmental effects and mitigation measures to be implemented during construction and maintenance activities of the proposed Project. This IS/MND includes the District's understanding of applicable environmental regulatory review processes and required mitigation measures for implementing the proposed Project activities.

2.0 PROJECT LOCATION

The Project site is located in Placerville in El Dorado Road and Mother Lode Drive in El Dorado County. Construction activities would occur entirely within the public right-of-way and public easements. Project vehicle access and equipment staging areas would be through existing roads and turnouts.

The Project is located within Section 22 of Township 10 North, Range 10 East, Mount Diablo Baseline & Meridian on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Placerville 7.5

Minute Quadrangle map. Please refer to **Figure 1** for the Project Location and Project alignment.

3.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Reduce the potential for pipe failure and sewer system overflows (SSOs).

- Complete the Project in a cost effective manner while accomplishing the public health and safety and environmental objectives.

4.0 PROPOSED PROJECT COMPONENTS

The project will consist of installing new pipeline beginning at Town Center Lift Station on El Dorado Road. The pipe will be installed approximately five feet off the existing pipeline within the El Dorado County right-of-way. From there, the pipeline will traverse to Highway 50. The existing eight inch ductile iron pipe that traverses Highway 50 will be potholed and analyzed to determine if it can remain in service or if it needs to be replaced. If the ductile iron pipe is found unsuitable, then new pipe will be installed through the existing casing within the bridge deck above Highway 50. Pipeline installation will continue on the south side of Highway 50 and will continue up towards Mother Lode Drive. In a section just south of Highway 50 and on El Dorado Road is the only surface drainage crossing in the project area. This is an unnamed intermittent drainage. At this culvert crossing, the new pipeline will be placed over the top of the existing culvert allowing the minimum one-foot clearance. There is three feet clearance from the ground surface to the culvert allowing ample space for the new pipeline. It is therefore expected the culvert will not be unearthed or even visible during construction. Construction at this location will have no impact to the stream bank or creek and will in no way impact water flow.

Prior to reaching Mother Lode Drive, crews will locate the existing 10 inch PVC line and will reconnect in El Dorado Road. In Mother Lode Drive, the contractor will reconnect to the existing 10 inch PVC line. New pipeline will continue to be installed along Mother Lode Drive to Pleasant Valley Road approximately five feet off the existing pipeline in the County right-of-way. At the railroad crossing along Mother Lode Drive, a casing will be installed in the County right of way. All new pipeline installation will be pressure tested prior to any tie-in.

4.1 Replacement Pipeline Installation

The replacement pipeline is anticipated to be installed within county roads and the existing pipeline abandoned in place. The new pipe will be installed approximately five feet from the existing force main where feasible. The location will be based on existing water facilities and condition of the soil within the trench to properly protect the existing force main while new pipe is being installed. All air release valves will be replaced in the same approximate location based on pipe slope.

4.2 Abandonment of the Existing Sewer Pipeline

Abandonment of the existing pipe will consist of capping the pipe at Mother Lode Drive and Pleasant Valley Road, El Dorado Road and Mother Lode Drive, and at Town Center Lift Station. The pipe will then be slurry backfilled to prevent any road settlement when the pipe completely deteriorates. Note that although asbestos is a component of the pipe material, the buried pipe does not pose a health hazard.

The pipe cannot be replaced in the same trench as it would require multiple shutdowns of the Town Center Lift Station causing unnecessary risks for spills. By installing a new line along side of the existing force main it allows the District to pressure test the new line and verify that there are no leaks in the system. The existing pipe cannot be rehabilitated because it would need to be taken out of service thus causing the District to install a 13,000 foot bypass to properly line the existing pipe. The bypass is not feasible due to crossing multiple driveways, roads, and Highway 50.

4.3 Proposed Project Construction Methods

Construction activities would occur primarily during the business hours of 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. although longer work hours may be necessary during sewer tie in events. Sewer services would not be shut off during construction activities, and therefore no service impacts to District customers would occur. The District would provide advanced notice to the adjacent neighborhood of any planned night-time or weekend construction activity that is necessary.

Construction equipment for Project activities would include the following:

- Excavator
- Loader
- Backhoe
- Semi-trucks
- Broom truck
- Service trucks
- Generator
- Shovel
- Miscellaneous hand tools

Best Management Practices

Standard Best Management Practices (BMPs) for construction will be implemented as needed. Standard erosion control BMPs will be employed during and after construction. These BMPs include water conservation practices (NS-1), paving and grinding operations (NS-3), storm drain inlet protection (SE-10), bio-filter bags (SE-14) as found necessary, stabilized construction entrance (TC-1), solid waste management (WM-5), contaminated soil management (WM-7) for any naturally occurring asbestos, and sanitary/septic waste management (WM-9). All concrete activities will be conducted in a manner to avoid impacts to water quality.

With the existing pipe in service the Contractor will pay close attention to the stability of the soil in the new trench in relation to the existing force main. If a line break does occur on the existing force main the Contractor will immediately notify the District and will stop all excavation. Under direction of the District only shall the contractor utilize on-site equipment to aid in the main break. This includes the use of vactor equipment to remove raw sewage from the new trench.

5.0 PROPOSED PROJECT OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Operations and maintenance would be minimal since this Project is proposing to replace an existing pipeline thereby reducing the operation requirements to repair the pipeline. The gravity flow pipeline would be periodically inspected by District staff to ensure leaks are not occurring within the system, which is a part of the ongoing operations and maintenance requirements of all sewer lines within the District's sewer system.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND POTENTIAL PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

District CEQA review and Project approvals would be required before commencement of the proposed Project activities. Table 1 lists the anticipated agency reviews and permits that would be necessary to implement the Project activities.

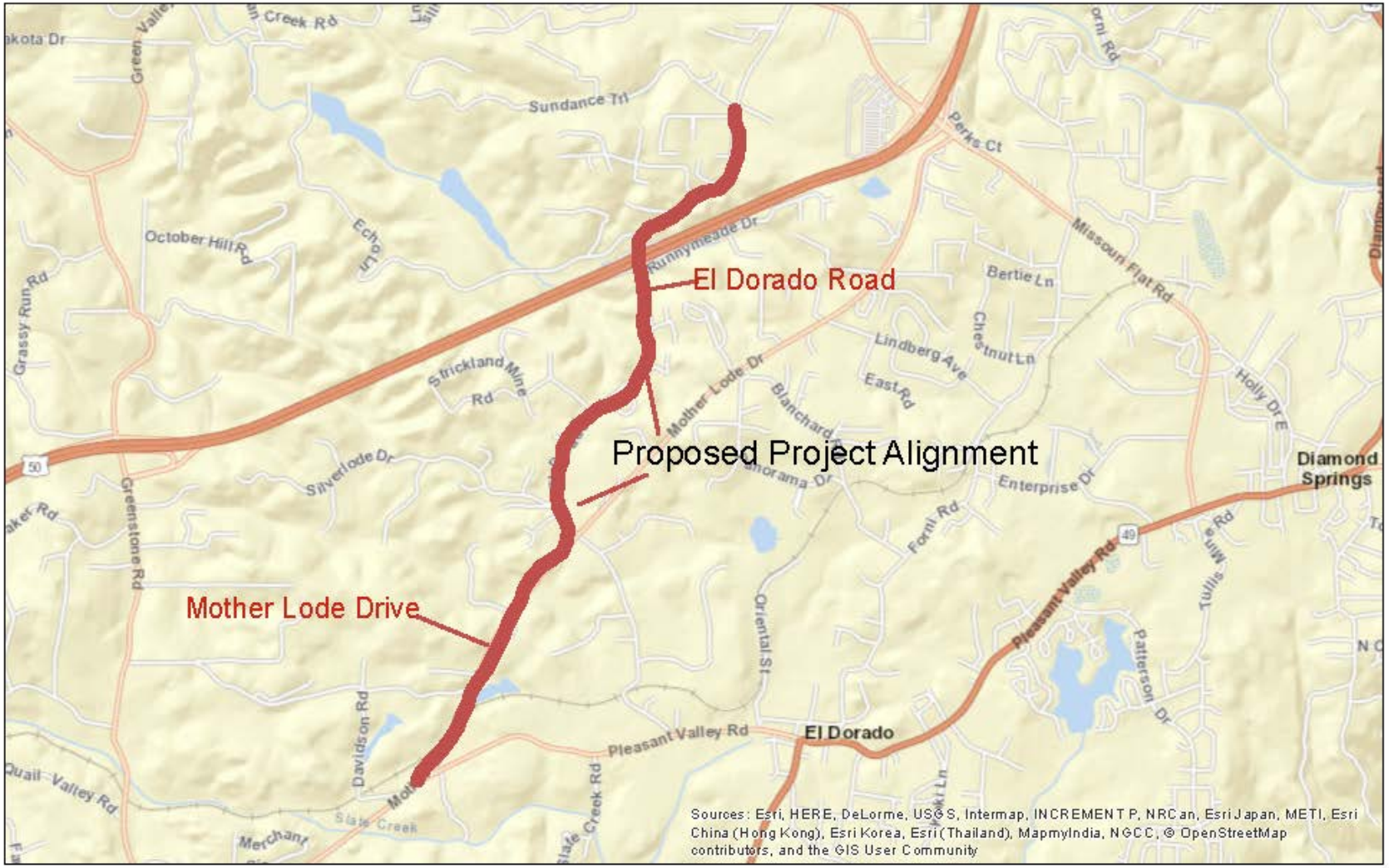
Table 1: Agency Review and Potential Permit Requirements

Agency	Applicable Laws/Reviews/ Approvals
El Dorado Irrigation District (CEQA Lead Agency)	Section 21000 et seq. of Public Resources Code and Section 15000 et seq. of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Nationwide Permit Section 404 under Clean Water Act
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Endangered Species Act, Section 7 Consultation, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
State Office of Historic Preservation	Section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Clean Water Act, Section 401, Water Quality Certification under Clean Water Act
Department of Fish and Wildlife, North Central Region	Fish and Game Code, Section 1600 et seq., Streambed Alteration Agreement

7.0 PROPOSED PROJECT SCHEDULE

Connection to the existing gravity fed sewer pipeline and installation of the new pipeline would be conducted by contractors retained by the District through a public bidding process. Project construction activities would commence in the summer of 2017 and would take approximately 150 days to complete.

Figure 1: Proposed Project Location and Alignment



Author: EID
Print date: June 27, 2017
WARNING: No accuracy of map implied until field checked by EID. Exact pipe locations must be field verified.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

1.0 OVERVIEW:

Project title:	Town Center Force Main Replacement Phase 2
Lead Agency name and address:	El Dorado Irrigation District 2890 Mosquito Road Placerville, CA 95667
Contact person and phone number:	Bret Sampson Environmental Review Analyst (530) 642-4058
Project location:	Placerville Quadrangle, Sections 22, Township 10N, Range 10E, MDB&M
Project sponsor's name and address:	El Dorado Irrigation District 2890 Mosquito Road Placerville, CA 95667
Land designation:	El Dorado County right-of-way

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this proposed Project, involving at least one impact that is a ”Less-than-Significant” or "Less-than-Significant with Mitigation" as indicated by the accompanying environmental checklist.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture and Forestry	☒ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☒ Cultural Resources	☒ Geology/Soils
☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☒ Hazards and Hazardous Materials	☒ Hydrology/Water Quality
☐ Land Use/Planning	☐ Mineral Resources	☒ Noise
☐ Population/Housing	☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation
☒ Transportation/Traffic	☐ Utilities/Service Systems	☒ Mandatory Findings of Significance

3.0 EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The degree of change from existing conditions caused by the Project is compared to the impact evaluation criteria to determine if the change is significant. Where it is determined that one or more significant impacts could result from implementation of the Project, mitigation measures are developed to reduce or eliminate the significant impacts. Existing conditions serve as a baseline for evaluating the impacts of the Project.

The following terminology is used in this document to describe the various levels of environmental impacts associated with the Project:

- A finding of *no impact* is identified if the analysis concludes that the proposed Project would not affect a particular environmental topical area in any way.
- An impact is considered *less than significant* if the analysis concludes that the proposed Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the environment.
- An impact is considered *less than significant with mitigation* if the analysis concludes that the proposed Project has the potential to cause a substantial adverse change in the environment, but the proposed Project includes measures to mitigate the potential impact to a less than significant level.
- An impact would be considered a *potentially significant impact* if the analysis concludes that the proposed Project could cause a significant environmental effect. Proposed Projects that potentially produce a significant impact(s) warrant the greater level of analysis and consideration provided by an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

4.0 CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS: Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Town Center Force Main Replacement Phase 2 (Project) is located between the foothills and the western slopes of the central Sierra Nevada mountain range at an elevation of approximately 1,500 feet. The region is characterized as an urban environment with a few larger parcels with open space. The Project would replace an existing underground aging pipeline and air release valves; thereby, improving the aesthetics in the area by improving facilities.

Explanations

a) No Impact. The Project site is primarily within an urban environment and is not designated as a scenic vista under local planning or policy documents.

b) No Impact. The Project activities are not located on a state scenic highway, and therefore would not impact scenic resources.

c) No Impact. Since installation of new pipeline would improve above ground facilities in the area and all pipelines would be underground, the Project activities would slightly improve the visual character of the surrounding area.

d) No Impact. Construction of the project would occur during the daylight hours unless nighttime work activities are required during tie-ins, which would be temporary.

Mitigation Measures

- No mitigation is required or warranted.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The land surrounding the Project is either privately owned or within District public utility easements.

Explanations

a) No Impact. The Project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Department of Conservation (CDC), to non-agricultural use (CDC 2014).

b) No Impact. The Project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract.

c) No Impact. The Project would not Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g)).

d) No Impact. The Project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.

e) No Impact. The Project would not involve other changes in the existing environment, which could result in the conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use.

Mitigation Measures

- No mitigation is required or warranted.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non- attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The proposed Project would take place within the Mountain Counties Air Basin (MCAB), and the Project site is within the jurisdiction of the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD). El Dorado County is designated as "serious non-attainment" for the federal ozone standard, and portions of the western slope of the County are designated as non-attainment for particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM2.5). Under state authority (California Health and Safety Code Section 39608(a)), El Dorado County is designated non-attainment for the ozone standard and particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM10) (AQMD 2002). The MCAB is designated either as attainment or unclassified for the remaining federal and state criteria pollutant standards for nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfates, hydrogen sulfide (H_2S), lead, and visibility reducing particles (AQMD 2002). The El Dorado County AQMD specifies thresholds of significance for construction emissions. The AQMD recommends a significance threshold of 82 lbs/day (AQMD 2002) with respect to short-term and long-term emissions of nitrogen oxide (NOx) and reactive organic gases (ROG).

Evaluation of the potential air quality impacts for the proposed Project was completed for this analysis utilizing the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District Road Construction Emissions Model, Version 8.1.0. This air quality modeling program was selected since the proposed construction activities include installation of a sewer pipeline, and the Road Construction Emissions Model is the best available model for linear construction projects. The results of the modeling output for this Project are available from the District upon request.

Explanations

a) Less-than-Significant. Implementation of the Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the AQMD Air Quality Plan.

b) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. Short-term, negligible air quality impacts would result from the construction equipment and worker vehicles at the Project site. Portable generators would be utilized during proposed construction activities, and if the engine is greater than 50 brake horsepower it would be required to be registered by the Project contractor through the California Air Resources Board (CARB) prior to use. In accordance with the El Dorado County AQMD guidelines (AQMD 2002), the District completed an air quality model to estimate potential emissions produced by Project implementation. Construction emissions are temporary in duration, and the results of the air quality model concluded the Project activities would not have the potential to exceed AQMD emissions limits for NOx and ROG. The proposed Project would emit 3.94 lbs/day of ROG and 42.77 lbs/day of NOx.

   Short-term air quality impacts could result from fugitive dust emissions generated during earthmoving activities. A portion of the Project site is identified on the Asbestos Review Area Map for El Dorado County as an area likely to be found

with Naturally Occurring Asbestos (AQMD 2005). The District would require the contractor to develop a Fugitive Dust Plan and implement best management practices (BMPs) (MM-AQ-1) during proposed construction activities to mitigate the impacts for fugitive dust emissions to less-than-significant levels. The District has approval from El Dorado County to move any material determined to have asbestos to the old Reservoir 10 site (6651 Acorn Hill Road, Placerville, CA.).

c) Less-than-Significant. Short-term, negligible air quality impacts would result from the construction equipment and worker vehicles at the Project site. The proposed Project would not contribute a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant to the air basin that would affect the ambient air quality status for the federal and state ozone standards.

d) No Impact. The project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

e) No Impact. The Project would not create objectionable odors and would not result in excessive odors as defined under the El Dorado County AQMD rules for public nuisance odors.

Mitigation Measures

- MM-AQ-1: Prior to construction of the Project, the Contractor will prepare a Fugitive Dust Plan that will describe the application of standard best management practices, as described in El Dorado County AQMD Rule 223-1, to control dust during construction activities. Best management practices will include applying water to disturbed soils a minimum of two times per day, covering haul vehicles, replanting disturbed areas as soon as practical, restrict vehicle speeds on paved roads, and other measures as determined necessary.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

No natural vegetation or natural habitats will be disturbed at any time during construction. The pipeline will replace an existing degraded pipeline entirely within the roadway. The pipeline will cross one small unnamed stream but work will take place entirely within the existing roadway at this crossing and will avoid the culvert.

Explanations

a) No Impact. No natural vegetation or habitats will be disturbed at any time during construction. The project does not have the potential to interfere with avian resources and no stream crossings will be impacted by the project. Therefore no biological resources will be impacted by the project.

b) No Impact. See above.

c) No Impact. See above.

d) No Impact. See above.

e) No Impact. The Project would not interfere or conflict with any local ordinances or policies protecting biological resources. The Project activities do not require the removal of any trees, and the Project would be in compliance with existing El Dorado County General Plan policies related to biological resources (EDC 2004).

f) No Impact. The Project would not interfere or conflict with provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

Mitigation Measures

- No mitigation is required or warranted.

Best Management Practices

The following Best Management Practices and Standard Operating Procedures will be implemented:

- All construction activities will be limited to the project construction area, and access roads. No pets will be permitted on the project site.
- All site workers will be informed about the importance of maintaining any designated work areas.

- During construction, all project-related vehicle and equipment traffic will be restricted to established roads or access routes, and will observe a maximum 20-mile an hour speed limit within the work areas.
- If work is done between February 28 and August 15, a nesting bird survey for the Project site and surrounding areas of suitable nesting habitat will be conducted. If active nests are found, impacts on such nests shall be avoided by establishing a no-disturbance buffer around the nest. The appropriate buffer size for all nesting birds shall be determined by a qualified biologist based on site-specific conditions, the species of nesting bird, nature of the project activity, visibility of the disturbance from the nest site, and other relevant circumstances. Monitoring of the nest by a qualified biologist during construction activities shall be required if the activity has the potential to adversely affect the nest. If construction activities cause the nesting bird to vocalize, make defensive flights at intruders, get up from a brooding position, or fly off the nest, then the no-disturbance buffer shall be increased until the agitated behavior ceases. The no-disturbance buffer will remain in place until the chicks have fledged or as otherwise determined by a qualified biologist.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in §21074?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

On April 24, 2017, Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. conducted a records search at the North Central Information center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS). No prehistoric or Native American cultural sites were identified during the records search or review of historical USGS topographic maps for the project area.

Furthermore, no ground disturbance will take place outside the existing roadbed; therefore the Project is expected to have a less than significant impact on cultural resources.

Explanations

a)-b) Less Than Significant Impact. Construction activities would not require ground disturbing activities that could potentially unearth previously unidentified, subsurface cultural resources. However, to ensure a less than significant impact mitigation measures CR-1 through CR-3 are presented below.

c) Less Than Significant Impact (see discussion above). As part of the CEQA process, EID mailed scoping letters to Tribes interested in this project, including the Auburn and Wilton Rancherias. The Tribes did not respond within the required 30 days notifying the District that they wished to be consulted about the project.

d) Less Than Significant Impact. No geologic strata that would contain paleontological resources exist at the site. However, to ensure a less than significant impact mitigation measures CR-1 through CR-3 are presented below.

e) Less Than Significant Impact. During ground disturbing activities, there is a slight potential to unearth previously unidentified human remains. To reduce potential of significantly disturbing or damaging human remains, mitigation (MM-CR-1) through (MM-CR-3) would be incorporated.

Mitigation Measures

- MM-CR-1: The District will utilize a qualified on-call professional if, during excavation activities, any of the following or other potential pre-historic/historic materials are unearthed:

    1. Potential human remains;
    2. Former refuse sites or other artifacts; or,
    3. Changes in soil color or composition that could indicate a former occupation site.

- MM-CR-2: As a standard precaution, and as part of the construction contract specifications, if any previously unknown cultural resources are encountered during construction, necessary discovery measures will include:

    1. Shutting down construction activities in the immediate area of a find;
    2. Notifying the District Project Manager;
    3. Continuing work cessation in the project vicinity for a reasonable period of time to allow professional evaluation of finds (Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2, 21084.1, and 21083.1);
    4. If the resources are found to be significant and avoidance is not possible, providing time and funding for professional recovery and analysis of significant archaeological and historical finds (Part V of Appendix K and Public Resources Code Section 21083.2).

- MM-CR-3: If human remains are discovered, all work shall stop in the immediate vicinity of the find and the El Dorado County Coroner shall be notified in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the NAHC shall be notified and procedures outlined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e), California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 shall be followed.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS: Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project site is located within the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. This trending range extends from the Mojave Desert to the Modoc Plateau. Bedrock varies from Paleozoic age metamorphic to Holocene age sedimentary and volcanic rock.

The NRCS Soil Survey indicates that five soil series are within the study area. The soil series map units are Auburn silt loam 2 – 30% slopes, and Auburn very rocky silt loam 2 -30% slopes, Diamond Springs very rocky fine silt, Boomer gravelly loam, and Boomer very rocky loam. These soils are well-drained that are underlain by hard metamorphic rocks at a depth of 12 to 26 inches (NRCS 2014).

According to the El Dorado County General Plan, fault systems mapped in western El Dorado County include the Bear Mountain Fault; the Maidu Fault Zone; the El Dorado Fault; the Melones Fault Zone of the Clark, Gillis Hill Fault; and the Calaveras–Shoo Fly Thrust. None of these fault systems are considered active within the County.

Explanations

a) No Impact. This Project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial or adverse effects.

   i) California Geological Survey does not list the County of El Dorado as a county affected by the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. According to the Fault Activity Map of California and Adjacent Areas, no active faults are located on the Project site. The closest inactive fault is the Bear Mountain Fault, located approximately 5 miles east of the Project site.

   ii) The Project would not expose people or structures to seismic ground shaking, and does not occur in an area of active seismicity. Additionally, the Project does not involve the construction of structures.

   iii) The Project would not create ground failure or liquefaction.

   iv) The Project would not create landslides.

b) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. Construction unavoidably increases the potential for runoff from disturbed areas. Mitigation is presented in the Hydrology and Water Section of this Initial Study (MM-HYD-1) for the protection of water quality. Additionally, mitigation measure MM-GEO-1 would be implemented to mitigate the impacts of potential soil erosion and loss of topsoil to less-than-significant levels.

c) No Impact. The Project is not located in an area prone to on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse; nor would construction

activities increase the likelihood of creating on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse in the Project area.

d) No Impact. The Project site soils are classified as Auburn Silt Loam and Auburn very rocky silt loam which both occur within 2 to 30 % slopes. The Auburn Series consists of shallow to moderately deep, well drained soils formed in material weathered from metamorphic rock. These soils do not have expansive characteristics (NRCS 2014).

e) No Impact. The Project would reduce the potential of sewer system overflows, and reduce the overall operations and maintenance costs associated with the two outdated lift stations. The Project would not introduce septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems that require soil infiltration.

Mitigation Measures

- MM-GEO-1: The District contractor shall prepare and implement a Water Pollution Control Plan for construction activities to control surface runoff, reduce erosion, and minimize the potential for sedimentation from leaving the Project site. Disturbed areas will be reseeded, mulched, and/or protected by other means, and shall be monitored and maintained until vegetation is established.

	Potentially Significant Impact	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) are present in the atmosphere naturally, are released by natural and anthropogenic (human-caused) sources, and are formed from secondary reactions taking

place in the atmosphere. The following are GHGs that are widely accepted as the principal contributors to human-induced global climate change:

- Carbon dioxide (CO_2)
- Methane (CH_4)
- Nitrous oxide (N_20)
- Hydrofluorocarbons
- Perfluorocarbons
- Sulfur hexafluoride

Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32) established legislation in September 2006 for the State of California to combat human-induced GHGs and promote the development and use of energy-efficient technologies. In addition, AB 32 established a comprehensive program of regulatory and market mechanisms to achieve real, quantifiable, cost-effective reductions of greenhouse gas emissions. The law requires a reduction of carbon emissions in California to 1990 levels by 2020. CARB is the primary state agency designated to implement the requirements outlined in AB 32. The El Dorado County AQMD currently does not have any regulations addressing GHG emissions.

a) Less-than-Significant. The Project would generate a minor amount of construction-related carbon dioxide, with most of the emissions generated by off-road construction equipment and construction worker trips. The Project would not generate long-term operation GHGs, nor would it increase water conveyance, which could lead to increased GHGs through water procurement, transport, treatment, and use. The Project would actually reduce the generation of long-term GHGs from District operations by utilizing less electrical and diesel backup power for the two eliminated lift stations. Because of the Project's limited GHG generation during construction, and because it would not lead to ongoing operational emissions, the Project would have less-than-significant impacts to greenhouse gases.

b) Less-than-Significant. Project construction activities would be temporary and minor, and therefore have minimal effects on AB 32 greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. For Project operations, long-term maintenance activities would require minimal vehicle miles traveled, since the proposed Project maintenance would be incorporated into the existing District maintenance schedule, and as mentioned above, the Project would reduce long-term GHGs from District operations with the removal of two lift stations. Therefore, the Project would not hinder or delay California's ability to meet the reduction targets contained in AB 32.

Mitigation Measures

- No mitigation is required or warranted.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) 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?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Explanations

a) No Impact. The Project activities would take place within existing rights-of-ways and would not require the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, no impacts to the public or the environment regarding hazardous materials would occur from implementation and future operations of the Project

b) Less-than-Significant. A potential hazard associated with the Project would be the possibility of an accidental release of a hazardous substance such as fuel, oil, or lubricants from construction equipment during utilization and transport of equipment and materials to the site. The District would minimize the potential for hazardous materials release in the Project area by requiring the contractor to implement storm water BMPs as described under MM-HYD-1 through MM-HYD-4), and therefore less-than-significant impacts regarding potential release of hazardous materials would occur during implementation of the Project.

c) No Impact. There are no schools within a quarter mile of the Project.

d) No Impact. The Project site is not included on any list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

e) No Impact. There is no airport located in the Project vicinity.

f) No Impact. There are not airstrips located in the Project vicinity.

g) No Impact. The Project would not interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

h) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. The Project area is adjacent to an open area that is primarily oak woodland. This area could catch fire if an errant spark or heat from construction equipment provides ignition. The following mitigation measure MM-HAZ-1 would reduce the potential impact to less than significant levels.

Mitigation Measures

- MM-HAZ-1: The contractor shall adhere to all fire prevention and protection requirements and regulations of El Dorado County. Pertinent measures include, but are not limited to, the use of equipment with spark arrestors and non-sparking tools during Project activities.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY: Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	☐	☒	☐	☐

e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☒	☐	☐
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☒	☐	☐
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	☒
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project area is located within the Lower Sacramento River Basin, within the lower American River subbasin. The area is situated on a gentle slope within an urban environment with nearby homes and open space. The Project occurs entirely within or directly adjacent to existing roadways. Two unnamed drainages will be crossed as a result of the Project. Each crossing will occur in either over or under existing culverts in the existing County Right-of-Way.

Explanations

a) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. During implementation of the Project, there is a slight potential for the release of chemicals, including fuels, oils, and solvents that could enter into the drainage through surface runoff or by subsurface absorption through soils. Construction-related water quality effects could be significant but only if a serious problem occurred at the drainage crossing, which is highly unlikely. Additionally, a short-term increase of sediment discharge may occur during construction and warrants mitigation. During construction, earthmoving activities would remove some soil cover, disturb soil particles, and alter site drainage patterns, creating conditions conducive to wind and water erosion. Erosion and sedimentation above natural levels could affect the drainages. To reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels and to ensure that water quality is not violated, mitigation measures (MM-HYD-1 through MM-HYD-4) would be implemented.

b) No Impact. The Project does not involve withdrawals or additions to groundwater.

c) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. See discussion above. To reduce the slight potential for impact to the drainage crossing or from the potential for erosion or siltation on- or off-site, mitigation measures (MM-HYD-1 through MM-HYD-4) would be implemented.

d) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. Refer to sections a) and c) above.

e) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. Refer to sections a) and c) above.

f) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. Refer to sections a) and c) above.

g) No Impact. The Project does not include housing development.

h) No Impact. The Project site is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panel Number 06017C0756E (http://msc.fema.gov/portal/search on July 13, 2016).

i) No Impact. The Project would not increase the exposure of people or structures to flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam.

j) No Impact. The Project does not impact any water bodies that could result in seiche, tsunami, or mudflow events.

Mitigation Measures

- MM-HYD-1: The District will implement specific best management practices. The District contractor shall prepare and implement a Water Pollution Control Plan that lists BMPs and additional mitigation measures to reduce construction-related impacts to water quality.

- MM-HYD-2: Spill response materials will be made available on site during Project construction activities. These materials shall include drip pans, buckets, absorbent pads, strawbales, absorbent clay, sawdust, spill containment barriers, heavy plastic sheeting, plastic bags, shovels, and sealable containers, depending on the activities involved.

- MM-HYD-3: The District will approve areas as fully-contained concrete washout areas at least 100 feet from receiving water and appropriately dispose of or treat concrete effluent from the construction site. It is anticipated that very minimal concrete will be needed as part of this job.

- MM-HYD-4: The District will approve re-refueling sites at least 100 feet from a receiving water.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING: Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project site is located within El Dorado County right-of way along the road or within pre-existing staging areas. The land use designations within and adjacent to the Project area are high density residential (HDR), Medium Density Residential (MDR), Open Space (OS), and Commercial (C).

Explanations

a) No Impact. Implementation of the Project would remove an existing aging pipeline thereby reducing the cost of continuously repairing the old pipe. The Project construction activities would occur on existing road easements and rights-of-way, and therefore division of a community would not occur as a result of the Project activities.
b) No Impact. The Project would not require a change in zoning of the Project site, and would therefore not conflict with the El Dorado County General Plan (EDC 2004).
c) No Impact. The Project would not interfere or conflict with provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Commercially available mineral resources are not known to exist on or immediately adjacent to the Project site. The Project site is not identified on the Mineral Resource (-MR) overlay of the El Dorado County General Plan Land Use Map (EDC 2004).

Explanations

a) No Impact. Because mineral resources are not known to exist on or immediately adjacent to the Project site, the Project would not affect known mineral resources that could be of value to the region and the residents of the state.

b) No Impact. Because mineral resources are not known to exist on or immediately adjacent to the Project site, the Project would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. NOISE: Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e) 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 expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project area is characterized as an urban environment with a few larger parcels with open space, commercial properties, a church, a bank and single family residential neighborhoods. The noise environment of the Project area is defined primarily by motor vehicles (e.g., automobiles, buses, trucks, and motorcycles) utilizing El Dorado Road and Mother Lode Drive which are both main arterial roadways.

Noise-sensitive land uses, or sensitive receptors, are generally defined as locations where people reside or locations where the presence of unwanted sound could adversely affect the

use of the land. Noise-sensitive land uses typically include residences, hospitals, schools, libraries, and certain types of recreational uses. Motor vehicle noise from El Dorado Road and Mother Lode Drive is the primary influence for noise levels to nearby sensitive receptors, which are primarily residences, due to the substantial level and speed of traffic, especially during peak hours.

Explanations

a) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. Project generated noise impacts would be short-term and temporary, produced by the operation of construction equipment implementing the proposed improvements. Noise levels of typical construction activities range from 68 to 96 decibels (dB) at a distance of 50 feet from origin, and the nearest residence is located approximately 90 linear feet from the construction site. Sound from a localized source (i.e., point source) propagates uniformly outward with sound levels attenuating (decreasing) at a rate of 6 dB for each doubling of distance from a point/stationary source. Therefore, temporary noise levels could be approximately 90 dB at the nearest residence.

   El Dorado County has established guidelines in the 2004 General Plan for acceptable levels of noise. Policy 6.5.1.11 establishes that construction noise between the hours of 7am and 7pm Monday through Friday, and 8 am and 5 pm on weekends within community regions shall not exceed 55 dB or a maximum of 75 dB within higher-density residential, or shall not exceed 70 dB or a maximum of 90 dB within commercial and public facility land use areas (EDC 2004). Exemptions are allowed if it can be shown that construction beyond these times is necessary to alleviate traffic congestion and safety hazards. The Project area is a mix of residential and commercial land uses.

   As construction at a facility for the transmission of wastewater, the Project is exempt from local land use regulation, including the El Dorado County General Plan, under Government Code sections 53090 and 53091. However, General Plan Policy 6.5.1.11 establishes an appropriate threshold for assessing the significance of Project-related noise impacts. Project activities could generate temporary noise levels in excess of the above mentioned noise guidelines. Mitigation measures (MM-NOS-1 through MM-NOS-2) are presented below, that would reduce noise impacts to less-than-significant.

b) Less-than-Significant. Power tools and equipment would be utilized during Project construction activities. These construction activities would be temporary, and primarily occur during daylight. Limited nighttime work could be needed where the pipeline crosses Highway 50 as required by Caltrans. Therefore, it is anticipated that the Project would have less-than-significant impacts to potential groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.

c) No Impact. The Project activities are temporary and would not cause permanent increases in ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity.

d) Less-than-Significant with Mitigation. During construction activities, there would be temporary noise increases from the use of power tools, equipment, and other non-powered hand-tools. The District would require the contractor to comply with all applicable noise and occupational safety standards as defined in the construction specifications, and to protect workers and other persons from the health effects of increased noise levels from the use of construction equipment. Compliance with construction specifications would reduce potential noise-related concerns at the construction site, and therefore cause a less-than-significant impact. Mitigation measures (MM-NOS-01 through MM-NOS-02) are presented below, that would reduce noise impacts to less-than-significant.

e) No Impact. There are no public airports within two miles of the Project.

f) No Impact. There are no private airstrips in the vicinity of the Project.

Mitigation Measures:

- MM-NOS-1: Contractor will utilize the best available noise control techniques when working within the residential areas such as improved mufflers on the equipment. Additionally, stationary construction equipment shall be placed as far from residences as practicable while meeting project needs.

- MM-NOS-2: All motorized equipment shall not be left idling while not in use.

	Potentially Significant Impact	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING: Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction or replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Portions of the Project area include residential property. The Project would not alter the number or type of residential units that exist, nor would it introduce land use or changes that would attract new residents creating a need for additional housing. No significant change to sewer capacity would result from implementation of the Project.

Explanations

a) Less Than Significant Impact. The Project would replace an aging pipe thereby reducing the cost of rehabilitating the old pipe, reducing the potential for sewer system overflows, and reducing the overall operations and maintenance costs associated with pipeline repair.

While the Project includes upsizing the pipe diameter from 8" to 10" in the Project area, overall wastewater capacity for the area served by the pipe is limited by the capacity of the Deer Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (DCWTP) that serves the entire Project area. Growth inducing impacts of expanding the capacity of the DCWTP to 3.6 million gallons per day (mgd) were analyzed in the DCWTP Expansion Project EIR (SCH#96092074). The DCWTP Expansion Project EIR utilized growth projections contained in the County's General Plan and analyzed under the County's General Plan EIR to determine needed plant capacity to meet future growth.

To properly analyze Project related growth inducing impacts, it is necessary to determine if the DCWTP is operating within the capacity identified in the DCWTP Expansion Project EIR, or if additional growth inducing impacts not identified in the previous EIR could occur if the Project is implemented.

The District's Integrated Water Resources Master Plan includes Average Daily Water Flow (ADWF) numbers identified at the DCWTP (HDR, 2013). The Plan states that in 2012, ADWF at the DCWTP was 2.23 mgd, well under the 3.6 mgd identified and analyzed in the DCWTP Expansion Project EIR. Currently, the District's records show that the ADWF at the DCWTP for 2016 was 2.0 mgd**,** also within the 3.6 mgd analyzed in the DCWTP Expansion Project EIR (SCADA output accessed June 2017).

In conclusion, the Project does not include new homes or facilities that would directly induce growth in El Dorado County. The Project includes replacement of an existing sewer line to meet the current and unplanned future wastewater needs identified in the County's General Plan and analyzed under CEQA by the County's General Plan EIR and DCWTP Expansion Project EIR. Future development applications in the Project area would be analyzed separately by the County and would require separate CEQA review. Population-related impacts would be less than significant.

b) No Impact. The Project would not result in displacing or replacing existing housing.

c) No Impact. The Project would not result in the displacement of any people, necessitating the construction or replacement of housing anywhere.

Mitigation Measures:

- No mitigation is required or warranted.

	Potentially Significant Impact	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES:				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project site is located within an unincorporated area of El Dorado County, and is within the jurisdiction of the El Dorado County's Sheriff's Department and Fire Protection District. The Project site is located in El Dorado Hills, CA, which is within the Rescue Union School District and El Dorado Union High School District.

Explanations

Fire Protection: No Impact. The Project would not contribute to any change in population, traffic circulation, or other land use modifications that would impact local fire protection.

Police Protection: No Impact. The Project would not impact police protection, nor would it contribute to any change in population, traffic circulation, or other land use modifications that would impact local police protection.

Schools: No Impact. The Project would not impact existing school facilities, nor would it contribute to any change in population, traffic circulation, or other land use modifications that would impact the local school districts.

Parks: No Impact. The Project would not impact existing parks, nor would it contribute to any change in population, traffic circulation, or other land use modifications that would impact local parks.

Other Public Facilities: No Impact. The Project would not impact other public facilities, nor would it contribute to any change in population, traffic circulation, or other land use modifications that would impact the local public facilities. Rather, the Project would reduce the potential for pipeline failure and reduce the overall operations and maintenance costs associated with the old pipeline.

Mitigation Measures:

- No mitigation is required or warranted.

	Potentially Significant Impact	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
XV. RECREATION:				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

There are currently no public recreational facilities available within the Project area. A railroad crossing is used by the Placerville & Sacramento Valley Railroad Association. They asked to be notified one week in advance when EID is working at the railroad crossing. The District does not anticipate any permanent impacts to the railroad tracks. If possible, District crews will implement work on a Monday at the railroad crossing and have it completed by Wednesday so as not to disturb recreational use of the railroad.

Explanations

a) No Impact. The Project would not occur within a designated recreational area and would not affect the use of near-by parks or other recreation facilities.

b) No Impact. No public recreational facilities are warranted or proposed.

Mitigation Measures:

- No mitigation is required or warranted.

	Potentially Significant Impact	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC: Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☒	☐	☐

c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Access to the Project site would be achieved via U.S. Highway 50. The local roadways that would be utilized during implementation of Project activities are El Dorado Road, Mother Lode Drive and Pleasant Valley Road.

The County General Plan Transportation and Circulation Element established LOS standards for county roads and highways (EDC 2009). Policy TC-Xd establishes a minimum LOS E for roads in community regions. The Project area is within a County defined community region, and therefore immediate access roads to the Project site currently meet the County's standard.

Explanations

a) Less-than-Significant. Project activities would generate temporary construction related traffic, including: 1) passenger vehicles transporting construction and inspection workers to and from the site, and 2) heavy trucks/haulers accessing the site to deliver materials and to remove debris. Additionally, Project equipment would be staged along nearby roadways reducing the number of equipment accessing the site on a daily basis.

   Project activities would have an expected duration of five months. Construction activities would occur on the shoulder of El Dorado Road and Mother Lode Drive and at the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road and Mother Lode Drive (AKA the Y). Because of the temporary nature of Project activities, including vehicle/truck trips and construction duration, and the work on roadways being limited to the shoulder of the roadway, project activities would not create a substantial increase in traffic and would have a less-than-significant impact to the performance of the local roadway circulation system. Additionally, the Project would not generate any additional traffic following completion of project activities.

b) Less-than-Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. As discussed in section a) above, construction generated traffic would be temporary in nature. Temporary construction activities would occur within El Dorado Road and Mother Lode Drive during installation of the new sewer pipe line; however, only a portion of the roadway would be closed and would not interfere with the residences utilization of the roadway. Construction generated traffic would contribute to a small amount of additional traffic on local roadways. No intersections are expected to operate at an unacceptable LOS as a result of this Project.

   Discussions with Caltrans are in process regarding the Highway 50 crossing. It is anticipated the Highway 50 crossing work will be conducted at night between 6:00pm and 5:00am. Work will begin on the north side of the Highway and move southward. It is expected this work will take one month to complete. Traffic will be detoured through Missouri Flat Road. A Traffic Control Plan will be prepared by the contractor and submitted to Caltrans and El Dorado County to ensure a less than significant impact (See MM-TT-1 below).

   Project operations would not increase traffic on local roadways and the pipeline interconnection work would not require continual maintenance activities.

c) No Impact. The Project would not affect air traffic patterns.

d) No Impact. The Project would not alter existing roadways, and therefore would not increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible use.

e) No Impact. The Project would not result in inadequate emergency access.

f) No Impact. The Project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation.

Mitigation Measures:

- MM-TT-1: A Traffic Control Plan will be prepared by the contractor and submitted to Caltrans and El Dorado County.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS: Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Explanations

a) No Impact. The Project would not involve wastewater treatment requirements.

b) No Impact. The Project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities (See Discussion XIII(a) above). Rather, Project activities would reduce the potential of sewer system overflows, provide a more efficient process for the gravity fed sewer pipeline system in the area, and reduce the overall operations and maintenance costs associated with repairing the existing pipeline.

c) No Impact. The Project would not require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities.

d) No Impact. The Project would not increase water supply demand or require new or expanded water supply entitlements.

e) No Impact. The Project would not affect wastewater treatment. Temporary piping will be used where needed so that sewer service is not interrupted. Crossing Highway 50 requires temporary by-pass piping to accommodate the installation of new pipe within the existing casing in the bridge deck. Additionally, all pumped sewer connections will be notified of all work and will be in communication with the Project Engineer.

f) No Impact. The Project would not increase solid waste disposal needs.

g) No Impact. The Project would comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Mitigation Measures

- No mitigation is required or warranted.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion

The District is proposing to implement the Town Center Force Main Replacement Phase 2 (Project). The Project is located in El Dorado County, in an urban and developed area. The Project would replace an existing old and decaying pipeline with an upgraded pipe. This would reduce the potential for sewer system overflows, and reduce the overall operations and maintenance costs associated with these lift stations.

Explanations

a) The proposed Project would include construction BMPs to minimize environmental effects. For the resource areas of Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, and

Transportation and Traffic there is a potential for significant effects, but with the identified mitigation measures, all impacts would be reduced to below a level of significance. The impacts and mitigation measures are summarized in the following list:

Air Quality: Short-term air quality impacts could result from fugitive dust emissions from construction activities, equipment, and worker vehicles during Project. However, these impacts would be less-than-significant to air quality standards in the region because the District or its contractor would implement BMPs to reduce potential impacts to less-than-significant levels. The proposed mitigation measure can be reviewed in the attached MMRP (Appendix A).

Cultural Resources: There is the slight potential to unearth previously undiscovered cultural resources during Project activities. Implementation of identified mitigation measures that require stopping work and notifying a qualified professional if a discovery is made will ensure a less than significant impact to cultural resources (Appendix A).

Geology and Soils: The proposed Project activities could lead to minor loss of top-soil. Mitigation is proposed which would reduce potential impacts to less-than-significant levels. BMPs would be implemented during construction activities to prevent sediment/pollutants from entering drainages and waterbodies during construction, creating less-than-significant impacts to soils. The proposed mitigation measures to reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels can be reviewed in the attached MMRP (Appendix A).

Hazards and Hazardous Materials: A potential hazard associated with the Project would be the possibility of an accidental release of a hazardous substance such as fuel, oil, or lubricants from construction equipment during utilization and transport of equipment and materials to the site. The proposed mitigation measure to reduce this impact to a less-than-significant level can be reviewed in the attached MMRP (Appendix A).

Hydrology and Water Quality: To minimize the potential of the proposed Project to violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, BMPs would be implemented during construction activities to prevent sediment/pollutants from entering the local drainages. Implementation of the required mitigation measures would result in less-than-significant impacts to water quality. The proposed mitigation measures can be reviewed in the attached MMRP (Appendix A).

Noise: To minimize the potential of the proposed Project to violate noise standards, BMPs would be implemented during construction activities to prevent agitation to sensitive receptors. The proposed mitigation measures can be reviewed in the attached MMRP (Appendix A).

Traffic: To minimize the potential of the proposed Project to violate traffic and transportation standards, BMPs would be implemented during construction activities to maintain traffic flow. The District is consulting with Caltrans concerning the crossing over Highway 50. The proposed mitigation measures can be reviewed in the attached MMRP (Appendix A).

b) There are no known construction or other projects in the area that could contribute to the effects of the proposed Project. There would be no anticipated cumulative impacts resulting from the proposed Project activities.

c) The Project would replace an aging pipeline thereby reducing the cost of rehabilitating the old pipeline, reducing the potential for sewer system overflows, and reducing the overall operations and maintenance costs associated with the old pipeline. Potentially significant impacts to the resource area of noise would be mitigated to below a level of significance

Noise: During construction activities, there would be a temporary noise increase from use of power tools, equipment, and other non-powered hand-tools. The District would require the contractor to comply with all applicable noise and occupational safety standards as defined in the construction specifications, to mitigate the potential impacts to ambient noise levels. The proposed mitigation measures can be reviewed in the attached MMRP (Attachment A).

III. DETERMINATION

(To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the proposed Project have been made by or agreed to by the proposed Project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed Project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed Project, nothing further is required.

Signature

June 28, 2017
Date

Bret Sampson
El Dorado Irrigation District

IV. REFERENCES

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HDR 2013. EID's Integrated Water Resources Master Plan. 2013.

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V. ACRONYMS

AB	Assembly Bill
AC	asbestos cement
AQMD	Air Quality Management District
BMP	best management practices
C	commercial land use designation
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CDC	California Department of Conservation
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CH_4	methane
CO	carbon monoxide
CO_2	carbon dioxide
dB	decibel
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
GHG	greenhouse gases
H_2S	Hydrogen Sulfide
HDR	high density residential land use designation
IS	Initial Study
LOS	level of service
MCAB	Mountain Counties Air Basin
MDR	medium density residential land use designation
MMRP	Mitigation, Measuring and Reporting Program
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
-MR	mineral resource overlay of EDC General Plan Land Use Map
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
N_2O	nitrous oxide
NO_2	nitrogen dioxide
NO_x	oxides of nitrogen
OS	open space land use designation
PM_{10}	particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter
$PM_{2.5}$	particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter
PVC	polyvinyl chloride
ROG	reactive organic gases
SO_2	sulfur dioxide
SSO	sewer system overflow
USGS	United States Geological Survey

APPENDIX A

MITIGATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

Number	Mitigation Measure	Reporting Milestone	Reporting/ Responsible Party	Verification of Compliance Initials	Date	Remarks
MM-AQ-1:	Prior to construction of the Project, the Contractor will prepare a Fugitive Dust Plan that will describe the application of standard best management practices, as described in El Dorado County AQMD Rule 223-1, to control dust during construction activities. Best management practices will include applying water to disturbed soils a minimum of two times per day, covering haul vehicles, replanting disturbed areas as soon as practical, restrict vehicle speeds on unpaved roads, and other measures as determined necessary.	Prior to and during Project construction activities	Contractor and Project Engineer			
MM-CR-1:	The District will utilize a qualified on-call professional if, during excavation activities, any of the following or other potential pre-historic/historic materials are unearthed: 1. Potential human remains; 2. Former refuse sites or other artifacts; or, 3. Changes in soil color or composition that could indicate a former occupation site.	During Project construction activities	Contractor, Project Engineer and Environmental Analyst			
MM-CR-2:	As a standard precaution, and as part of the construction contract specifications, if any previously unknown cultural resources are encountered during construction, necessary discovery measures will include: 1. Shutting down construction activities in the immediate area of a find; 2. Notifying the District Project Manager; 3. Continuing work cessation in the project vicinity for a reasonable period of time to allow professional evaluation of finds (Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2, 21084.1, and 21083.1); 4. If the resources are found to be significant and avoidance is not possible, providing time and	During Project construction activities	Contractor, Project Engineer and Environmental Analyst			

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

Number	Mitigation Measure	Reporting Milestone	Reporting/ Responsible Party	Verification of Compliance Initials	Date	Remarks
	funding for professional recovery and analysis of significant archaeological and historical finds (Part V of Appendix K and Public Resources Code Section 21083.2).					
MM-CR-3:	If human remains are discovered, all work shall stop in the immediate vicinity of the find and the El Dorado County Coroner shall be notified in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the NAHC shall be notified and procedures outlined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e), California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 shall be followed.	During Project construction activities	Contractor, Project Engineer and Environmental Analyst			
MM-GEO-1:	The District contractor shall prepare and implement a Water Pollution Control Plan for construction activities to control surface runoff, reduce erosion, and minimize the potential for sedimentation from leaving the Project site. Disturbed areas will be reseeded, mulched, and/or protected by other means, and shall be monitored and maintained until vegetation is established.	Prior to and during Project construction activities	Contractor			
MM-HAZ-1	The contractor shall adhere to all fire prevention and protection requirements and regulations of El Dorado County. Pertinent measures include, but are not limited to, the use of equipment with spark arrestors and non-sparking tools during Project activities.	During Project construction activities	Contractor			
MM-HYD-1:	The District will implement specific best management	Prior to	Contractor,			

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

Number	Mitigation Measure	Reporting Milestone	Reporting/ Responsible Party	Verification of Compliance Initials	Date	Remarks
	practices . The District contractor shall prepare and implement a Water Pollution Control Plan that lists BMPs and additional mitigation measures to reduce construction-related impacts to water quality.	Project construction activities	Project Engineer and Environmental Analyst			
MM-HYD-2:	Spill response materials will be made available on site during Project construction activities. These materials shall include drip pans, buckets, absorbent pads, strawbales, absorbent clay, sawdust, spill containment barriers, heavy plastic sheeting, plastic bags, shovels, and sealable containers, depending on the activities involved.	During Project construction activities	Contractor			
MM-HYD-3:	The District will designate fully-contained concrete washout areas at least 100 feet from a receiving water and appropriately dispose of or treat concrete effluent from the construction site.	During Project construction activities	Project Engineer			
MM-HYD-4:	The District will designate refueling sites at least 100 feet from a receiving water.	Prior to and during Project construction activities	Project Engineer			
MM-NOS-1:	Contractor will utilize the best available noise control techniques when working within the residential areas such as improved mufflers on the equipment. Additionally, stationary construction equipment shall be placed as far from the residential area as practicable while meeting project needs.	During Project construction activities.	Contractor			
MM-NOS-2:	All motorized equipment shall not be left idling while not in use.	During Project construction activities.	Contractor			

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

Number	Mitigation Measure	Reporting Milestone	Reporting/ Responsible Party	Verification of Compliance Initials	Date	Remarks
MM-TT-1:	A Traffic Control Plan will be prepared and submitted to Caltrans and El Dorado County.	Prior to project operations.	Contractor			