

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE
DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE
OTAY WATER DISTRICT 870-2 PUMP STATION PROJECT**

This is to inform you that the Otay Water District (District) has prepared a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)/ Initial Study (IS) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines. The Draft MND/IS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the 870-2 Pump Station Project (Project).

Responsible, Trustee, and Other Jurisdictional Agencies: The District requests the views of your agency as to the content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed Project. Agencies may need to use the MND/IS prepared by the District when considering permits or other approvals for the proposed Project.

Interested Organizations/Individuals: The District requests your comments and concerns regarding the environmental issues associated with the proposed Project.

Project Title: Otay Water District 870-2 Pump Station Project

Project Location: The District is proposing to construct and operate a new pump station (870-2 Pump Station) and associated sewer force main alignment that would replace the existing Low Head Pump Station (LHPS; 571-1 Pump Station) and High Head Pump Station (HHPS; 870-1 Pump Station). The proposed pump station site is located on District-owned land approximately 175 feet south of the District's Roll Reservoir site in the unincorporated San Diego County community of Otay Mesa (Figure 1, Regional Vicinity Map). The site proposed for the new pump station and the associated sewer force main alignment is an undeveloped area (Figure 2, Existing Aerial and District Boundary).

Project Description: The District determined that both the LHPS and HHPS have reached the end of their useful lives. Additionally, these existing pump stations have insufficient capacity for the desalinated water supply that would be introduced to the Roll Reservoir if the District's proposed Otay Mesa Conveyance and Disinfection System Project (OMCDSP) is implemented¹. Therefore, the District is proposing to demolish LHPS and HHPS and replace with the 870-2 Pump Station and associated sewer force main alignment.

The proposed Pump Station 870-2 layout includes the recirculation system flow meter, disinfection sampling, and dosing points and static mixer inside the pump station to avoid outside vaults that require confined space entry for operations, maintenance, and repairs. Other

¹ The OMCDSP consists of a new potable water supply source from the planned Rosarito Desalination Facility in Mexico and a pipeline terminating at the Roll Reservoir (870-1 Reservoir) site. The 870-2 pump station, sewer force main, site plan, and associated yard piping would be coordinated with the proposed desalination facilities project to ensure conflicts are avoided.

features of the proposed pump station include: instrumentation and controls; chloramines booster facilities; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; and stand-by generator, related equipment, and fuel storage. In addition, a restroom with a single sink and toilet would be provided for District staff. The proposed restroom and chloramine sampling and analyzing at the 870-2 Pump Station would create a small, but continuous waste stream of a maximum of 440 gallons per day that will have to be disposed of. Therefore, a sewer lift station and force main would be constructed, starting at the southwest corner of the project site and continuing south along the unpaved road to a connection at an existing manhole located at Alta Road (Figure 3, Approximate Alignment of Proposed Sewer Force Main).

The existing paved and compacted dirt roads would be used to access the proposed site. The sections of the access road that are paved would be repaved and the existing compacted dirt sections would be paved. Approximately 2.07 acres would be graded and grubbed as part of the Project, resulting in approximately 15,000 cubic yards (CY) of excavation. Of this amount, approximately 2,000 CY would be recompacted on site, and the remaining 13,000 CY would be disposed of by the Contractor at an off-site location. The existing LHPS and HHPS could remain in service until pump station 870-2 is placed into service. Once 870-2 is commissioned and has been operational for a period of time, the LHPS and HHPS would be removed and the sites would be regraded to match surrounding grades. Construction activities are expected to begin in fall 2017 and be completed by late 2019.

Potential Environmental Effects: In accordance with CEQA, the Draft MND/IS evaluates “direct physical changes... and reasonably foreseeable indirect physical changes in the environment which may be caused by the project.” The Draft MND/IS also evaluates whether any such changes that it identifies are individually or cumulatively significant, and presents feasible mitigation, if necessary. The Draft MND/IS identifies potentially significant effects related to biological resources, cultural resources, and geology/soils from proposed Project implementation. Each of these impacts would be reduced to below a level of significance through the incorporation of mitigation measures presented in the Draft MND/IS.

Public Review Period: The District has issued this Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Notice of Public Hearing for public review and comment pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15087. The comment period for the Draft MND/IS begins on September 9, 2016. Responses should be sent at the earliest possible date but no later than October 10, 2016. The Draft MND/IS and associated technical reports are available for review on the District’s website: www.otaywater.gov and at the District office, location listed above. Copies of the Draft MND/IS and appendices are also available for public review at the City of San Diego Public Library— Otay Mesa-Nestor Branch.

Responses and Comments: In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15087, the District has established a 30-day public review period, beginning on September 9, 2016, to solicit comments and input on the Draft MND/IS. All comments should indicate a contact

person for each agency or organization, if applicable. Please send your comments no later than October 10, 2016 to:

Otay Water District
2554 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard
Spring Valley, California 91978-2004
Attention: Lisa Coburn-Boyd
lisa.coburn-boyd@otaywater.gov

Following close of the public comment period, responses to comments received on the Draft MND/IS will be prepared, and, together with any corresponding revisions to the Draft MND/IS, will constitute a Final MND.

Public Hearing: A public hearing to consider the adoption of the Final MND will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 3:30 P.M. The hearing will be held in the Otay Water District Board Room at 2554 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard, Spring Valley. The Final MND will be considered and acted upon by the District's Board of Directors at this public hearing.



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Figure 1
Regional Vicinity Map
Otay Water District Pump Station 870-2



Figure 2
Existing Aerial and District Boundary
Otay Water District Pump Station 870-2



Figure 3
Boundaries of Proposed Pump Station 870-2 and Sewer Alignment
Otay Water District Pump Station 870-2