

**INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST/
DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

for

**HIGHWAY 86
DOMESTIC WATER
TRANSMISSION MAIN PHASE 2
AND PUMP STATION**

Coachella Valley Water District

85-995 Avenue 52
Coachella, CA 92236

Contact:

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SEPTEMBER 2012

CVWD File No. 0427.05 / 0426.0215



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Highway 86 Domestic Water Transmission Main Phase 2 and Pump Station

File: 0427.05
0426.0215

CEQA Environmental Checklist Form

1. Project Title: Highway 86 Domestic Water Transmission Main Phase 2 and Pump Station
2. Lead Agency Name and Address: Coachella Valley Water District, Post Office Box 1058, Coachella, California 92236
3. Contact Person and Phone Number: Luke Stowe, Senior Environmental Specialist (760) 398-2651
4. Project Location: The proposed project is located along existing State Highway 86 and State Highway 86S between Avenue 74 and Avenue 86 in the eastern Coachella Valley in unincorporated Riverside County, California. The proposed project bisects Sections 2, 3, 11, 13, 14 and 24 of Township 8 South, Range 8 East; and Sections 19, 29, 30, 32 and 33 of Township 8 South, Range 9 East, on the San Bernardino Base and Meridian.
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), Post Office Box 1058, Coachella, California 92236.
6. General Plan Designation: The proposed project is adjacent to and/or crosses lands designated as "Agricultural", "Commercial/Retail", "Medium Density Residential", "Rural Residential", and "Areas Subject to Indian Jurisdiction" per Riverside County General Plan, October 2003.
7. Zoning: The proposed project crosses lands designated as "A-1 Light Agricultural", "A-2 Heavy Agricultural", "C-1/C-P General Commercial", "SP Specific Plan", and "W-2 Controlled Development Areas" per Riverside County Land Information System.
8. Description of Project: The proposed water transmission main project will supply the communities of Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores, Salton City and unincorporated areas in Riverside and Imperial Counties with domestic water. This project will consolidate CVWD's Improvement District No. 11 (ID 11) public water system with CVWD's Middleton pressure zone. The proposed alignment of the pipeline parallels Harrison Street (Old Highway 86) along the west shoulder within the existing Riverside County right-of-way from Avenue 74 south to just north of Avenue 82. At Avenue 82, the proposed pipeline alignment extends westerly from the existing roadway right-of-way on to private property then runs southerly along State Route 86S to Avenue 86. CVWD will obtain a 20-foot-strip easement for the pipeline from property owners south of Avenue 82. Pipeline construction may consist of both open trench and subsurface boring.

The proposed 30-inch-diameter pipeline is approximately 7.2 miles long and will connect to an existing 30-inch-diameter pipeline located on the west side of Highway 86 at Avenue 74. From Avenue 74 south to Avenue 81, the pipeline will be aligned approximately 35 feet from the existing centerline within the roadway right-of-way. Approaching Avenue 82, the proposed pipe will be located 110 feet from the centerline (ten feet west of the existing roadway right-of-way). Just north of Avenue 84, the pipeline swings southwesterly around Caltrans' future interchange right-of-way and turns southeasterly returning to the previous described alignment of 10 feet west of Highway 86S right-of-way. At Avenue 86, the pipeline connects to an existing 16-inch-diameter pipeline that currently supplies ID 11 with groundwater from a small well field located west of the project along Avenue 86.

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The pipeline will be installed with a minimum of four feet of earthen cover. Vertical deflections and restrained joints will be installed where the proposed pipeline crosses other utilities including irrigation mains, agricultural drain lines, storm drain culverts, and buried telephone lines. In-line valves will be installed at half-mile intervals and crosses for future connections will be installed at approximately six locations. The pipeline will be placed in polyethylene wrap to protect the pipeline from the mildly corrosive soils.

This project also includes construction of the Highway 86 Pump Station that will be located on a CVWD-owned, 4.25-acre parcel at the southeast corner of Highway 86 and Avenue 80. The booster pump station will consist of two southwestern-style, stucco buildings constructed onsite: one will house the pump equipment and back-up generator; the other will house chlorination equipment. Gravel will be placed at the booster pump station site with a chain link fence or a 6- to 8-foot masonry wall constructed around the buildings. The pump station is required for the project based on the pipeline length and loss of head pressure in the transmission main in conveyance of water from the Thermal area to Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores and Salton City. The pump station is also essential to maintain adequate water levels in Reservoirs 1092-1 and 1092-2, maintain pressure in Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores and Salton City, and to provide adequate storage replenishment, especially during peak-day demands.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: The lands surrounding the proposed pipeline alignment and pump station are mostly Highway 86 right-of-way and agricultural (row crops, date palms, vineyards). The project area is relatively flat and is entirely below sea level. Native vegetation within the project alignment is characterized mostly as desert saltbush scrub with scatterings of desert dry wash woodland. Other features along the proposed alignment include rural residential units, agricultural drainage channels, and detention basins. The Santa Rosa Mountain foothills are located about 2-3 miles to the west and the Salton Sea is located about two miles east of the project alignment.
10. Other agencies whose approval is required: Riverside County; California Department of Transportation; California Department of Public Health.

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ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project. Please see the checklist below for additional information.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture and Forestry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Geology/Soils
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology/Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Use/Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mineral Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Noise
<input type="checkbox"/>	Population/Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation/Traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilities/Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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 project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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

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STATEMENT OF REASONS TO SUPPORT FINDINGS

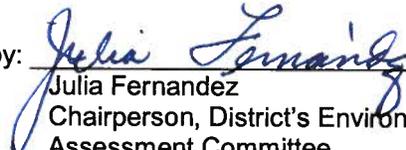
Except for any temporary disturbances (aesthetics, dust, noise, local traffic circulation) caused by the construction activities associated with the Highway 86 Domestic Water Transmission Main Phase 2 and Pump Station, this project will not have a significant effect on the environment or surrounding area.

Prepared by:  9.13.12
Luke Stowe
Senior Environmental Specialist Date

Reviewed by:  9/13/12
Steve Bigley
Environmental Services Manager Date

Submitted by:  9/14/12
Mark Johnson
Director of Engineering Date

Environmental Assessment Committee Determination

Concurrence by:  09/28/12
Julia Fernandez
Chairperson, District's Environmental
Assessment Committee Date

General Manager Determination

Approved by:  9.28.12
J. M. Barrett
Acting General Manager Date

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EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) If the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses", as described in (5) below may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

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- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
- a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

Issues:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS: Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	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))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES: Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY: Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING: Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS: Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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COMMENTS AND ANALYSIS

I. Aesthetics

The lands surrounding the proposed pipeline alignment and pump station are mostly Highway 86 rights-of-way and agricultural (row crops, date palms, vineyards). The project area is relatively flat and is entirely below sea level. Native vegetation within the project alignment is characterized mostly as desert saltbush scrub with scatterings of desert wash riparian. Other features along the proposed alignment include rural residential units, agricultural drainage channels, and some detention basins. The Santa Rosa Mountains are located about five miles to the west and the Salton Sea is located about two miles east of the project alignment.

During construction activities associated with the Highway 86 Domestic Water Transmission Main Phase 2 project, there will be temporary effects on the existing aesthetic values present along the proposed pipeline alignment. Construction vehicles and equipment, excavated trenches, material stockpiles, traffic barricades and signage may be visible along the project alignment during the construction period. However, once the pipeline construction activities are completed, those temporary visual effects will be removed and work areas along the alignment will be restored to their pre-project conditions.

The proposed booster pump station near Avenue 80 and Old Highway 86 will include two southwestern-style, stucco buildings constructed on a 4.25-acre site to house the booster pump equipment, back-up generator, and chlorination equipment. The buildings will be designed and constructed to complement the project area. A chain link fence or a 6- to 8-foot masonry wall will be constructed to enclose the pump station buildings and minimize aesthetic effects.

The proposed project will not impact any scenic vistas and is not located along a designated scenic road. The additional light sources or glare created as a result of the proposed project is expected to be minimal and not affect the adjacent properties. The temporary effects on aesthetics associated with construction activities along the proposed project alignment are considered less than significant.

II. Agriculture and Forestry

Nearly the entire proposed pipeline alignment is located immediately adjacent to agricultural lands consisting of row crops, date palms and vineyards. From Avenue 74 south to just north of Avenue 82, the pipeline will be constructed within the Highway 86 right-of-way; from Avenue 82 south to Avenue 86, the pipeline will be constructed within a 20-foot CVWD easement on private lands, mostly agricultural lands. This project also includes the construction of a booster pump station on a 4.25-acre parcel located at the southeast corner of Old Highway 86 and Avenue 80. This CVWD-owned parcel is not in agricultural use. The proposed project will not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use nor will it conflict with a Williamson Act agricultural contract.

During construction activities, there may be limited, temporary effects related to access to some of the adjacent agricultural lands; the project will implement measures to ensure driveways to agricultural fields and rural residential units remain open and safe to use. All agricultural lands affected by construction activities will be returned to their pre-construction condition once the project is completed. All construction-related effects on agricultural resources will be temporary and are less than significant.

The nearest forest lands are located approximately five miles to the west in the Santa Rosa Mountains. The proposed pipeline project will not conflict with any existing zoning related to forest, timberland, or timberland zoned as "Timberland Production". Construction of the proposed project will not result in a loss of forest land or cause conversion of forest land to a non-forest

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use. The proposed pipeline and booster pump station will not have a significant effect on agricultural or forest lands.

III. Air Quality

The proposed pipeline project is located within the Salton Sea Air Basin (SSAB), which includes Imperial County and most of the low desert areas of central Riverside County. The Riverside County portion of the SSAB is regulated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The Coachella Valley portion of Riverside County is designated as a "serious" non-attainment area for ozone (8-hour) and particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter (PM10).

The applicable air quality plans for this CVWD project are the 2007 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) and the Coachella Valley PM10 State Implementation Plan (SIP). The AQMP is designed to satisfy the planning requirements of both the federal and California Clean Air Acts. The AQMP outlines strategies and measures to achieve federal and state standards for healthful air quality for all areas under SCAQMD's jurisdiction, including portions of the SSAB. The Coachella Valley PM10 SIP identifies additional strategies and measures to control fugitive dust, specifically in the Coachella Valley.

A project is deemed inconsistent with the applicable air quality plan if it would result in population and/or employment growth that exceeds growth estimated in the applicable air quality plan. The proposed project includes the construction and use of a domestic water pipeline and booster pump station. The project would not induce population or employment growth beyond the levels approved in the AQMP. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of the AQMP.

Disturbance of 5,000 square feet or more of land requires a Dust Control Plan. The proposed project will have a Dust Control Plan that follows the SCAQMD Rule 403 Fugitive Dust Control Requirements within the Coachella Valley. With respect to the Coachella Valley PM10 SIP, the proposed project will comply with the dust control requirements of the SIP, and therefore, will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the SIP. In order to not contribute to the PM-10 problem, all dust generated during construction activities will be controlled using common construction practices, such as a dust palliative. Other Best Management Practices shall be implemented during construction activities including routine rinsing of construction vehicles, and keeping roadways clean of soil and dust.

An emergency, diesel-fueled, standby generator will be installed at the proposed booster pump station site. The generator will be housed in a small, sound-attenuated building along with a base rail-mounted, dual-walled fuel tank with a fuel volume sufficient for 24-hours of full operation. The generator will be certified and permitted for operation following the rules and regulations of the Best Available Control Technologies from SCAQMD.

Except for temporary emissions of diesel particulate matter associated with use of heavy diesel equipment during project construction, the proposed domestic water pipeline and associated booster pump station project will not result in significant emissions of toxic air contaminants or nuisance odors. These temporary, construction-related emissions and/or odor impacts would be confined to the immediate vicinity of the project. Air quality near the construction area will be carefully monitored and will abide by the regulations set forth by the SCAQMD.

With implementation of the following mitigation measures, there will be no significant effects on air quality associated with construction and operation of the proposed project:

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Mitigation Measures

- AQ-1** A Dust Control Plan shall be prepared by the contractor, approved by CVWD, and implemented during project construction activities.
- AQ-2** The standby generator proposed at the pump station will be certified and permitted for operation following the rules and regulations of the Best Available Control Technologies from SCAQMD.

IV. Biological Resources

Biological field surveys were conducted by biologists from LSA Associates, Inc. in August 2006 and CVWD in June 2012 along the proposed project alignment. The project area is relatively flat and is entirely below sea level. Native vegetation along the project alignment includes desert saltbush scrub and desert dry wash woodland. Other vegetation features include ruderal, agriculture, fallow agriculture, as well as, vegetated agricultural drains and detention basins. Dominant species identified within the desert saltbush scrub include four-winged saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), arrow-weed (*Pluchea sericea*), bush seepweed (*Suaeda nigra*), and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.). The desert dry wash woodland habitat is located mostly at the southern portion of the project alignment and includes smoketree (*Psoralea argyrea*), honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa* var. *torreyana*), and blue palo verde (*Cercidium floridum*). Dominant plant species within the ruderal and agricultural areas include salt cedar (*Tamarix* sp.), Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), Asian mustard (*Brassica tornefortii*), and London rocket (*Sisymbrium irio*). Common wildlife or its sign (scat, tracks, burrows) observed during the field surveys included Brewer's blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), common ground-dove (*Columbina passerina*), greater roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*), and coyote (*Canis latrans*).

The following species have potential for occurrence in the proposed project vicinity:

- Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*)- a California Species of Special Concern with a broad occurrence rate within the Coachella Valley and typically associated with agricultural areas, and berms along the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel.
- Le Conte's thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*) and Crissal thrasher (*Toxostoma crissale*)- both California Species of Special Concern and typically associated with desert dry wash woodland habitat. Their occurrence is likely to be transitory in nature and construction is proposed outside of their nesting season, typically January 15 to June 1.
- Flat-tailed horned lizard (*Phrynosoma mcallii*)- a California Species of Special Concern associated with sandy hummocks, sand flats, and stabilized dunes. No dune systems are present on the project site or adjacent to the project area; this species is not expected to occur onsite due to lack of suitable habitat.
- Palm Springs pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris bangsi*)- a California Species of Special Concern that prefers sandy flats. Most habitat along the proposed project site has been subject to extensive agricultural, residential, and OHV use.
- Coachella Valley round-tailed ground squirrel (*Xerospermophilus tereticaudus chlorus*)- a California Species of Special Concern with a low probability for occurrence onsite due to marginal habitat and habitat fragmentation resulting from the existing roadway, scattered commercial/residential development, and agricultural practices in the project area.

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None of the above-mentioned sensitive species or any other sensitive species were observed during the biological field surveys, most likely due to unsuitable and/or disturbed habitat along the proposed project alignment. However, the burrowing owl is considered to have a moderate probability for occurrence along the proposed project site; a pre-construction survey for burrowing owls is recommended prior to any ground-disturbing activities.

Although construction of the project will have some minimal effects on wildlife movement especially along the southernmost portion of the alignment, the proposed project is not anticipated to have significant impacts related to habitat fragmentation or regional wildlife movement. Habitats within the project area have already been fragmented by existing Highway 86 and heavy agricultural practices along the project alignment.

The California Desert Native Plants Act (Section 80001 *et seq.*, California Department of Food and Agriculture Code) regulates the removal of many native trees and shrubs. Construction activities resulting in removal of native trees and/or shrubs may require notification of, or a permit from, the County of Riverside Agricultural Commissioner.

The proposed project alignment is not located within the boundaries of a conservation area of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP). Per Section 5.2.1.1 of the CVMSHCP, a Local Development Mitigation Fee of \$5,730 per acre of permanent impacts is usually required (only the 4.25-acre booster pump station will result in permanent impacts); however, CVWD will coordinate with the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission to use "credits" from lands placed in conservation by CVWD to cover the fee amount due for this project.

A jurisdictional delineation of waters and wetlands was conducted along the approximate 7.2-mile project alignment by professional staff from Glenn Lukos Associates in July 2012. Based on the jurisdictional delineation report dated September 2012, construction of the proposed project will temporarily affect 0.58 acres of waters of the U. S. and 0.68 acres of waters of the State. All impacts on waters of the U. S. and State are considered temporary since the proposed pipeline will be installed below ground surface and then buried with the native soils onsite. Jurisdictional wetlands were not identified within the proposed project alignment. The following Clean Water Act permits will most likely be required for the proposed project before any construction activities commence:

- Section 401 Certification from California Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- Section 401 Certification from U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (tribal lands);
- Section 404 Nationwide Permit from U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; and
- Streambed Alteration Agreement from California Department of Fish and Game.

With implementation of the following mitigation measures, the project is not expected to have a significant effect on any known sensitive species, habitat or wildlife corridors within the project area:

Mitigation Measures

BIO-1 A pre-construction survey will be conducted by CVWD environmental services staff to verify the non-presence of burrowing owls and/or nesting birds along the proposed project.

BIO-2 Contractor shall coordinate with CVWD environmental services staff regarding placement of temporary fencing required to minimize impacts on native vegetation located along the project alignment.

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BIO-3 If any sensitive species with potential for occurrence along the project becomes officially listed as threatened or endangered prior to project construction, focused surveys will be implemented to verify non-presence along the project site.

V. Cultural Resources

In September 2006, LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA) completed a cultural resources assessment of the proposed transmission main project along Highway 86 from Avenue 58 south to Avenue 86. Since then, the proposed alignment has been revised between Avenue 82 and Avenue 86 and now jogs westerly and then south, outside of the highway right-of-way. Applied Earthworks, Inc. (AE) was retained in June 2012 to conduct a supplemental cultural resources assessment of the 2.7-mile revised alignment that was not covered in LSA's previous cultural report. Most of the revised alignment is located on tribal lands of the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians; therefore, the project must follow guidance under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, as well as, CEQA. An archaeological literature and records search indicated 46 cultural resources present within a one-mile radius of the 2.7-mile revised alignment. A search of the *Sacred Lands File* from the Native American Heritage Commission indicated the presence of Native American cultural resources in the project area. Native American individuals and organizations were contacted by AE regarding the proposed pipeline project. CVWD will continue to coordinate with the tribes throughout the project construction period.

AE conducted a cultural resources pedestrian survey along the 2.7-mile revised alignment on July 31 and August 1, 2012. The survey identified the following:

- an isolated prehistoric ceramic pottery sherd;
- a concrete foundation;
- a segment of U. S. Highway 99/State Route 86 levee system.

None of these resources is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historic Places; therefore none are considered a "historic property" under Section 106 of the NHPA, or a "historic resource" under CEQA.

Historical research by AE indicates that the soils in the revised alignment area are highly disturbed due to the construction of the U. S. Highway 99/State Route 86 levee system in the 1930's. It is highly unlikely that intact archaeological remains will be discovered along this portion of the project during construction activities. AE does not recommend any further cultural resources management at this time; however, if the project alignment is revised, additional cultural studies may be required. With the implementation of the following mitigation measures, construction of the proposed project will not have a significant effect on cultural resources:

Mitigation Measures

- CRES-1** Should a potentially significant archaeological/cultural resource be encountered during construction activities, all construction work must be halted in the immediate vicinity of the discovery until a qualified Archaeologist can assess the significance of the resource.
- CRES-2** A Cultural Monitor representing the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians will be onsite during ground-disturbing construction activities located on tribal lands.

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VI. Geology and Soils

The proposed water transmission main and booster pump station project is project is not located within an Alquist-Priolo earthquake fault zone, but is located only about ten miles west of the San Andreas Fault, and as such, would be subject to significant ground shaking in the event of movement on the fault. While seismic damage could result in a break in the pipeline or cause failure, temporary discharge along the pipeline and/or at the pump station would be confined onsite and, as such, would not have significant, adverse impacts on adjacent properties. The pipeline and pump station will also be located within an area of potential liquefaction. The project design will incorporate measures to minimize damage to the pipeline and the pump station in the event of liquefaction. The pipeline will be constructed with shut-off valves every 2,640 feet.

The proposed project alignment is relatively flat and not located on a landslide or mudflow hazard area. There are no unique geologic or physical features present along the proposed alignment. The project site is located inland; therefore, tsunamis are not a hazard issue. The Salton Sea is located about two miles east of the proposed project alignment. There are no volcanoes in the project area. All project effects related to geology and soils at the project site are considered less than significant

VII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Climate change is measured by changes in temperatures, precipitation, wind patterns, and storms. The impacts of climate change are believed to result from an increase in the concentration of certain gases in the atmosphere commonly referred to as "greenhouse gases". Greenhouse gases consist of water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride. Some greenhouse gases emissions, such as carbon dioxide, occur in the atmosphere through natural processes as well as a result of human activities; fluorinated gases are created and emitted solely through human activities. Scientists believe atmospheric temperatures can be impacted by the concentration of these gases by "trapping" heat in the earth's atmosphere since these greenhouse gases absorb long-wave radiation emitting from the earth's surface. Some believe that the accumulation of these gases in the earth's atmosphere is the cause of the observed increase in the earth's ambient air temperatures in recent decades.

Efforts to address climate change began in the 1980's; many of the activities to address climate change involve reduction in fossil fuel use which is ultimately a function of energy conservation and efficiency.

On December 30, 2009, the California Natural Resources Agency adopted Amendments to the CEQA Guidelines for greenhouse gas emissions, as directed by Senate Bill 97. On February 16, 2010, the Office of Administrative Law approved the Amendments, and filed them with the Secretary of State for inclusion in the California Code of Regulations. The Amendments became effective on March 18, 2010.

With implementation of the mitigation measures below, construction and operation of the proposed domestic water transmission main and pump station will not have significant effects related to greenhouse gas emissions:

Mitigation Measures

GHG-1 The project design will consider any and all options to minimize energy consumption, water conservation and solid waste during construction and operation of the proposed pipeline.

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- GHG-2** Where feasible, the project will utilize motorized equipment/vehicles that are energy-efficient and use alternative (renewable) fuels.
- GHG-3** Construction activities will be performed at the project site in a manner that minimizes waste of materials and implements recycling and reuse where feasible.
- GHG-4** The standby generator proposed at the pump station will be certified and permitted for operation following the rules and regulations of the Best Available Control Technologies from SCAQMD.

VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

The domestic water pipeline project will follow all applicable safety guidelines during the construction activities and operation of the pipeline and pump station. The hazards to workers during construction of the project will be minimized by adherence to required Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards. The project will coordinate with Caltrans, Riverside County, and local property owners to ensure that the appropriate safety measures are implemented to protect construction workers, as well as, users of the roadways, and adjacent agricultural lands, during construction activities. A traffic control plan will be implemented as required and will include signage, safety cones, barriers, and reduced speed limits to ensure that workers, motorists, and pedestrians are protected from vehicular traffic along Highway 86 and local roadways during construction activities.

With implementation of the following mitigation measure, construction and operation of the proposed water transmission main and pump station are not expected to have significant effects related to hazards along the proposed project site:

Mitigation Measure

- HAZ-1** CVWD and Contractor will coordinate with Riverside County and Caltrans to develop and implement a Traffic Control Plan, as required, during project construction activities.

IX. Hydrology and Water Quality

Construction activities associated with the proposed water transmission main and booster pump station project may have a temporary effect on water drainage patterns, direction of water movement, and surface water runoff. The project construction may have a temporary effect on the amount of surface water available to water bodies in the project vicinity. The project will not cut through any aquifers located along the project alignment and groundwater quality will not be affected. Once project construction is completed, there will not be a substantial increase in the amount of impervious surfaces or an increase in rate or amount of surface runoff. There is some potential for the project to expose the public to a risk of flooding should there be a break in the proposed water pipeline.

During construction of the proposed facilities, stormwater would be managed in accordance with Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified in a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). These BMPs will include measures to minimize erosion and sedimentation and general, good-housekeeping practices to limit potential discharge of pollutants associated with construction vehicles and equipment use. All storm water and water quality regulations will be followed during project construction activities. With implementation of BMPs per the SWPPP, potential impacts on water quality associated with stormwater discharges during project construction would be less than significant.

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Once the construction activities have been completed, the work areas along the project alignment will be returned to their pre-project conditions. The construction-related effects on hydrology and water quality at the project site will be temporary and will not have a significant impact on the project area. With implementation of the following mitigation measure, the proposed project will not have significant effects related to hydrology and water quality:

Mitigation Measure

WATER-1 A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan will be prepared by the contractor, approved by CVWD, and implemented during project construction activities.

X. Land Use and Planning

The proposed water transmission main will be constructed within Riverside County right-of-way along Highway 86 for approximately four miles between Avenue 74 and just north of Avenue 82. At Avenue 82, the proposed pipeline alignment extends westerly from the existing roadway right-of-way on to private property, then runs southerly along State Route 86S to Avenue 86. CVWD will obtain a 20-foot-strip easement for the pipeline from property owners along the alignment south of Avenue 82. Pipelines are a typical accessory use within roadway rights-of-way; therefore, the project is consistent with Riverside County regulations.

The proposed project is adjacent to and/or crosses lands designated as "Agricultural", "Commercial/Retail", "Medium Density Residential", "Rural Residential", and "Areas Subject to Indian Jurisdiction" per Riverside County General Plan, October 2003. Per the Riverside County Land Information System, the proposed project crosses lands with the following zoning designations: A-1 Light Agricultural; A-2 Heavy Agricultural; C-1/C-P General Commercial; SP Specific Plan; and W-2 Controlled Development Areas. The zoning descriptions allow public water works facilities to be constructed and operated within the project alignment to service residential and commercial units.

A portion of the project alignment between Avenue 82 and Avenue 86 crosses tribal lands of the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. CVWD will continue to coordinate with the tribe and the U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs regarding an easement for the pipeline alignment on the tribal lands. The project is not located within or immediately adjacent to a conservation area associated with the CVMSHCP.

There will be temporary disruption (excavation, vibration, dust, noise, limited traffic circulation) to the local residents in the immediate project vicinity during the construction period. Coordination with Riverside County and Caltrans will ensure that local traffic impacts remain minimal during construction activities and that the appropriate safety measures are implemented to protect users of the roadways and adjacent agricultural lands. Once all construction activities are completed for the pipeline and pump station, the rights-of-way along the project limits will be returned to their pre-construction conditions. The proposed project will have a less than significant effect on land use and planning issues.

XI. Mineral Resources

The proposed pipeline and associated pump station project will not result in the loss of the availability of a mineral resource of value in the region. The proposed project will not result in the loss of a mineral recovery site designated on a general plan, specific plan or other land use plan. No loss of valuable mineral resources will occur with the construction or use of the domestic water pipeline and pump station. The proposed project will have a less than significant effect on mineral resources.

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XII. Noise

A temporary increase in noise levels will occur during construction activities along the proposed alignment of the domestic water transmission main pipeline and booster pump station site. The rural residential units located along the project alignment may be affected by the temporary increase in noise associated with construction activities. The temporary construction noise will be lessened by the use of engine mufflers on all motorized construction equipment during construction activities. All construction activities will follow noise regulations established by Riverside County. The proposed booster pump station equipment, including the emergency standby generator, will be housed in buildings at the pump station site which will be enclosed by either a chain-link fence or a 6- to 8-foot masonry wall around the buildings. Noise levels along the project alignment will return to the pre-construction levels once construction activities have been completed.

With the implementation of the following mitigation measures, the temporary increase in noise levels during construction activities associated with the proposed pipeline and pump station project will not be a significant effect:

Mitigation Measures

NOISE-1 Engine mufflers will be used on all construction vehicles and motorized equipment, when possible, to lessen temporary, construction-related noise effects.

NOISE-2 Construction schedules and activities will follow all noise regulations established by Riverside County.

XIII. Population and Housing

The proposed water transmission main project will supply the communities of Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores, Salton City and unincorporated areas in Riverside and Imperial Counties with domestic water. CVWD has identified areas where the current water supply is marginal or deficient and this water main will help with the transport of domestic water into these areas. The proposed water main project is not a growth-inducing project. The improvements will satisfy domestic water service demand for projects already approved by local planning. No existing housing will be displaced or negatively affected by the project. The proposed water pipeline and pump station project will not have a significant effect on the existing population or housing in the project area.

XIV. Public Services

The construction and operation of the proposed domestic water transmission main and booster pump station project will not have an adverse effect on or create a need for additional fire protection, police protection, schools, or other government services. The project will require additional services from CVWD to adequately operate and maintain the transmission main and pump station once constructed, but the additional services will not be a significant effect on CVWD's daily operations. All rights-of-way along the project alignment will be returned to their pre-construction conditions once construction activities are completed. The proposed project will supply the communities of Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores, Salton City and unincorporated areas in Riverside and Imperial Counties with domestic water and increase the water supply available for fire protection and other public services in those areas. The proposed project will have a less than significant effect on public services in the project vicinity.

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XV. Recreation

The proposed domestic water transmission main and booster pump station project will be constructed within or immediately adjacent to the highway right-of-way and will not affect any recreation lands located in the project vicinity. The proposed project does not involve construction of housing or other facilities that would result in an increase in the use of existing parks or other recreational facilities. The construction and operation of the pipeline and pump station will not increase the demand for neighborhood or regional parks, or any other regional facilities. Nor will the proposed project affect any existing recreational opportunities in the project area. The proposed pipeline and pump station project will not result in a significant effect on recreational facilities or opportunities in the project vicinity.

XVI. Transportation and Traffic

The proposed alignment of the water transmission main pipeline parallels Highway 86 along the west shoulder within the existing Riverside County right-of-way from Avenue 74 south to just north of Avenue 82. At Avenue 82, the proposed pipeline alignment extends westerly from the existing roadway right-of-way on to private property then runs southerly along State Route 86S to Avenue 86. The approximate seven-mile-long pipeline may include both open trench and subsurface boring during construction along the project alignment.

From Avenue 74 south to Avenue 81, the pipeline will be aligned approximately 35 feet from the existing centerline within the Highway 86 roadway right-of-way. Approaching Avenue 82, the proposed pipe will be located 110 feet from the centerline (ten feet west of the existing roadway right-of-way). Approaching Avenue 82, the proposed pipe will be located 110 feet from the centerline (ten feet from the edge of the existing highway right-of-way). Just north of Avenue 84 the pipeline swings southwesterly around Caltrans' future interchange right-of-way and turns southeasterly returning to the previous described alignment of ten feet west of Highway 86S ROW where it continues south to Avenue 86. This project also includes construction of a booster pump station that will be located on a 4.25-acre parcel at the southeast corner of Highway 86 and Avenue 80.

The construction activities associated with the proposed project will include excavation, trenching, material stockpiles, construction equipment, vehicles, and traffic safety barriers, which may have a temporary adverse effect on roadway conditions and roadway users along Highway 86 and the local roadways along the project alignment. CVWD will continue to coordinate with Caltrans and Riverside County to develop Traffic Control Plans to ensure minimal impacts on circulation along Highway 86 and local roadways and to protect construction workers. Traffic control plans will be finalized and implemented in project work areas before construction activities begin. Where required, encroachment permits will be procured.

The project will generate some additional traffic during the construction period and may require short-term delays on Highway 86 and local roadways. The number of construction workers along the project alignment may range from 10 to 20 individuals during the peak construction period. Construction worker commutes may also add traffic during the peak commuting hours. A slight increase in heavy truck traffic is expected on Highway 86 and local roads in the project areas; however, such truck traffic will not exceed load limits established by Caltrans and Riverside County.

Access to private residential driveways and agricultural access roads may be temporarily affected during construction activities. Measures, including signage and postings, will be taken to notify local residents and businesses of work schedules and potential effects on access.

Once all construction activities are completed for the pipeline and pump station, the rights-of-way and work areas along the project limits will be returned to their pre-construction conditions. With

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implementation of the following mitigation measures, the project will not result in any significant impacts related to transportation or traffic in the project area:

Mitigation Measures

- TRANS-1** CVWD will coordinate with the Caltrans and Riverside County to prepare and implement a Traffic Safety Plan for project construction.
- TRANS-2** All rights-of-way along the project alignment will be returned to their pre-construction conditions once project construction is completed.

XVII. Utilities and Service Systems

The proposed project includes the construction of a domestic water pipeline from Avenue 74 to Avenue 86 and a booster pump station located near Avenue 80. The proposed water transmission main project will supply the communities of Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores, Salton City and unincorporated areas in Riverside and Imperial Counties with domestic water. This project will consolidate CVWD's ID 11 public water system with CVWD's Middleton pressure zone. The pump station is required for the project based on the pipeline length and loss of head pressure in the transmission main in conveyance of water from the Thermal area to Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores and Salton City. The booster pump station is also essential to maintain adequate water levels in Reservoirs 1092-1 and 1092-2, maintain pressure in Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores and Salton City, and provide adequate storage replenishment, especially during peak-day demands.

The project may have temporary impacts on utilities and service systems located along the project alignment during the construction period. There will be a temporary effect on stormwater and/or agricultural drainage systems along the project alignment during construction; however, once construction is completed, the drainage systems will be restored to their pre-construction conditions. The project does not require any new connections to the existing sewer system; therefore, the project will not affect wastewater treatment services or wastewater treatment capacity. The proposed project will not result in a substantial production of solid waste requiring offsite disposal. It is anticipated that any green waste generated by the project would go to the California Biomass site located in Thermal. The temporary effects on utilities and/or service systems along the project site during the construction period are considered less than significant.

XVIII. Mandatory Findings of Significance

a.) Habitat within the proposed project area has already been fragmented by existing Highway 86 and heavy agricultural practices along the project alignment. However, construction activities associated with the proposed domestic water transmission main will have temporary effects on wildlife movement within the foothill drainages and associated desert dry wash woodland, desert saltbush scrub habitat located along southernmost portion of the alignment.

No listed species or any other sensitive species were observed during the biological field surveys, most likely due to unsuitable and/or disturbed habitat along the proposed project alignment. The burrowing owl is considered to have a moderate probability for occurrence along the proposed project site; therefore, a pre-construction survey will be conducted to verify non-presence of burrowing owls and any other nesting birds before construction activities commence.

Construction of the proposed project will temporarily affect 0.58 acres of waters of the U. S. and 0.68 acres of waters of the State. All impacts on waters of the U. S. and State are considered temporary since the proposed pipeline will be installed below ground surface and then buried with the native soils onsite. Jurisdictional wetlands were not identified within the proposed project alignment.

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A cultural resources pedestrian survey was conducted along the proposed project alignment and revealed the presence of an isolated prehistoric ceramic pottery sherd, a concrete foundation, and a segment of U. S. Highway 99/State Route 86 levee system. None of these resources is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historic Places; therefore none are considered a "historic property" under Section 106 of the NHPA, or a "historic resource" under CEQA.

Implementation of mitigation measures stated above in the Biological Resources and Cultural Resources sections will minimize the project's potential to degrade the quality of the environment, reduce species and/or habitat, or impact cultural resources.

b.) The proposed water transmission main and booster pump station will produce only temporary effects associated with aesthetics, biological resources, dust, noise, and local traffic circulation during construction activities. The cumulative effects, if any, of this project combined with other projects proposed in the vicinity are not expected to have a significant effect on the environment or the community. All other construction projects proposed within the project vicinity are also expected to implement similar measures to minimize environmental effects.

c.) The proposed project includes the construction of a domestic water pipeline from Avenue 74 to Avenue 86 and a booster pump station located near Avenue 80. The proposed water transmission main project will supply the communities of Salton Sea Beach, Desert Shores, Salton City and unincorporated areas in Riverside and Imperial Counties with domestic water. The improvements will satisfy current domestic water service demands and are consistent with approved local planning. No housing units are proposed, will be removed or otherwise affected by the proposed project; therefore, the project will not have a significant effect on the existing population and housing at the project site. There will be some temporary disruption related to project construction (aesthetics, dust, noise, and local traffic circulation). CVWD and the contractor will coordinate with Caltrans and Riverside County to implement measures to minimize these temporary, construction-related effects. With implementation of these measures, the proposed project will not have any environmental effects that will cause substantial, adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

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REFERENCES

1. Riverside County General Plan, October 2003.
2. Phase I Cultural Resources Supplemental Assessment for the Coachella Valley Water District's Highway 86 Transmission Main Extension Project, Riverside County, California, Applied Earthworks, Inc., August 2012.
3. Final Subsequent Program Environmental Impact Report for 2010 Coachella Valley Water Management Plan Update, November 2011.
4. Coachella Valley Final Water Management Plan, September 2002.
5. Final Coachella Valley Multiple-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, September 2007.
6. South Coast Air Quality Management District website, <http://www.aqmd.gov>, visited on August 28, 2012.
7. Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency website, <http://www.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/>, visited on August 29, 2012.
8. Biological Survey Report, Highway 86 Domestic Water Transmission Main Phase II, Riverside County, California, Coachella Valley Water District, June 2012.
9. Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines, California Burrowing Owl Consortium, April 1993.
10. Cultural Resources Assessment Report, Highway 86 Transmission Main Extension Project, Riverside County, California, LSA Associates, Inc., September 2006.
11. CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration, Highway 86 Domestic Water Transmission Main, Coachella Valley Water District, October 2007.
12. Biological Resources Assessment Report, Highway 86 Transmission Main Extension Project, Riverside County, California, LSA Associates, Inc., November 2006.

**SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES
HIGHWAY 86 DOMESTIC WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN PHASE II AND PUMP STATION**

EFFECT	TIMELINE	PROPOSED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<i>Air Quality</i>	Pre-Construction and Construction Period	<i>Dust Control Plan shall be prepared and implemented during project construction activities.</i>	Contractor prepares Dust Control Plan; CVWD approves plan; both responsible for implementation
<i>Biological Resources</i>	Pre-Construction and Construction Period	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Pre-Construction survey will be conducted to verify non-presence of burrowing owls/nesting birds;</i> <i>2. Placement of temporary fencing to minimize impacts on native vegetation along project alignment.</i> <i>3. If a species with potential for occurrence along the project becomes officially listed prior to project construction, focused surveys will be implemented</i> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CVWD Environmental 2. Contractor in coordination with CVWD Environmental 3. CVWD Environmental
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	Construction Period	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Should an archaeological/cultural resource be encountered during construction activities, all construction work must be halted in the immediate vicinity until a qualified Archaeologist can assess the resource;</i> <i>2. Cultural Monitor representing the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians will be onsite during ground-disturbing construction activities located on tribal lands.</i> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contractor; CVWD Construction Inspector; CVWD Environmental 2. CVWD Environmental; CVWD Construction Inspector; Torres Martinez Tribe

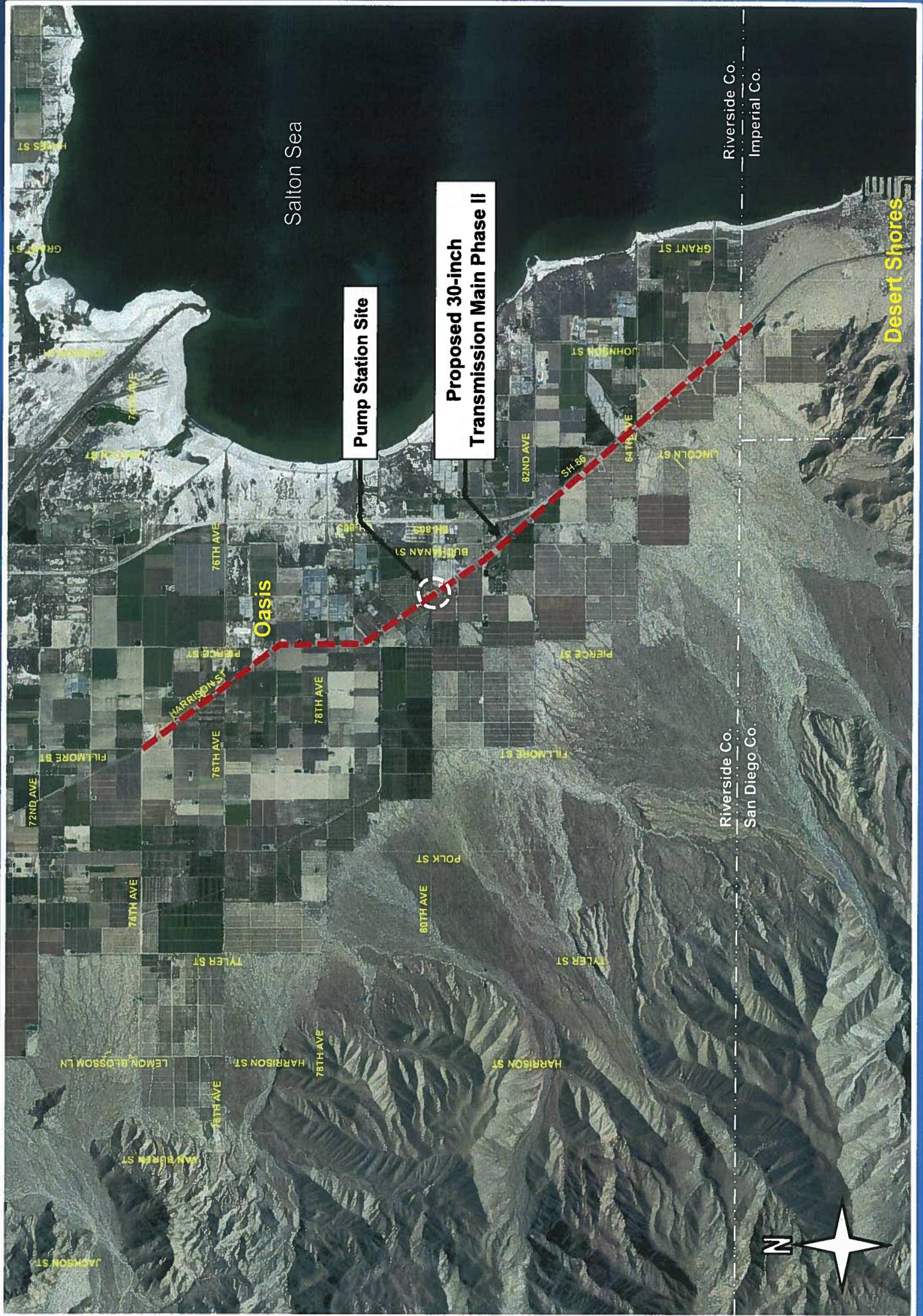
**SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES
HIGHWAY 86 DOMESTIC WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN PHASE II AND PUMP STATION**

EFFECT	TIMELINE	PROPOSED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<i>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</i>	Construction Period	<p>1. Project design will consider all options to minimize energy consumption, water conservation and solid waste during construction and operation of the proposed project;</p> <p>2. Where feasible, project will utilize energy-efficient motorized equipment/vehicles and alternative (renewable) fuels;</p> <p>3. Construction activities will minimize waste of materials and implement recycling/reuse where feasible;</p> <p>4. Standby generator at pump station site will be certified and permitted for operation following the rules and regulations of Best Available Control Technologies from SCAQMD.</p>	1-4. Contractor; CVWD Construction Inspector; CVWD Engineering
<i>Hydrology and Water Quality</i>	Construction Period	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan will be prepared and implemented during construction.	Contractor prepares Plan; CVWD approves Plan; both responsible for implementation.

**SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES
HIGHWAY 86 DOMESTIC WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN PHASE II AND PUMP STATION**

EFFECT	TIMELINE	PROPOSED MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
<i>Noise</i>	Construction Period	<p><i>1. Engine mufflers will be used on all construction vehicles and motorized temporary, when possible, to lessen noise effects;</i></p> <p><i>2. Construction schedules and activities will follow all noise regulations established by Riverside County.</i></p>	1-2. Contractor and CVWD Construction Inspector
<i>Transportation and Traffic</i>	Pre-Construction and Construction Period	<p><i>1. Coordinate with Caltrans and Riverside County to prepare and implement a Traffic Safety Plan for construction;</i></p> <p><i>2. All rights-of-way along project alignment will be returned to pre-construction conditions once construction is completed.</i></p>	<p>1. CVWD Engineering and Contractor ;</p> <p>2. Contractor and CVWD Construction Inspector</p>

Highway 86 Domestic Water Transmis Main Phase II and Pump Station



Salton Sea

Pump Station Site

Proposed 30-inch
Transmission Main Phase II

Oasis

Desert Shores

Riverside Co.
Imperial Co.

Riverside Co.
San Diego Co.



Highway 86 Domestic Water Transmission Main Phase II and Pump Station

