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July 2, 2021

Project No: 20-10778

Elizabeth Meyerhoff, Environmental Specialist  
Environmental Services Department  
Coachella Valley Water District  
75-519 Hovley Lane East  
Palm Desert, California 92211  
Via email: [emeyerhoff@cvwd.org](mailto:emeyerhoff@cvwd.org)

**Subject: Area of Potential Effects Map for the Coachella Valley Water District's Avenue 66 Trunk Sewer Project in Riverside County, California**

Dear Ms. Meyerhoff:

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) via Woodard and Curran retained Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) to conduct consultation with the Eastern Information Center and create new Area Of Potential Effects (APE) and Area of Direct Impacts (ADI) maps for the Avenue 66 Trunk Sewer Project (Project) in the unincorporated community of Thermal, Riverside County, California. Rincon understands that Amy Guisck, Ph.D., Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) conducted a cultural resources assessment for the project in 2018, which was revised in 2020, in support of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) for the Project, which was prepared for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This memorandum documents Rincon's efforts for the Project and provides updated maps, identifying the APE and ADI respectfully.

## Project Location and Description

Under the proposed Project, CVWD proposes a septic-to-sewer conversion within the unincorporated community of Thermal, in Riverside County, California. Proposed Project improvements would be constructed within the current CVWD service area boundaries. The Project lies within the *Valerie* topographic quadrangle, Township 7 South, Range 8 East, and Section 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, and 16. Portions of the Project occur within the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Tribal lands.

Project components include the installation of a gravity sewer pipeline extensions within the existing roadways and construction of a lift station. The proposed Project will service approximately 500 residents of the Torrez-Martinez Community Center and the Sunbird Mobile Home Park. The Project proposes an annual flow of 42,200 gallons per day to accommodate the 40-year growth projections. The sewer system infrastructure would be designed to accommodate the peak hour flow for full system build-out based on CVWD's standards. A full Project description is found in the IS-MND for the Avenue 66 Trunk Sewer Project (Coachella Valley Water District 2020)



## Eastern Information Center Consultation

As part of the scope for this Memo, Rincon will engage with the EIC to obtain information for a primary number for the recorded site AG-2. Due to COVID-19 precautions, the EIC is only available by email. Rincon contacted the EIC at the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) located at the University of California, Riverside on March 1, 2021, to begin consultation for obtaining a primary number designation for newly recorded site AG-2. Rincon received an automatic response stating that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the EIC has modified its requests criteria, and it was extremely delayed and processing requests received in August and September of 2020 and didn't offer any answer to our question or method of further contact (Attachment A). No further consultation with the EIC has taken place due to this delay.

## Area of Potential Effects and Area of Direct Impact

The Project APE was developed by Gusick (2018, revised 2020). It included the pipeline route within the existing streets, an existing unpaved access road, a proposed lift station, as well as a 2-meter buffer. For purposes of this reporting, the APE developed by Gusick is now defined as the Project ADI. A new APE has been created.

The Project ADI originates along the southern portion of Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 751-060-026, Sunbird Mobile Home Park, traveling east along Echols Road, and turning right at Harrison Street, heading south to Avenue 66. Along Avenue 66 the alignment turns right onto Martinez Road and trends south to the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Tribal office complex where it terminates. The ADI includes all rights-of-way on the roads for staging and construction use (Attachment A, Figure 1).

The redefined APE for this Project, as established by Rincon, defines the limits of Project-related disturbances, the boundaries of all cultural resources and the historic district, and a 1-meter buffer of the resources (Attachment A, Figure 1). The resources are included in the APE due to direct or indirect impacts created by the Project. Rincon defines the APE as originating at approximately 0.5 mile east of the Avenue 66 and Van Buren Street intersection (33.596158479931 N, -116.190002 W), continuing east on Avenue 66 and turning north on an unnamed dirt road at approximately 0.3 mile from the Harrison Street and Avenue 66 intersection (33.5691309671022 N, -116.185350192142 W). The APE alignment continues along the dirt road to Echols Road where it turns east and intersects with Harrison Street. The APE then turns south at Harrison and continues to Avenue 66, turning east and continuing along Avenue 66, terminating at Pierce Street (33.56933975 N, -116.1126378 W) where it turns into Highway 195. The revised APE includes Martinez Road and the all of Martinez Historical District within the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Reservation. The below-ground vertical APE is assumed to be a maximum of 20 feet below ground surface for pipeline trenching and wet well excavation for the lift station.

The APE is considered a three-dimensional space that includes any horizontal and vertical ground disturbance associated with the project. Rincon developed the updated APE map to identify historic-era properties that may be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed Project, in compliance with 36 CFR 800.16(d). The APE depicts all areas that are expected to be affected by the proposed Project, including staging and construction access areas.



## Resources within the Area of Potential Effects

There are five previously recorded cultural resources within the project APE, four of which are historic-era archaeological resources. Three resources are historic-aged roads, one is a historic irrigation pipeline, and one is a NRHP listed Historic District. Table 1 provides an overview of the five resources within the project APE. Each of the resources is discussed in more detail below.

**Table 1 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within the Project APE**

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type	Description	Recorder(s) and Year(s)	NRHP Status
P-33-001292	CA-RIV-1292/H	Historic, Prehistoric District	Martinez Historical District, Martinez Indian Agency	1972 (T. F. King); 1973 (J. H. Michael); 1999 (A. R. Pigniolo); 2018, 2020 (A. Gusick)	Listed on the NRHP
P-33-020028	CA-RIV-10172	Historic-Era Road	Martinez Road	2011 (J. Eddy); 2018, 2020 (A. Gusick)	Recommended ineligible for listing on the NRHP.
P-33-020744	CA-RIV-10666	Historic-Era Road	Historic Asphalt Road Segment	2012 (S. Stanton); 2018, 2020 (A. Gusick)	Not evaluated
P-33-020844*	CA-RIV-10768	Historic-Era Road	Avenue 66	2012 (P. Stanton); 2018, 2020 (A. Gusick)	Not evaluated
P-33-026549	–	Historic-Era Structure	Irrigation Lateral 123.45-6.0	2016 (J. George); 2018, 2020 (A. Gusick)	3D: Appears eligible as contributor to a fully documented district

Source: SCCIC 2018 via Gusick 2018, 2020

\*P-33-020844 recorded by Gusick in 2018, 2020 as AG-2

### P-33-001292 and CA-RIV-1292/H

Thomas F. King originally recorded resource P-33-001292 as a multicomponent site (historic-era and prehistoric site) in 1972. King identified the resource as the Martinez Reservation Agency buildings with a prehistoric occupation site and prehistoric wells. In addition to the prehistoric use, King identified the schoolhouse, agent’s quarters, and agency building within the resource boundaries. In September of 1972, King submitted the resource as district, the Martinez Historical District, for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The State Liaison officer nominated the resource for inclusion on November 8, 1972. John Michael of the Historic Preservation Section of the Department of Parks and Recreation notified the Torres-Martinez Band of Cahuilla Indians that the Martinez Historical District was officially listed on the NRHP on May 17, 1973 (Michael 1973).

In 1999, Andrew Pigniolo updated the records of a distinct archaeological site, CA-RIV-1292/H, within the Martinez Historical District boundaries. He noted 20 features including Tribal office buildings, a health clinic, playground, pool, classrooms, residences, a water tower, an adobe, a well, Quonset hut, a milling feature, sparse scatter of prehistoric and historic trash, and a cemetery. The site boundary was updated to record the new boundaries. Five of the features, P-33-005686, P-33-005687, P-33-005688, P-33-005689, and P-33-005690 had been previously recorded by King (1972). The archaeological site is recorded along the western edge of Martinez Road at the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Tribal office complex.



The current Project includes portions of the Martinez Historical District, including Martinez Road (as described below) and archaeological site CA-RIV-1292/H. In 2018, Amy Gusick, PhD. revisited the Historic District, noting that the Project APE would run through the District. However, she recommended that the resource would not be adversely impacted by the Project with mitigation measures. Gusick (2018, revised 2020) recommend Tribal and archaeological monitoring of this portion of the Project due to the sensitivity of the District and an adjacent cemetery.

### **P-33-020028/ CA-RIV-10172**

In 2011, J. Eddy of Applied EarthWorks recorded the linear resource named Martinez Road, resource P-33-020028. Martinez Road is recorded as a two-lane striped, paved road with wide dirt shoulders generally trending north-south. Eddy suggests that the road was originally a dirt road that evolved into a paved road by 1941, with routine maintenance (resurfacing and shoulder grading) occurring every ten to 20 years. At the time of the recording, the resource terminated near the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indian Agency buildings to the south and Avenue 66 to the north.. However, it is unlikely that portions of the trail are present beneath the pavement. Although the Martinez Road lies within the Martinez Historical District, the road is not a contributing resource to the District. Eddy recommended that the resource was not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under all four criteria. The road is considered sensitive for cultural materials as cremated remains were previously identified near the road. Gusick (2018, revised 2020) concurred with Eddy's findings that the resource was not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP and recommended no further cultural resources considerations for the resource as the current Project will not adversely impact the resource. The resource is currently recorded from the intersection of Avenue and Martinez Road (33.56912625 N, -116.1544345 W) trending south-southeast and terminating at the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians agency buildings (33.56237509 N, -116.1529297 W) and includes the right-of-way on either side of the road.

### **P-33-020744/ CA-RIV-10666**

In 2012, Patrick Stanton of Statistical Research, Inc. recorded the linear resource P-33-020744 as a historic-period, asphalt-paved road and the associated right-of-way on either side of the road. Stanton recorded a 15-meter segment of the historic-period road as generally trending east-west and originating on the west of Highway 86 and continuing through to a date farm. Gusick (2018, revised 2020) revisited the site and noted that no cultural materials were observed, and the road is ineligible for listing on the NRHP under all four criteria. Gusick (2018, revised 2020) recommended no further cultural resources considerations for the resource. The current Project will not adversely impact the resource. The resource is currently recorded from the intersection of Echols Road and Harrison Street (33.57273586 N, -116.1815638 W) trending west and terminating along Echols Road (33.57278334 N, -116.1855698 W).

### **P-33-020844/ CA-RIV-10768/ AG-2**

In 2012, Patrick Stanton of Statistical Research, Inc. recorded the linear resource P-33-020844 as Avenue 66, a historic-period, asphalt-paved, two-lane road and its associated right-of-way on either side of the road. Stanton recorded the historic-period road as generally trending east-west and intersecting with Highway 86. Stanton recorded the road feature as a 15-meter segment with the edges of the highway completing the resource, noting that the resource continued outside of the recorded segment boundaries. Avenue 66 is oriented east and west of the intersection of Avenue 66 and Highway 86.



In 2018, Gusick (2018, revised 2020) recorded the resource outside of Stanton's (2012) survey boundaries as AG-2. The road is described as an improved paved road orientated east-west from Harrison Street (Highway 86) and Polk Street, terminating at Indian Wells Road, and marked as Avenue 66. The resource was recommended as not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under all four criteria as the road has been improved, resurfaced, and is in poor condition (Gusick 2018, revised 2020). No further cultural resources considerations were recommended for the resource (Gusick 2018, revised 2020). As the research potential has been exhausted for this resource, the Project will not adversely impact the resource and the resource will be replaced in kind. The resource is currently recorded from the intersection of Avenue 66 and Harrison Street (33.56906932 N, -116.1810451 W) trending east and terminating at Pierce Street (33.56933975 N, -116.1126378 W) where it turns into Highway 195.

### **P-33-026459**

In 2016, Joan George of Applied EarthWorks, Inc., recorded the linear resource P-33-026459 as the Irrigation Lateral 123.45-6.0. The irrigation lateral 123.45-6.0 is described as part of the Coachella Canal's distribution network which was constructed between 1949 and 1951. The irrigation lateral is made of concrete and measures 33 inches in diameter at Jackson Street and extends to Avenue 66 where it tapers to 12 inches in diameter, continuing to Echols Road (George 2016). Along with the pipeline, two concrete standpipes and various concrete pipe vents are recorded as part of the resource. George commented that the Coachella Canal was determined to be eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A by the Bureau of Reclamation and had State Historic Preservation Officer concurrence. As Irrigation Lateral 123.45-6.0 is part of the distribution system for the Coachella Canal system and was constructed between 1949 and 1951, Irrigation Lateral 123.45-6.0 was recommended eligible for listing on the NRHP as a contributor to the significant for the Coachella Canal under Criterion A and Criterion 1 of the California Register of Historical Places (George 2016). The segment of the resource within the current project boundaries was replaced with PVC pipe to prevent future flooding incidents and the PVC pipe was placed adjacent to the recorded resource (Gusick 2018, revised 2020). While the replacement had an effect on a historic property (Irrigation Lateral 123.45-6.0), the replacement did not have an adverse effect as the replacement accounted for 0.4 percent of the full resource (Irrigation Lateral 123.45-6.0). Due to the installation of the PCV pipeline, the project would not have an adverse effect on historic property (Gusick 2018, revised 2020).

## Summary and Recommendations

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Rincon was unable to conduct consultation with the EIC. It was concluded that the newly recorded resource suggested by Gusick (2018, revised 2020) as AG-2 is previously recorded site P-33-020844 (Ave. 66). Rincon has created new maps for the project APE and has redefined the Gusick APE as the Project ADI to account for direct impacts to the surrounding resources. Based on the information provided above, Rincon recommends that updates to the Department of Parks and Recreation Series 523 forms for all five cultural resources within the Project APE be conducted by a Professional Archaeologist and submitted prior to Project implementation.



Please do not hesitate to contact Rincon with any questions regarding this cultural resources documentation.

Sincerely,

**Rincon Consultants, Inc.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Harvey".

Amanda R. Harvey, Ph.D., RPA  
Project Manager/Senior Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Duran".

Christopher A. Duran, MA, RPA  
Principal Investigator

### **Attachments**

Attachment 1, Figure 1	Area of Potential Effects Map
Attachment 1, Figure 2.1	Area of Potential Effects Map
Attachment 1, Figure 2.2	Area of Potential Effects Map
Attachment 1, Figure 2.3	Area of Potential Effects Map
Attachment 1, Figure 2.4	Area of Potential Effects Map
Attachment 1, Figure 2.5	Area of Potential Effects Map
Attachment 2	EIC Email Response



## References

Eddy, J.

- 1983 Archaeological Site Record for 33-020028. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside

Coachella Valley Water District

- 2020 Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration of the Avenue 66 Trunk Sewer Project. With assistance from Woodard & Curran. December 2020

Foulkes, Cecelia

- 1983 Archaeological Site Record for P-33-005684. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

George, Joan

- 2016 Archaeological Site Record for P-33-026594. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside

Gusick, Amy

- 2018, revised 2020 Cultural Resources Technical Report Sunbird/Martinez Road Septic to Sewer Conversion Project, Riverside County, California.

King, Thomas F.

- 1972 Archaeological Site Record for P-33-001292. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside

Michael, John H.

- 1973 Correspondence for Archaeological Site Record for P-33-001292. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside

Pigniolo, Andrew R

- 1999 Archaeological Site Record for P-33-001292. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside

Stanton, Patrick

- 2012 Archaeological Site Record for P-33-020744. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.
- 2012 Archaeological Site Record for P-33-020844. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

# Attachment 1

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Figures

# Attachment 2

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EIC Email Response



**Courtney Montgomery**

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**From:** eickw . <eickw@ucr.edu >  
**Sent:** Monday, March 1, 2021 1:37 PM  
**To:** Courtney Montgomery  
**Subject:** [EXT] Automatic Response: PLEASE READ Re: Resource DPR Primary Number Inquiry

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Rincon Consultants. Be cautious before clicking on any links, or opening any attachments, until you are confident that the content is safe .**

**Effective Friday, December 11, 2020**

In response to the desire of our clients for more rapid delivery of records search results, the EIC has modified its conventional records search product during the ongoing pandemic shutdown of UCR. There will be three basic search types, with Option A receiving priority attention, followed by Option B, then Option C. Please indicate the option you prefer in the special instructions area of the CHRIS Data Request Form you normally submit along with a PDF copy of the USGS 7.5-min portion depicting your specific project area and buffer radius (if applicable). The standard CHRIS records search fee rate applies to all three options.

**Option A.** Records search results consist of bibliographic information (PDF list, detail, or Excel spreadsheet as denoted on your Data Request Form) relating to resources and reports intersecting the search area (with a half-mile buffer radius around the specific project area being the maximum), and full PDFs of the identified resource records and reports. No separate map drawn by the EIC depicting locations of identified resources and reports will be furnished. Depending upon the number of outstanding Option A requests in the cue, estimated turnaround time should be a matter of only a few business days.

**Option B.** Records search results consist of bibliographic information (PDF list, detail, or Excel spreadsheet as denoted on your Data Request Form) relating to resources and reports intersecting the search area (with a half-mile buffer radius around the specific project area being the maximum), full PDFs of identified resource records intersecting the search area, full PDFs of identified reports intersecting the specific project area and PDFs of location maps extracted from reports identified within the overall search area but outside the specific project area. No separate map drawn by the EIC depicting locations of identified resources and reports will be furnished. Depending upon the number of outstanding Option A and Option B requests in the cue, estimated turnaround time for Option B searches should be a matter of less than ten business days.

**Option C.** Standard EIC research search results per your Data Request Form, including narrative letter report of EIC findings and drawn map of identified resources and reports intersecting the search area. Depending upon the number of outstanding Option A and Option B requests in the cue, estimated turnaround time for Option C searches should be on the order of four to six weeks or more.

**Also, once all records searches in the queue have been organized by the options. They will then be continue in that order A-C.**



Should you have a life or death emergency, please contact 9-1-1.

JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER, WE ARE STILL IN A **PANDEMIC**.

**Pandemic:** An epidemic (a sudden outbreak) that becomes very widespread and affects a whole region, a continent, or the world due to a susceptible population. By definition, a true pandemic causes a high degree of mortality (death)

**CURRENTLY SURVING REQUESTS SUBMITTED IN August and September .**

*apologize for the delay this **PANDEMIC** has caused.*

Any new records searches being submitted during this **PANDEMIC** the are being added to the queue in the order received and I will eventually get to them.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.**

\*\*\*\*The campus has been closed from Monday the 16th of March **UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**RE: CHRIS Consultants List**

Due to the decisions made by the Riverside County Public Health that impacted UCR, everyone will remain on the CHRIS Consultants List until we resume to our regular business hours, and we check all mail and the checks are cashed without bouncing. Any new applicants may send me a copy of the forms, resume, and proof of check (that was sent in the mail) via email for processing. If qualified, the new applicant will be added to the CHRIS Consultants List starting April 1st, assuming the files were sent prior to April 1st. If files are received after the 1st of April, you will be added on the day we received your forms and proof of check via email. Upon resuming our normal business hours, we will check all mail and all the checks will be cashed and everyone will remain on the list if the checks do not bounce. **Should you wish to be added to the CHRIS Consultants List, please follow the instructions found at our website <http://chrisinfo.org/browse/apply>**

**Forms and Checks for the CHRIS Consultants List should be temporarily sent to our Cashier's department at the following address**

**UCR Main Cashiers Office  
900 University Avenue  
Student Services Building, Room 1111  
Riverside, CA 92521**

Mail will be checked until we return to CAMPUS.

**Please note I WILL prioritize CALFIRE records searches for wildfires in Riverside/Mono/Inyo Counties.**

**PLEASE NOTE: CALFIRE requests for wildfires will intervene with your requests.**

**As Smokey the Bear says, "Only You Can PREVENT WILDFIRES!"**

*After the CALFIRE records searches for the current fires (and future fires) are completed, I will resume with the regular records searches.*



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Best,

*Eulices Lopez*

**Administrative/Coordinator Assistant**  
**Eastern Information Center**  
**Watkins Hall Room 1313**  
**c/o Department of Anthropology**  
**University of California**  
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*"Maybe, it's not too late, to learn how to love, and forget how to hate..." Ozzy Osbourne*