

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

SAINT ANTHONY MHP WATER CONSOLIDATION PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FONSI

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) submitted a request to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for approval of the Saint Anthony Mobile Home Park (MHP) Water Consolidation Project which consists of consolidation of three independent small water systems (SWS) into CVWD's drinking water system.

Based on the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) in place of an Environmental Assessment (EA), it has been considered the potential effects of the Saint Anthony MHP Water Consolidation Project (Project) on the environment will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, in accordance with Section 102(2)(A) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

This determination is supported by the following findings:

1. The Proposed Action is analyzed in the Saint Anthony Mobile Home Park Water Consolidation Project Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration, prepared by Woodard & Curran for CVWD.
2. The IS/MND discloses the environmental consequences of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative.
3. The Proposed Action Alternative includes environmental protective measures, such as mitigation measures, ensuring all effects would be reduced to less than significant.
4. A Biological Resources Technical Study was prepared in February 2019 by Rincon Consultants, Inc. for the project. A field survey of the project area and associated biological resources was conducted by Rincon biologists on February 12, 2019. The BIA Acting Regional Biologist determined the Project will have no effect to federal listed species or critical habitat.
5. A Cultural Resource Assessment Report was prepared in April 2019 by Rincon Consultants, Inc. for the proposed project. The BIA Regional Archeologist determined there will be no effect to historic properties.
6. The cumulative effects on soil, water, air, noise, vegetation, cultural resources, and fisheries and wildlife resources (species and habitat) were considered and determined to be less than significant.
7. In review of the project with respect to potential impacts to minority and low-income populations and communities with Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, it was determined they were less than significant.

Public Availability

A Notice of Availability (NOA) for the IS/MND and the unsigned FONSI has been provided to agencies, organizations, and interested parties. The IS/MND and unsigned FONSI for the project is available for a (14) days public review period.

The IS/MND and the unsigned FONSI are available for public review at two (2) virtual location(s):

1. Coachella Valley Water District website: <https://www.cvwd.org>
2. BIA NEPA Tracking System website: <https://bianepatracker2.doi.gov>
(*Search: NEPA Tracker ID# 50687*)

The BIA will take no administrative action on the Proposed Action prior to expiration of the review period and will consider any comments received in a timely manner.

Determination

It has been determined that the proposed action for the consolidation of SWS into CVWD's drinking water system, does not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Therefore, in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C § 4321 et seq., an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. This determination is supported by the aforementioned findings described in this FONSI and the analysis contained in the entire administrative record, including the EA, and the mitigation imposed. This fulfills the requirements of NEPA as set out in the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing NEPA (40 C.F.R. 1500–1508), and the BIA NEPA Guidebook (59 IAM 3-H, August 2012).

Approved:

Date:

Superintendent
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern California Agency