



## **Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Public Comment Period for the Antioch Brackish Water Desalination Project**

**Date:** June 29, 2018

**To:** State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Other Interested Parties

**Project Sponsor and Lead Agency:** City of Antioch

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**Project Title:** City of Antioch Brackish Water Desalination Project SCH# 2017082044

**Location:** The project site is located within the fenceline of the existing Antioch Water Treatment Plant (APN 071-140-010, 401 Putnam Street, Antioch, CA 94509), at the San Joaquin River Water Intake facility (near McElheny Road and Fulton Shipyard Road), Delta Diablo Wastewater Treatment Plant (APNs 074-040-037, 073-230-046, 073-230-041, 2500 Pittsburg-Antioch Highway, Antioch), and along roadway right-of-ways (ROW) in the Cities of Antioch and Pittsburg, California.

**Public Review Period:** June 29, 2018 through August 13, 2018

In accordance with Section 15087 of the State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, this Notice of Availability (NOA) has been prepared to notify agencies and interested parties that the City of Antioch (City) as the Lead Agency has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Brackish Water Desalination Project (Project) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The EIR provides the responsible and trustee agencies, other public agencies, and interested parties, as well as the public, with information about the potential environmental effects anticipated as a result of the Project.

### **Project Description**

The proposed project consists of the construction of a desalination facility at the City's water treatment plant (WTP) with the capacity to produce up to 6 million gallons per day (mgd) of finished water; demolition of the existing San Joaquin River intake pump station; construction of a new intake pump station; approximately 3,000 feet of pipeline from the existing raw water pipeline underneath Lone Tree Way to the City's WTP to allow a direct connection to maximize use of existing infrastructure; and approximately 4 miles of pipeline from

the desalination facility to the Delta Diablo wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) to discharge brine with the WWTP effluent through the existing Delta Diablo outfall to New York Slough. The main objectives of the proposed project are to improve water supply reliability and water quality for its customers; develop a reliable and drought-resistance water source to reduce dependency on purchased water supplies; maximize and preserve the use of the City's pre-1914 water rights; and provide cost effective operational flexibility for the City.

The Draft EIR details the proposed project facilities, evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed project, identifies those impacts that could be significant, and presents mitigation measures, which if adopted by the City of Antioch or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The Draft EIR also evaluates alternatives to the proposed project, including the No Project Alternative, one alternative with a different intake pump station location; and a reduced footprint alternative.

### **Environmental Effects**

The Draft EIR describes the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of the Project. The Draft EIR identified potentially significant impacts with regard to Air Quality; Aquatic Biological Resources; Terrestrial Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources; Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Local Hydrology and Water Quality; Delta Hydrology and Water Quality; Noise and Vibration; Public Services and Utilities; Recreation; Transportation and Circulation; and Tribal Cultural Resources.

All impacts would be reduced to less-than-significant levels through the implementation of mitigation measures. Further, the Draft EIR identified potentially significant cumulative impacts when viewed in combination with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, which would be reduced to less-than-significant levels through the implementation of mitigation measures.

CEQA also requires this NOA to specify if the Project site contains any listed toxic sites. None of the project components are included on any lists of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5).

### **Public Review and Comments**

Pursuant to Section 15087 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City of Antioch is soliciting comments from the public, responsible and trustee agencies, other public agencies, and interested parties regarding the content of the Draft EIR prepared for the Project. The 45-day public review period for this Draft EIR begins on June 29, 2018 and ends on August 13, 2018. Written comments by U.S. mail or email on the Draft EIR must be received by Scott Buenting at the address shown above by **5:00 p.m. on August 13, 2018** in order to be addressed as part of the formal EIR review process. Please include your name, address, and phone number with your comments.

### **Document Availability**

The Draft EIR is available on the City's website at <http://www.ci.antioch.ca.us/>. Hard copies of the Draft EIR are available for public review at the locations listed below:

- **City of Antioch City Hall, Community Development Department** (3rd and H Street, Second Floor, Antioch CA). Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- **Antioch Library** (501 W 18th Street, Antioch, CA 94509)

### **Public Hearing**

The Planning Commission is scheduled to receive comments on the Draft EIR. Public agencies, community groups and interested members of the public are invited to attend the meeting and present oral or written comments. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 18, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers located at 200 H Street, Antioch, CA. Meeting location access and restrooms are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request a language interpreter or to accommodate persons with disabilities at the scoping meeting, please contact the staff contact listed above at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.