

File No. 110814

Committee Item No. 2

Board Item No. 26

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Land Use and Economic Development Date September 12, 2011

Board of Supervisors Meeting Date September 20, 2011

Cmte Board

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Public Utilities Commission Resolution No. 10-0221 |
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Completed by: Alisa Miller Date September 9, 2011
 Completed by: Alisa Miller Date September 15, 2011

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages. The complete document can be found in the file.

1 [CEQA Findings - SFPUC Water System Improvement Program - Rehabilitation of the
2 Existing San Joaquin Pipelines Project]

3 **Resolution adopting findings under the California Environmental Quality Act, including**
4 **the adoption of a mitigation monitoring and reporting program, related to the**
5 **rehabilitation of the San Joaquin Pipelines Project, Project No. CUW37302; and directing**
6 **the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to notify the Controller of this action.**

7
8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) has developed a
9 project description under the Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) for the
10 improvements to the regional water supply system, otherwise known as Project no.
11 CUW37302, Rehabilitation of the San Joaquin Pipelines Project (referred to herein as the
12 "Project"). The Project consists of condition assessment, repair, rehabilitation and
13 maintenance of the existing San Joaquin Pipeline System which includes three large-diameter
14 pipelines that carry water nearly 48 miles across the San Joaquin Valley, and connects
15 existing SFPUC facilities: the Oakdale Portal in western Tuolumne County, and the Coast
16 Range Tunnel in western San Joaquin County. The Project traverses portions of Tuolumne,
17 Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties, including the cities of Riverbank and Modesto, and
18 consists of the following components that would commence in 2011 and extend over
19 approximately 20 years: condition assessment of the existing pipelines; as needed repair or
20 replacement of segments of existing pipelines; installation of cathodic protection; and system
21 maintenance; and

22 WHEREAS, The objectives of the Project are to prolong the lifespan of the existing San
23 Joaquin Pipeline System by addressing known deficiencies and implementing comprehensive
24 assessment and repair activities to prevent future deficiencies; and

1 WHEREAS, A Preliminary Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for
2 the Project was prepared by the San Francisco Planning Department (Planning Department),
3 Planning Department File No. 2007.01 1129E, and published for public review on August 4,
4 2010 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") (California Public
5 Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*); and

6 WHEREAS, The Preliminary IS/MND was available for public comment until
7 September 3, 2010; and

8 WHEREAS, The IS/MND was amended on November 2, 2010 to clarify information
9 from the Preliminary IS/MND in response to comments received on the Preliminary IS/MND,
10 and the Final IS/MND (FMND) was approved by the Planning Department, Environmental
11 Review Officer, on November 8, 2010, in accordance with CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines
12 (14 California Code of Regulations Section 15000 *et seq.*) and Chapter 31 of the San
13 Francisco Administrative Code; and

14 WHEREAS, On December 14, 2010, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
15 (SFPUC), by Resolution No. 10-0221, a copy of which is included in Board of Supervisors File
16 No. 110814 and which is incorporated herein by this reference: (1) approved the Project; (2)
17 adopted the FMND and adopted findings (CEQA Findings), and a Mitigation Monitoring and
18 Reporting Program (MMRP) required by CEQA; and (3) authorized the General Manager to
19 implement the Project, in compliance with the Charter and applicable law, and subject to
20 Board of Supervisors' approval where required; and

21 WHEREAS, The Project files, including the FMND and SFPUC Resolution No. 10-0221
22 have been made available for review by the Board and the public, and those files are
23 considered part of the record before this Board; and

24 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered the information
25 and findings contained in the FMND SFPUC Resolution No. 10-0221, and all written and oral

1 information provided by the Planning Department, the public, relevant public agencies,
2 SFPUC and other experts and the administrative files for the Project; and

3 WHEREAS, This Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 311-08 that placed
4 WSIP appropriated funds on Controller's Appropriation Reserve, by project, making release of
5 appropriation reserves by the Controller subject to the prior occurrence of: (1) the SFPUC's
6 and the Board's discretionary adoption of CEQA Findings for each project, following review
7 and consideration of completed project-related environmental analysis, pursuant to CEQA, the
8 State CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, where
9 required, and (2) the Controller's certification of funds availability, including proceeds of
10 indebtedness. The ordinance also placed any project with costs in excess of \$100 million on
11 Budget and Finance Committee reserve pending review and reserve release by that
12 Committee. Therefore, the SFPUC has sent a letter to the Budget and Finance Committee
13 requesting review and authorization for the release of funds necessary for implementation of
14 the Rehabilitation of the Existing San Joaquin Pipelines Project; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered the FMND
16 and record as a whole, finds that the FMND is adequate for its use as the decision-making
17 body for the action taken herein and adopts and incorporates by reference as though fully set
18 forth herein the CEQA Findings, and the MMRP contained in SFPUC Resolution No. 10-0221;
19 and be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board finds that the Project mitigation measures set
21 forth in the FMND and the MMRP and adopted by the SFPUC and herein by this Board will be
22 implemented as reflected in and in accordance with the MMRP; and be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board finds that since the FEIR was finalized, there have
24 been no substantial Project changes and no substantial changes in Project circumstances that
25 would require major revisions to the FMND due to the involvement of new significant

1 environmental effects or an increase in the severity of previously identified significant impacts,
2 and there is no new information of substantial importance that would change the conclusions
3 set forth in the FMND; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board directs the Clerk of the Board to forward this
5 Resolution to the Controller.



AGENDA ITEM
Public Utilities Commission
City and County of San Francisco



DEPARTMENT Infrastructure Division

AGENDA NO. 18

MEETING DATE December 14, 2010

Approve Project: Regular Calendar
Bureau Manager: Irina P. Torrey

Project No. CUW37302, Approve Project, Rehabilitation of Existing San Joaquin Pipelines

<p>Summary of Proposed Commission Action:</p>	<p>Approve Water Enterprise, Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) Project No. CUW37302, Rehabilitation of Existing San Joaquin Pipelines Project; adopt the Initial Study/Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), the required California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Findings, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP); and authorize the General Manager to implement the project, in compliance with the Charter and applicable law, and subject to Board of Supervisors approval where required.</p>
<p>Background:</p>	<p>The project is one of the key regional projects to be completed as part of the WSIP. Approval of these actions will allow the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) to proceed with improvements to the regional water system that will increase the system's overall seismic reliability, delivery reliability, and water supply reliability for the regional water system.</p> <p>The Existing San Joaquin Pipeline System (SJPL System) is a part of the SFPUC's Regional Water System, which provides water to the Bay Area from the Hetch Hetchy reservoir. It is comprised of three large-diameter pipelines that carry water nearly 48 miles across the San Joaquin Valley and connect to the Foothill Tunnel at Oakdale Portal in western Tuolumne County and to the Coast Range Tunnel at Tesla Portal in western San Joaquin County. The existing SJPL System traverses portions of Tuolumne, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin counties, including the cities of Riverbank and Modesto. The SJPL right-of-way (ROW) from the Oakdale Portal to Tesla Portal is</p>

APPROVAL:

DEPARTMENT / BUREAU

[Signature]

FINANCE

Todd L. Rydstrom

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Mike Housh

GENERAL MANAGER

Ed Harrington

	<p>approximately 150 feet wide for most of its length, and is up to 350 feet wide at some locations.</p> <p>Rehabilitation of the Existing SJPL System consisting of SJPL Nos. 1, 2, and 3, (built in 1932, 1953 and 1968, respectively) and establishment of a long term maintenance regime are necessary to effectively extend the life expectancy of the pipelines, maintain delivery reliability of the regional water system, and reduce the potential for unplanned outages. The purpose of the project is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the condition of the pipelines and identify required maintenance • Implement prioritized replacement and rehabilitation of the pipelines • Maintain and extend the lifespan of the pipelines by implementing measures to reduce the rate of deterioration due to processes such as corrosion • Maintain the hydraulic capacity of the pipelines under gravity flow
<p>Result of Inaction:</p>	<p>Failure to approve this project would increase the risk of unplanned outages within the SJPL System.</p>
<p>Description of Project Action:</p>	<p>As part of the WSIP, this project addresses the need to repair and rehabilitate the aging pipelines of the existing SJPL System. Under the proposed maintenance regime, these pipelines are anticipated to continue serving their vital function reliably and economically. The proposed project encompasses the following components:</p> <p>1. Condition Assessment: Assessment of the pipelines along the existing SJPL System consists of excavating to expose the pipe at locations selected by the SFPUC on the basis of observations during internal inspections, then conducting external electrical tests to identify areas of corrosion. Condition assessment consists of excavation to expose the pipe, removal of the pipeline coating, and evaluation of the pipeline and completion of minor repairs (e.g., small welding repairs, coating replacement or crack repair) as necessary. Where more significant repairs are determined to be necessary, repair/replacement work as described below would be undertaken.</p> <p>2. As-Needed Repair and Replacement: Work under this project component includes repair, relining, or replacement of segments of the existing pipelines based on the findings of the ongoing condition assessment. Typical repairs include replacing the interior lining and repairing crown cracks. Interior lining replacement consists of removing the interior mortar lining inside the steel sections of the pipelines and replacing it with either a mortar or an alternative lining. Repair of crown cracks involves excavating a shallow trench to expose the top of the buried pipeline, filling the cracks, then recoating</p>

	<p>the pipeline. In some cases, segments of the pipeline would be replaced instead of repaired.</p> <p>3. Installation of Cathodic Protection: Thirteen isolation joints will be installed in the existing pipelines in various locations along the existing SJPL System. Each isolation joint will include a small test station mounted on a three-foot tall, four-inch wide pole connected to the pipeline. A shallow, distributed cathodic protection system and one deep anode will be constructed in the eastern portion of the existing SJPL System, along with thirteen (13) solar power stations consisting of solar panels, associated support, a controller, and batteries.</p> <p>4. System Maintenance: Maintenance activities will include routine system reconnaissance and testing, as well as maintenance of access roads, transmission towers, and culverts to ensure reliable hydraulic capacity of the pipelines under gravity flow.</p> <p>All proposed improvements and construction activities will occur within the ROW. Limited maintenance activities will occur on certain public and private roads providing access to the ROW and will not require the acquisition of new property. Project construction activities will be ongoing and intermittent, beginning in 2011 and extending over approximately 20 years. Condition assessment and repair/replacement activities could occur on any of the three existing pipelines at any location along the 47.5 mile existing SJPL System, with the exception of the portion of the pipeline system that passes beneath the San Joaquin River.</p> <p>Upon approval, SFPUC staff will proceed to implement the project, including advertising for construction bids and obtaining necessary agreements and permits. Staff will seek Commission approval to award construction contract(s) at a future date.</p>
<p>Environmental Review:</p>	<p>The San Francisco Planning Department approved a Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for Project No. CUW37302 on November 8, 2010.</p>

Project No.: Rehabilitation of Existing San Joaquin Pipelines Project
Commission Meeting Date: December 14, 2010

Recommendation:	SFPUC staff recommends that the Commission adopt the attached resolution.
Attachments:	1. SFPUC Resolution 2. Attachment A: CEQA Findings For San Joaquin Pipeline Rehabilitation Project 3. Attachment B: MMRP For San Joaquin Pipeline Rehabilitation Project

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

City and County of San Francisco

RESOLUTION NO. 10-0221

WHEREAS, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) staff have developed a project description under the Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) for the improvements to the regional water supply system, otherwise known as Project No. CUW37302, Rehabilitation of Existing San Joaquin Pipelines Project; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of the project are to prolong the lifespan of the existing San Joaquin Pipeline System by addressing known deficiencies and implementing comprehensive assessment and repair activities to prevent future deficiencies; and

WHEREAS, a Preliminary Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the project was prepared and published for public review on August 4, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Preliminary IS/MND was available for public comment until September 3, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the IS/MND was amended on November 2, 2010 to clarify information from the Preliminary IS/MND in response to comments received on the Preliminary IS/MND, and no substantial revisions were made to the Preliminary IS/MND; and

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2010, the Planning Commission reviewed and considered the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (FMND) and found that the contents of said report and the procedures through which the FMND was prepared, publicized, and reviewed complied with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as contained in California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq., 14 California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 et seq. (the "CEQA Guidelines") and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code ("Chapter 31"); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission found the FMND was adequate, accurate and objective, reflected the independent analysis and judgment of the Department of City Planning, and that the summary of comments and responses contained no significant revisions to the Preliminary IS/MND, and approved the FMND for the Project in compliance with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission, is the custodian of records located in File No.2007.1129E, at 1650 Mission Street, Fourth Floor, San Francisco, California; and

WHEREAS, the FMND files have been made available for review by the SFPUC and the public, and those files are part of the record before this Commission; and

WHEREAS, SFPUC staff prepared proposed Findings as required by CEQA (CEQA Findings) and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), which material was made available to the public and this Commission for this Commission's review and consideration; and

WHEREAS, The Hetch Hetchy Water and Power Division of the SFPUC Water Enterprise will be responsible for implementation of the MMRP and for acquisition of all resource agency permits as required for individual rehabilitation projects; now, therefore, be it

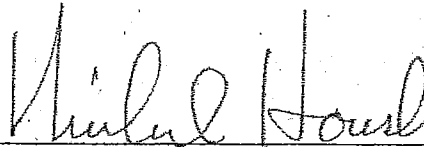
RESOLVED, This Commission has reviewed and considered the FMND and the record as a whole, finds that the FMND is adequate for its use as the decision-making body for the Project, that there is no substantial evidence that the Project will have a significant effect on the environment with the adoption of the mitigation measures contained in the MMRP to avoid potentially significant environmental effects associated with the Project, and hereby adopts the FMND and the CEQA Findings, which Findings are attached hereto as Attachment A and incorporated herein as part of this Resolution by this reference thereto; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the SFPUC hereby adopts the MMRP attached hereto as Attachment B and incorporated herein as part of this Resolution by this reference thereto and commits to all required mitigation measures identified in the IS/MND and contained in the MMRP; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Commission hereby approves Project No. CUW37302, Rehabilitation of Existing San Joaquin Pipelines Project and authorizes the General Manager to implement the Project, in compliance with the Charter and applicable law, and subject to Board of Supervisors approval where required.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its meeting of

December 14, 2010



Secretary, Public Utilities Commission

ATTACHMENT A
REHABILITATION OF EXISTING SAN JOAQUIN PIPELINES PROJECT
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDINGS
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

I. INTRODUCTION

The following findings are adopted by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission ("SFPUC") with respect to the Rehabilitation of the Existing San Joaquin Pipelines Project (the "Project") Initial Study/Final Mitigated Negative Declaration ("IS/FMND") pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.) ("CEQA"), 14 California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 et seq. (the "CEQA Guidelines") and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code. The Project is being undertaken by the SFPUC to improve the reliability of the regional water system by establishing a maintenance regime that will effectively extend the life expectancy of the San Joaquin Pipeline System, reduce the potential for unplanned outages, and provide reliable transmission of Tuolumne River water across the San Joaquin Valley. The project would implement a systematic approach to condition assessment, repair and replacement and maintenance of the existing San Joaquin Pipeline ("SJPL") System that would occur over time. The San Francisco Planning Department is the lead agency under CEQA.

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

As described in detail in the IS/FMND, the Project consists of the following components;

1. **Condition Assessment:** Assessment of the condition of the existing pipelines along the SJPL System would consist of excavation to expose the pipe at locations selected by the SFPUC on the basis of observations during internal inspections and external electrical tests conducted to identify areas of corrosion. Condition assessment would consist of excavation to expose the pipe, removal of the pipeline coating, evaluation of the pipeline and undertaking minor repairs (e.g., small welding repairs, coating replacement or crack repair) as necessary. Where more significant repairs are determined to be necessary, repair/replacement work as described below would be undertaken.
2. **As-Needed Repair and Replacement:** Work under this Project component would include repair, relining or replacement of segments of the existing pipelines on the basis of the ongoing condition assessment. Typical repairs would include replacing the interior lining and repairing crown cracks. Interior lining and replacement would consist of removing the interior mortar lining inside steel sections of the pipelines and replacing it with either a mortar or an alternative lining. Repair of crown cracks would involve excavation of a shallow trench to expose the top of the buried pipeline, filling the cracks and recoating the pipeline. In some cases, segments of the pipeline would be replaced instead of repaired.
3. **Installation of Cathodic Protection:** Thirteen isolation joints would be installed in the existing pipelines in various locations along the SJPL System. Each isolation joint would include a small test station mounted on a three-foot tall, four-inch wide pole that would be connected to the pipeline. A shallow, distributed cathodic protection system and one deep anode would be constructed in the eastern portion of the SJPL System, along with 13 solar power stations consisting of solar panels, associated support, a controller and batteries.
4. **System Maintenance:** Maintenance activities would include routine system reconnaissance and testing, and maintenance of access roads, transmission towers and culverts.

All proposed improvements and construction activities would occur within the SFPUC Right-of-Way ("ROW"), with limited maintenance activities occurring on certain public and private roads providing access to the ROW, and would not require the acquisition of new property. Project construction activities would be ongoing and intermittent, beginning in 2011 and extending over approximately 20 years. Condition assessment and repair/replacement activities could occur on any of the three existing pipelines at any location along the 47.5 mile SJPL System, with the exception of the portion of the pipeline system that passes beneath the San Joaquin River.

III. BACKGROUND

Based on an Initial Study, the Planning Department determined that a Mitigated Negative Declaration ("MND") was required and on August 4, 2010, provided notice of its intent to adopt an MND for the Project and noticed a 30-day public review period for the Preliminary MND ending on September 3, 2010. The Notification described the proposed Project and requested comments on environmental effects and was mailed to property owners and occupants within 300 feet of the Project sites, to the Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse, to responsible and trustee agencies, and other interested parties.

The Planning Department received eight letters during the public comment period from the following agencies: State Clearinghouse; California Department of Transportation; Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board; Elizabeth E. Bass, Chair of the Board of Supervisors, County of Tuolumne; Modesto Irrigation District, Stanislaus County Environmental Review Commission; City of Modesto; and Oakdale Irrigation District. The Planning Department responded to public comments and, in addition to making certain revisions to clarify information in the Preliminary MND, for comments related to CEQA, made corresponding revisions to the Preliminary MND as identified in the IS/FMND. There were no substantial revisions to the Preliminary MND, as amended by the Planning Department on November 2, 2010.

The Planning Department approved the IS/MND on November 8, 2010, based on independent review and consideration of the information contained in the IS/FMND and information pertaining to the Project in the Department's case file. The IS/FMND and all pertinent documents may be found in the files of the Planning Department, as the custodian of records, located in File no. 2007.1129E, at 1650 Mission Street, Fourth Floor, San Francisco, California.

No appeals were filed with the City and County of San Francisco regarding the Project's MND; the November 8, 2010 IS/FMND is final, complete, and in accordance with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code.

IV. ACTIONS

The actions of the SFPUC in connection with the Project include the following:

1. Adoption of the IS/FMND, CEQA findings, mitigation measures and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (attached as Attachment B to the SFPUC Project approval resolution and referred to herein as the "MMRP"); and
2. Approval of the Project and authorization for the General Manager to implement the Project, in compliance with the Charter and applicable law, , including but not limited to obtaining any necessary agreements or required permits, and subject to subsequent Commission action as required for **construction contracting and Board of Supervisors approval where required..**

V. MITIGATION MEASURES

CEQA requires agencies to adopt mitigation measures that would avoid or substantially lessen a project's identified significant environmental impacts or potential significant impacts if such measures are feasible. It is the intention of the SFPUC to avoid significant impacts through the adoption of all of the mitigation measures identified in the IS/FMND, each of which is incorporated herein by reference and listed in the MMRP. The MMRP specifies the process by which all adopted mitigation measures are to be carried out, along with responsibilities for enforcement.

The SFPUC shall ensure implementation of all mitigation measures identified in the IS/FMND either directly or via binding contractual mechanisms. The SFPUC finds that the measures it is adopting can be carried out by the SFPUC at the designated time and are feasible at this time.

VI. CONCLUSION

Pursuant to the terms of the San Francisco Administrative Code section 31.11(h) and CEQA Guidelines section 15074, the SFPUC has reviewed and considered the information presented in the IS/FMND, public comments, and the record as a whole for the Project. Based upon the whole record, the SFPUC finds that the IS/FMND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the San Francisco Planning Department and there is no substantial evidence that the proposed Project, given the implementation of the mitigation measures as stated in the IS/FMND and adopted herewith, could have a significant effect on the environment.

The SFPUC further finds that the proposed Project as approved herein is consistent with the project description contained in the IS/FMND and would not result in significant impacts not identified in the mitigated negative declaration or cause significant effects already identified in the mitigated negative declaration to be substantially more severe.

**ATTACHMENT B
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM
REHABILITATION OF THE EXISTING SAN JOAQUIN PIPELINES PROJECT
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDINGS
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT



Mitigated Negative Declaration

PMND Date: August 4, 2010, amended on November 2, 2010
Case No.: 2007.1129E
Project Title: **Rehabilitation of the Existing San Joaquin Pipelines**
 Portions of Tuolumne, Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties
 and the cities of Riverbank and Modesto
Zoning: Various
Project Sponsor: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
 Robin Breuer (415) 551-2915
Lead Agency: San Francisco Planning Department
Staff Contact: Jamie Dean (415) 575-9028
 jamie.dean@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.
 Suite 400
 San Francisco,
 CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning Information:
415.558.6377

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is proposing the Rehabilitation of the Existing San Joaquin Pipelines (project, or proposed project). This project consists of condition assessment, repair, rehabilitation, and maintenance of the existing San Joaquin Pipeline System. The San Joaquin Pipeline System is a part of the SFPUC's regional water system, providing water to the Bay Area from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park. It includes three large-diameter pipelines that carry water nearly 48 miles across the San Joaquin Valley, and connect existing SFPUC facilities: the Oakdale Portal in western Tuolumne County, and the Coast Range Tunnel in western San Joaquin County. The San Joaquin Pipeline System traverses portions of Tuolumne, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin counties, including the cities of Riverbank and Modesto.

The project includes the following components: condition assessment of the existing pipelines; as-needed repair or replacement of segments of the existing pipelines; installation of cathodic protection; and system maintenance. Construction activities and duration would vary along the pipeline alignment depending on the project component being implemented. Construction activities associated with the proposed project would occur within existing SFPUC facility boundaries and would not require the acquisition of new property. Project construction activities would be ongoing and intermittent, beginning in 2011 and extending over approximately 20 years.

FINDING:

Contingent upon the mitigation measures in this Initial Study being implemented, this project could not have a significant effect on the environment. This finding is based upon the criteria of the Guidelines of the State Secretary for Resources, Sections 15064 (Determining Significant Effect), 15065 (Mandatory Findings of Significance), and 15070 (Decision to prepare a Negative Declaration), and the following reasons as documented in the Initial Study for the project, which is attached.

In the independent judgment of the Planning Department, there is no substantial evidence that the project could have a significant effect on the environment.

BILL WYCKO
 Environmental Review Officer

November 2, 2010

Date of Adoption of Final Mitigated
 Negative Declaration

cc: Sue Hester, Mary Miles, Nancy Shanahan, Distribution List and Robin Breuer, SFPUC

