



EAST BAY DISCHARGERS AUTHORITY
2651 Grant Avenue
San Lorenzo, CA 94580-1841
(510) 278-5910
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A Joint Powers Public Agency

NOTICE: Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, the Operations & Maintenance Committee meeting scheduled below will be accessible via Zoom video conferencing. Members of the public may participate in the meeting through the Zoom platform or phone number below.

- Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88140150819>
- Telephone dial-in: 1(669) 900-6833, meeting ID #881 4015 0819

ITEM NO. 13

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

9:00 A.M.

**East Bay Dischargers Authority
2651 Grant Avenue, San Lorenzo, CA 94580**

Committee Members: Cutter (Chair); Johnson

OM1. Call to Order

OM2. Roll Call

OM3. Public Forum

OM4. EBDA Permit Compliance

(The Committee will be updated on EBDA's NPDES compliance.)

OM5. Status Report

(The Committee will be updated on EBDA's O&M activities.)

OM6. Motion Approving the Renewal and Replacement Fund Project List for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

(The Committee will consider the motion.)

OM7. Motion Authorizing the General Manager to Issue a Purchase Order to Univar Solutions USA, Inc. for Sodium Bisulfite 25% Solution for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 in the Amount of \$235,000

(The Committee will consider the motion.)

OM8. Motion Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Agreement with Ascent Environmental for CEQA Consulting Services for the Cargill Mixed Sea Salt Brine Discharge Project in the Amount of \$54,540

(The Committee will consider the motion.)

OM9. Adjournment

Any member of the public may address the Commission at the commencement of the meeting on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission. This should not relate to any item on the agenda. It is the policy of the Authority that each person addressing the Commission limit their presentation to three minutes. Non-English speakers using a translator will have a time limit of six minutes. Any member of the public desiring to provide comments to the Commission on an agenda item should do so at the time the item is considered. It is the policy of the Authority that oral comments be limited to three minutes per individual or ten minutes for an organization. Speaker's cards will be available in the Boardroom and are to be completed prior to speaking.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you need special assistance to participate in an Authority meeting, or you need a copy of the agenda, or the agenda packet, in an appropriate alternative format, contact Juanita Villasenor at juanita@ebda.org or (510) 278-5910. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting or time when services are needed will assist the Authority staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting or service.

In compliance with SB 343, related writings of open session items are available for public inspection at East Bay Dischargers Authority, 2651 Grant Avenue, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. For your convenience, agenda items are posted on the East Bay Dischargers Authority website located at <http://www.ebda.org>.

<p>The next O&M Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, July 13, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.</p>
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ITEM NO. OM4 EBDA PERMIT COMPLIANCE

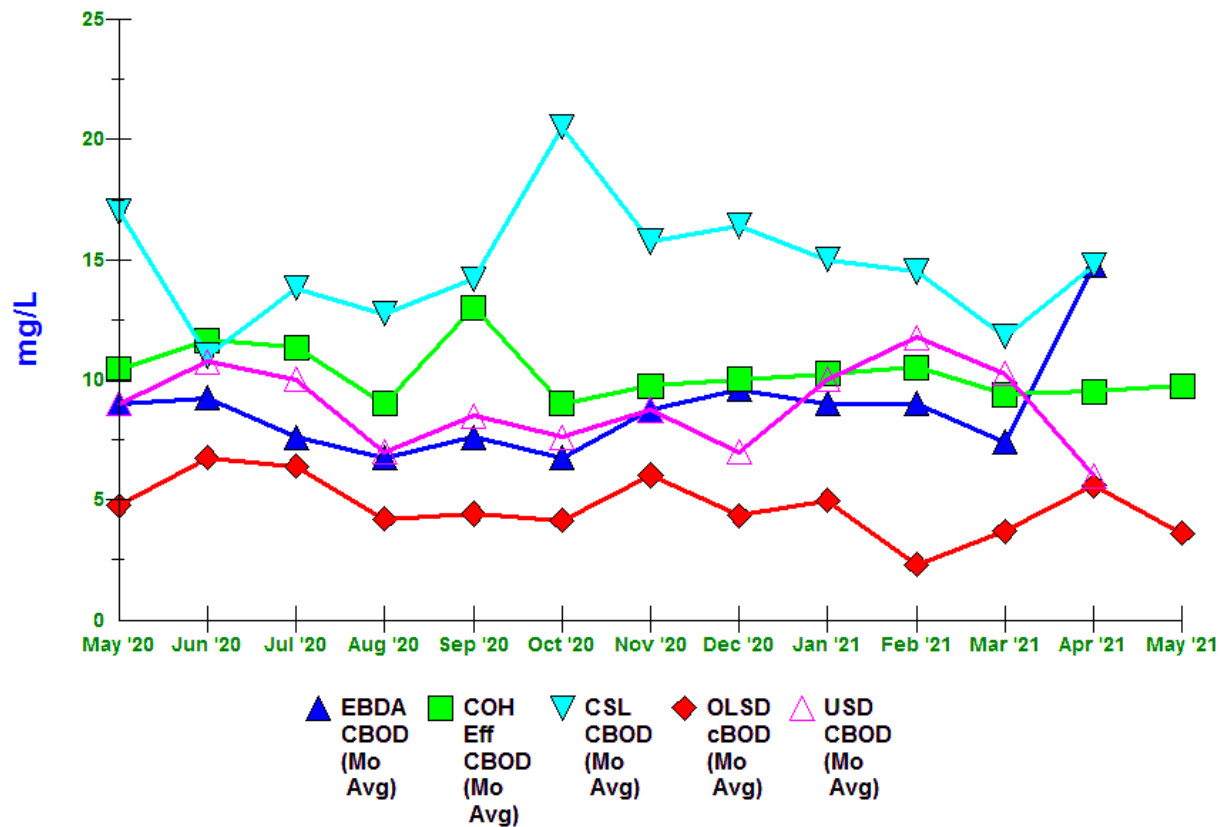
Recommendation

For the Committee's information only; no action is required.

Permit Compliance Issues

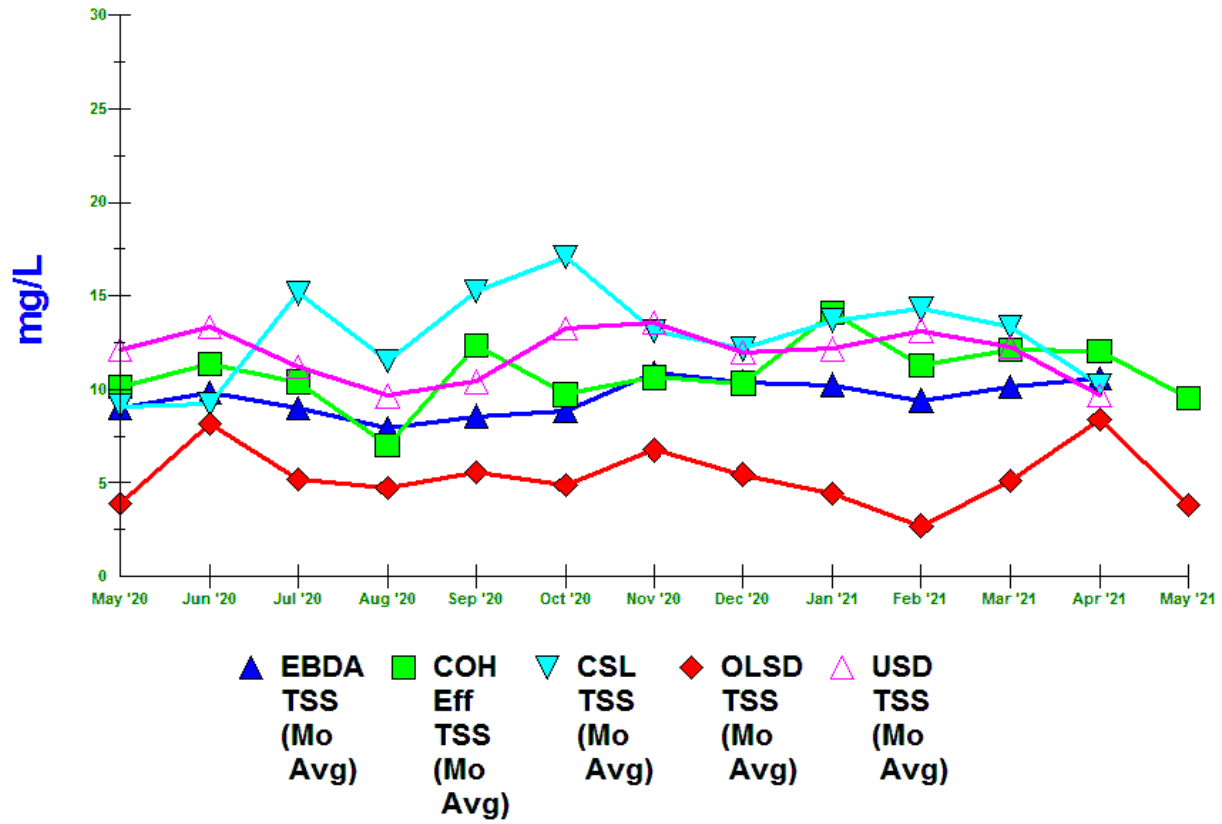
There were no NPDES permit violations in April, and preliminary data from May are also free of permit exceedances. Member Agency CBOD and TSS performance are shown below. A table with bacterial indicators is also included.

EBDA CBOD (Limit=25 ppm)



EBDA CBOD

EBDA TSS (Limit 30 ppm)



EBDA EFF TSS

EBDA Bacterial Indicators

Date	FECAL	ENTERO
	MPN/ 100mL	MPN/ 100mL
Limit (90th Percentile)	1100	
Limit (Geomean)	500	240
June 2020 Geomean	28	3
July 2020 Geomean	27	3
August 2020 Geomean	23	3
September 2020 Geomean	41	5
October 2020 Geomean	30	9
November 2020 Geomean	11	4
December 2020 Geomean	9	2
January 2021 Geomean	5	3
February 2021 Geomean	6	3
March 2021 Geomean	5	3
4/5/2021	13	6
4/6/2021	23	2
4/7/2021	8	< 2
4/12/2021	11	2
4/13/2021	13	3
4/14/2021	8	4
4/19/2021	3	< 2
4/20/2021	33	< 2
4/21/2021	11	< 2
4/26/2021	13	8
4/27/2021	33	4
April 2021 Geomean	13	3
5/3/2021	15	17
5/4/2021	13	3
5/5/2021	4	2
5/10/2021	12	4
5/11/2021	13	8
5/12/2021	13	4
5/17/2021	3	8
5/18/2021	8	31
5/24/2021	32	4
5/25/2021	17	14
5/31/2021	6	2
May 2021 Geomean	10	6

ITEM NO. OM5 STATUS REPORT

Union Effluent Pump Station (UEPS – Formerly AEPS)

No change; all equipment is operational.

Hayward Effluent Pump Station (HEPS)

No change; all equipment is operational.

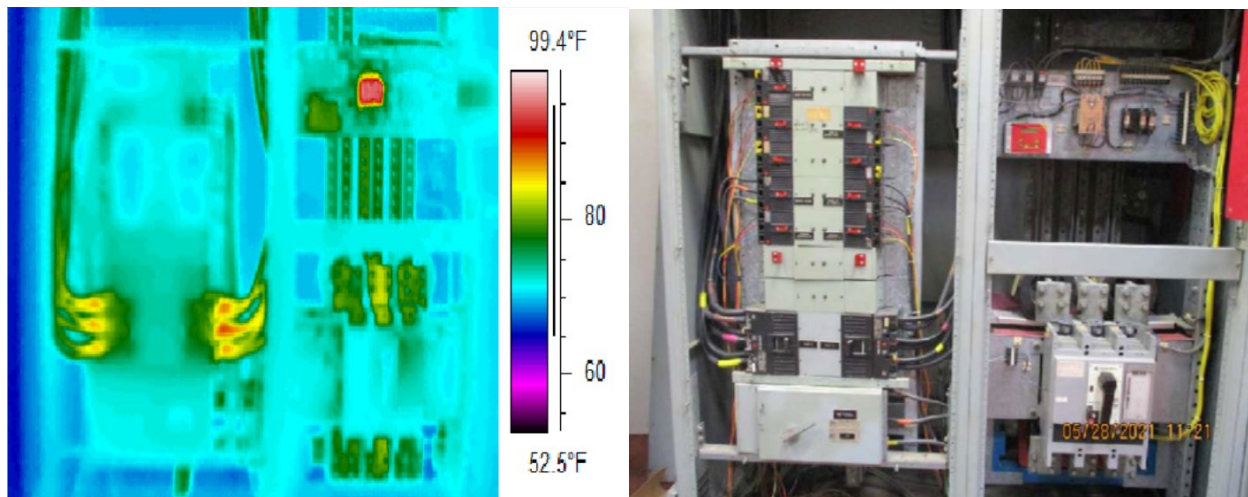
Oro Loma Effluent Pump Station (OLEPS)

Main Electrical Switchboard Upgrade

On May 28, 2021, a thermographic survey of the OLEPS Main Electrical Switchboard was completed. Both OLEPS Electric Pumps were operated at 100% speed for one hour prior to the start of the thermographic survey. The Infrared Thermographic Report stated the following:

“No potential problems were identified in the equipment that was inspected.”

Below is an example of the images included in the report. The highest temperature in the thermographic image is 99.4 degrees Fahrenheit, which is well below the temperature of concern. The bus bars, which were a primary focus of the survey, were much cooler, indicating that they are in good condition. The hottest areas detected were parts that are going to be replaced as part of this project. The results of the thermographic survey were intended to identify hot spots that needed to be examined in more detail during the Main Electrical Switchboard inspection; however, none were identified.



On June 3, 2021, an OLEPS electrical shutdown was completed to facilitate the Main Electrical Switchboard inspection. PG&E was scheduled to disconnect the power from midnight to 8:00 am. Although PG&E arrived two hours late for the shutdown, Schneider Electric was able to complete the required work, and the power was restored to OLEPS prior to 7:00 am. During the shutdown, the inside of the Main Electrical Switchboard was cleaned and inspected. The bus bars were further inspected and determined to be in good condition.

After the inspection was completed, detailed measurements were taken for the new replacement breakers. The fabrication of the new breakers will take approximately 14 weeks. At that time, a second electrical shutdown will be scheduled to install the new breakers, the new Main Electrical Switchboard front panels, and upgraded power monitoring equipment, which will allow OLEPS instantaneous power usage to be displayed on EBDA's SCADA system.

OLEPS Bypass

On June 3, 2021, the San Leandro force main crew opened the OLEPS bypass valve and closed the valve that connects the UEPS and HEPS flows to OLEPS, allowing the UEPS and HEPS flows to bypass OLEPS during the electrical shutdown described above. The bypass system worked without any issues.

San Leandro Effluent Pump Station (SLEPS)

No change; all equipment is operational.

Skywest Pump Station

Recycled Water Production

During the month of May 2021, the Skywest Recycled Water System operated for two days and produced 1.12 million gallons of recycled water.

Marina Dechlorination Facility (MDF)

No change; all equipment is operational.

Force Main

Retirement of Balraj Hehar

Balraj Hehar began his career with the City of San Leandro in 1993 as a part-time Maintenance Aid and was quickly hired full-time. In 2000, Balraj was promoted to Maintenance Mechanic, and he worked on the EBDA force main almost his entire career with the City. During all his years working on the EBDA force main, Balraj never lost his desire to do the job right, as is evident from the exemplary condition of the facilities he maintains.

EBDA staff has the privilege of working with some exceptional Member Agency employees, and Balraj is one of them. Part of the reason that the EBDA GM and O&M Manager can sleep at night is due to the hard work of employees like Balraj. He truly treats the EBDA force main as if it was his own. EBDA would like to thank Balraj for his 28 years of dedicated service to the EBDA system and its rate payers.

Operations Center

No change; all equipment is operational.

Miscellaneous Items

Underground Service Alerts

EBDA received ten (10) Underground Service Alert (USA) tickets during the month of May 2021. Eight required an Electronic Positive Response (EPR), and of the eight, two required calls to the excavators, and five required field verification.

Wet Weather

During the month of May 2021, there were no significant rain events that required the operation of an OLEPS diesel pump.

COVID-19 Response

Authority staff is continuing to implement the Pandemic Response Plan, which includes signage regarding closure of the office to the public and the Authority's social distancing measures on the office door. All EBDA staff members are fully vaccinated. Per Commission direction at its May 2021 meeting, the Commission will resume meeting in person in September. Committee meetings will continue to be conducted via zoom as long as permissible under Brown Act rules.

Staff is also continuing to track research efforts utilizing data on the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 virus in wastewater influent to identify and anticipate COVID-19 community trends, termed wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE) or sewage surveillance. Going forward, WBE may be used for early detection of outbreaks once the virus is generally under control, as well as identification of variants present in the community.

Special Projects

Cargill Brine Project Due Diligence

EBDA staff is continuing to work with Cargill to assess the risks of adding brine to the EBDA transport system, particularly with respect to accelerating corrosion. On May 12, 2021, the team kicked off the Corrosion Protection Evaluation Project. In this project, Brown & Caldwell is screening a multitude of potential mitigation options for protecting vulnerable sections of the force main from corrosion associated with brine addition. The list of options will then be narrowed to three that look most promising, which will be evaluated for cost, constructability, and other factors. A workshop to review the initial screening is scheduled for June 16, 2021.

In parallel, staff is working with the Authority's legal team at Meyers Nave to evaluate options for project ownership and execution to take advantage of Cargill's flexibility as a private entity and EBDA's public franchise rights for pipeline installation access in city streets. A three-party agreement between Cargill, EBDA, and the City of Union City is also under development to facilitate the incorporation of the pipeline into Union City's upcoming Union City Boulevard bike lane project.

Lastly, staff is recommending contracting with Ascent Environmental to begin the environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). See Item No. OM8.

Advanced Quantitative Precipitation Information (AQPI) Project

The regional AQPI project continues to move forward with a goal of improving prediction of rainfall events in the Bay Area. On April 20th, Sonoma Water's Board of Directors approved the agreements for the East Bay radar deployment and for the lease with American Tower. Installation of the radar at Rocky Ridge is scheduled for July 12-16, 2021.

**ITEM NO. OM6 MOTION APPROVING THE RENEWAL AND REPLACEMENT FUND
PROJECT LIST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022**

Recommendation

Approve the Renewal and Replacement Fund (RRF) project list for FY 2021/2022.

Background

Each year, the Commission is asked to approve a list of capital projects to be undertaken in the upcoming fiscal year using funds from the Authority's Renewal and Replacement Fund. The project list is developed using the Authority's Asset Management Plan (AMP), with input from the Managers Advisory Committee (MAC).

Discussion

The Authority's proposed RRF Project List for FY 2021/2022 is presented on the following page for the Committee's review and comment, followed by project explanations. Two updates have been made to the list reviewed by the Committee last month:

- Increase to OLEPS Bypass Study, to reflect the engineer's updated estimate of design costs. No funds will be expended on the design unless and until the engineer's initial analysis shows that the project is feasible and cost-effective, and those conclusions are supported by the MAC and this Committee.
- Addition of a project to implement the new total chlorine residual effluent limits, which are now expected to take effect within this fiscal year.

Staff is recommending Commission approval of a total expenditure of \$775,000 for RRF projects for FY 2021/2022. This includes \$100,000 for the Small Projects Fund for much of the smaller ancillary equipment and components that the Authority owns which are operated with the intent to 'run to failure' and for small and unforeseen projects.

RRF Projects for FY 2021/2022

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Renewal & Replacement Fund Items</u>	<u>Projected Completion Date</u>	<u>Estimated Costs</u>
UEPS	Payment No. 2 of 10 Per JPA	July 2021	\$ 420,000
OLEPS, MDF & EBDA Office	Energy Efficiency Lighting Retrofit	December 2021	\$ 60,000
OLEPS	Pump Station Bypass	June 2022	\$ 60,000
HEPS	Engineering & Structural Upgrades for New Pumps	June 2022	\$ 40,000
All	New Pickup Truck	June 2022	\$ 40,000
MDF	Replacement Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS)	December 2021	\$ 20,000
MDF	New Total Residual Chlorine Limit Implementation	December 2021	\$ 20,000
OLEPS	Effluent Pump No. 4 Motor & Gear Drive Refurbishment	September 2021	\$ 15,000
		FY 2021/2022 Sub-Total	\$ 675,000
		Small Projects Fund	\$ 100,000
		FY 2021/2022 Total	\$ 775,000

UEPS – Payment No. 2 of 10 per JPA – \$420,000

The Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) states that “in fiscal years from 2020/21 through 2029/30, the Authority will pay Union a total of Four Million, Two-Hundred Thousand dollars (\$4,200,000), divided in ten equal and annual installments, as a credit toward their annual budget contribution for Operation and Maintenance Costs, for all Capital Costs associated with the Union Effluent Pump Station during the Term of the Agreement.”

OLEPS, MDF & EBDA Office – Energy Efficiency Lighting Retrofit – \$60,000

EBDA plans to take advantage of a program administered by PG&E to upgrade the lighting at OLEPS, MDF, and the EBDA Office with energy-efficient lighting. The cost of the project will be offset through operational savings and has a payback period of approximately five years.

OLEPS – Pump Station Bypass – \$60,000

Feasibility analysis of bypassing OLEPS during dry weather. Approximately \$10,000 would be allocated to the engineering analysis. If deemed feasible, the remainder of the budget would be used to begin design of cost-effective improvements.

HEPS – Engineering & Structural Upgrades for New Pumps – \$40,000

Installation of the new HEPS pumps will require the pump pads to be demolished and replaced with new concrete pads that meet current seismic standards.

All – New Pickup Truck – \$40,000

Replacement of the EBDA pickup truck. EBDA's current pickup truck is a 2008 model year that was purchased in 2007 and was scheduled to be replaced several years ago.

MDF – Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) Replacement – \$20,000

Replacement of the ATS electronic controls, addition of an ethernet module, and upgrade of ATS status information on EBDA's SCADA system.

MDF – New Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) Limit Implementation – \$20,000

Initial control system upgrades to implement the new TRC Limit in EBDA's NPDES Permit.

OLEPS – Effluent Pump No. 4 Motor & Gear Drive Refurbishment – \$15,000

Refurbishment of the OLEPS Effluent Pump #1 motor and the right-angle gear drive.

Small Projects Fund (formerly Contingency Fund) – \$100,000

The purpose of the Small Projects Fund is to provide additional funding for unidentified projects and/or equipment that may need to be replaced or refurbished in FY 2021/2022. Much of the smaller ancillary equipment and components that the Authority owns are operated with the intent to 'run to failure'. This is a common practice at wastewater facilities with these types of assets, which include fans, valves, actuators, and small pumps and motors. While preventive maintenance is completed on a regular basis, forecasting an exact date of failure is not possible. The criteria for 'run to failure' are both that the equipment can be readily procured and that there is sufficient redundancy to meet system firm capacity. In some cases, staff will purchase critical items and have them on the shelf, reducing system equipment downtime.

ITEM NO. OM7 MOTION AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO UNIVAR SOLUTIONS USA, INC. FOR SODIUM BISULFITE 25% SOLUTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$235,000

Recommendation

Approve a motion authorizing the General Manager to issue a Purchase Order to Univar Solutions USA, Inc. (Univar) in the amount of \$235,000 for the purchase of Sodium Bisulfite 25% Solution in FY 2021/2022.

Background

EBDA elected to work collectively with the Bay Area Chemical Consortium (BACC) to obtain a bid for Sodium Bisulfite 25% Solution (SBS). The BACC is a consortium of over fifty water and wastewater agencies in Northern California who use their common purchasing power to achieve better pricing for treatment chemicals while reducing the costs of bidding processes. BACC was created and managed by Dublin San Ramon Services District and was recently transitioned to the umbrella of the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies (BACWA).

This year, Univar USA, Inc. was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, with a delivered cost of \$1.21 per gallon. The per gallon cost of SBS has increased by \$0.10 from FY 2018/2019 and FY 2019/2020.

Discussion

In response to BACC's FY 2019/2020 request for bids for SBS, Univar was selected as the successful bidder and, as a result, EBDA issued a Purchase Order (PO) to Univar for its SBS needs for FY 2019/2020, pursuant to Resolution 19-25 authorized by the Commission on June 20, 2019. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, BACC canceled the bids it issued in March 2020 for FY 2020/2021. BACC recommended that agencies exercise their options to extend contracts with suppliers for FY 2020/2021, which EBDA did, and Univar agreed to extend the same pricing for that additional year.

BACC issued new bids for FY 2021/2022 and Univar was again selected as the successful bidder for SBS. Each agency member of BACC is responsible for issuing its own PO with the supplier. Staff is recommending a PO ceiling of \$235,000, consistent with conservative SBS usage over the past several years, and with the adopted FY 2021/2022 budget. Pending implementation of new total chlorine residual effluent limits, actual spending on SBS this fiscal year may be lower. It is unknown at this time exactly when the new limits will take effect or what their precise impacts on SBS usage will be, so staff is recommending setting the PO ceiling conservatively.



May 5, 2021

Univar Solutions USA Inc.
Attn: Jennifer Perras
8201 S 212th St.
Kent, WA 98032

RE: Award Contract in Response to Bay Area Chemical Consortium (BACC) Bid No. 11-2021 for Supply and Delivery of SODIUM BISULFITE.

Dear Ms. Perras,

We are pleased to advise you that the bid submitted by Univar Solutions USA Inc. for Bid No. 11-2021 was determined to be the lowest responsive bid for the supply and delivery of SODIUM BISULFITE during the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

The participating BACC Agencies should be contacting you shortly to discuss entering into contracts with Univar Solutions USA Inc. for their respective facilities.

Bay Area Chemical Consortium sincerely appreciates your efforts and participation in the competitive bid process.

If you have any questions, please free to contact me at jdymment@bacwa.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JDymment", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jennifer Dymment
Assistant Executive Director
BACWA.org
as Coordinating Agency for the Bay Area Chemical Consortium

Bay Area Clean Water Agencies - BACWA/BACC
 Bid Results for Project 11-2021 SODIUM BISULFITE
 Issued on 03/18/2021
 Bid Due on April 15, 2021 4:00 PM (PDT)
 Exported on 04/15/2021

Section	SODIUM BISULFITE 25% Solution							SODIUM BISULFITE 40% Solution		
Description	Central Valley	East Bay	Marin Sonoma Napa	North Bay	Peninsula	Sacramento	South Bay	Central Valley	Peninsula	Sacramento
Unit of Measure	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal	gal
Univar Solutions USA Inc.	\$1.25	\$1.21	\$1.30	\$1.28	\$1.23	\$1.76	\$1.21	\$1.75	\$1.75	\$1.86
Chemurgic	\$1.80	\$1.85	\$1.95	\$2.05	\$1.91	\$2.08	\$1.83	\$2.83	\$2.92	\$2.87

ITEM NO. OM8 MOTION AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH ASCENT ENVIRONMENTAL FOR CEQA CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE CARGILL MIXED SEA SALT BRINE DISCHARGE PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,540

Recommendation

Approve a motion authorizing the General Manager execute an agreement with Ascent Environmental, Inc. (Ascent) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis associated with the Cargill Mixed Sea Salt Brine Discharge Project.

Background

In July 2020, the Commission approved a term sheet with Cargill Inc. (Cargill) for a project to discharge mixed sea salt (MSS) brine from Cargill's Newark solar salt facility through EBDA's transport system and outfall to the Bay. Since that time, Cargill and EBDA staff have been collaborating on due diligence work to evaluate potential impacts of the brine on EBDA's infrastructure and associated mitigation measures.

In February 2021, the Commission approved a CEQA Review and Reimbursement Agreement between EBDA and Cargill. Under the agreement, EBDA committed to act as the CEQA Lead Agency to analyze environmental impacts associated with the overall project, which includes construction of a pump station at Cargill's facility, a pipeline connecting Cargill's facility to EBDA's transport system just downstream of Union Sanitary District's treatment plant, and discharge of the MSS brine through EBDA's system. Cargill in turn, committed to reimburse EBDA for all staff and consultant costs associated with CEQA analysis.

Discussion

Following a Request for Proposals process, EBDA received two proposals to perform the CEQA analysis. Staff selected Ascent as the most qualified firm. Ascent's proposal showed a strong grasp of project-specific issues, as well as a long history of completing analyses for similar projects in California. References that have worked with Ascent indicated that they are knowledgeable, good communicators, and attentive to schedule and budget.

Staff is recommending approval of Ascent's proposed scope of work, which includes building on the Initial Study for the project that was developed by AECOM under contract to Cargill. Having not yet reviewed AECOM's draft materials, neither Ascent nor EBDA staff can directly comment on their completeness. Therefore, staff is recommending adding a \$10,000 as-needed task under Ascent's contract, which would allow for studies or other analyses that may be required. Ascent's original proposal was \$44,540; the as-needed task brings the agreement ceiling to \$54,540.

Cargill, in coordination with EBDA staff, has done significant outreach to potentially interested stakeholders, including environmental non-governmental organizations and local government agencies, over the past year to introduce them to the project and understand any potential concerns. Stakeholders consulted to date have been very

supportive of the project as a positive public-private collaboration and a creative solution to challenges caused by sea level rise. For this reason, and the fact that the project at the core of the CEQA analysis is a pretty standard pipeline construction, staff expects that there will be minimal risk of CEQA challenges. For the purposes of the Ascent scope, the parties are assuming that a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) will be the appropriate environmental document for CEQA compliance. One of Ascent's first tasks will be to assess the appropriateness of an MND. To the extent an alternative path such as an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is recommended, staff will return to the Commission to modify this agreement.

Cargill and EBDA staff have also been coordinating with the Cities of Newark, Fremont, and Union City, across which the Cargill pipeline to EBDA will traverse. As discussed with the Commission previously, the City of Union City plans to implement a bike lane project on Union City Boulevard along the same alignment as the proposed pipeline. The collective desire of Union City, Cargill, and EBDA is to integrate the bike lane and pipeline projects to avoid community impacts. Union City has agreed to delay their bike lane project by several months to accommodate this integration, and a three-party agreement between Union City, Cargill, and EBDA is under development. Assuming the MND pathway, the schedule proposed by Ascent meets the parties' desire to complete CEQA for the pipeline by the end of calendar year 2021 so that the projects can be jointly bid in early 2022.



May 21, 2021

Jackie Zipkin, P.E.
General Manager
East Bay Dischargers Authority
2651 Grant Avenue
San Lorenzo, CA 94580-1841
via email: jzipkin@ebda.org

Subject: CEQA Consulting Services for the Cargill Mixed Sea Salt Brine Discharge Project

Dear Ms. Zipkin:

East Bay Dischargers Authority (EBDA) has received interest from Cargill, Inc. in connecting its Newark facility to EBDA's system to facilitate discharge of mixed sea salt brine to the San Francisco Bay as a means to sustainably and cost-effectively accelerate its commercial harvesting of sea salts in anticipation of sea level rise. EBDA, as the lead agency for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed project, is seeking assistance with completing the CEQA compliance process.

Ascent's core professional practice is the CEQA compliance support sought by EBDA, a service for which we are recognized statewide as experts. We were established in 2010 to provide CEQA and natural resources services, with a focus on tackling sensitive and complex projects. We take pride in producing high-quality environmental documents. Our principals and senior staff oversee all aspects of our projects so that we can provide our clients with high-level strategic guidance and excellent service, always with a focus on CEQA adequacy.

We have carefully chosen Ascent's in-house team for their technical expertise and experience in both preparing CEQA documents and providing peer review of CEQA documents prepared by others; their successful record of document delivery and quality; their understanding of agency regulations and expectations; their experience with projects in the Bay Area and elsewhere; and their knowledge of design and construction of water resources projects, including linear pipeline project like the one proposed by Cargill. In addition, our management team will strive to meet or exceed EBDA's expectations by serving as a true extension of EBDA staff, which involves thinking and acting in the best interests of EBDA.

Andrea Shephard, Sr. Project Manager, will be EBDA's primary point of contact. She will be responsible for day-to-day management of our in-house team and communications with EBDA staff. Andrea resided in Newark for several years and you can be assured she is very familiar with the project area.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with EBDA and appreciate your consideration of our submittal. Please contact us if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,



Gary Jacobs, AICP

President/CEO

p: 916.930.3182

e: gary.jakobs@ascentenvironmental.com



Andrea L. Shephard, PhD

Senior Project Manager

p: 916.842.3179

e: andrea.shephard@ascentenvironmental.com

Attachments:

- A Scope of Work
- B Cost Estimate
- C Resumes

cc: Project File (20210105.00)

ATTACHMENT A

FIRM QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK CEQA CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE CARGILL MIXED SEA SALT BRINE DISCHARGE PROJECT

FIRM INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS

Ascent Environmental is a full-service environmental, natural resources, and planning consultancy headquartered in Sacramento, with offices in Oakland, Orange County, San Diego, and Lake Tahoe. Primarily working with public-sector clients, we offer a broad spectrum of planning and environmental services. Ascent staff are experts in compliance with the overarching environmental planning laws and regulations used to evaluate projects, specifically the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In addition to CEQA and NEPA compliance, our services include biological resources assessments, archaeological and historical resources assessments, noise and vibration evaluation, air quality and greenhouse gas analysis, climate change adaptation and sustainability planning, natural resources management planning, and regulatory and permitting services.

Ascent staff have been providing environmental compliance for linear infrastructure and water resources projects and serving special districts and joint powers authorities for decades. Our staff conduct high-caliber, legally defensible, and comprehensive CEQA and NEPA environmental reviews and provide high quality regulatory permitting and construction monitoring support. We have experience with a wide range of public infrastructure and water resources-related projects relevant to the Cargill Mixed Sea Salt Brine Discharge Project, including simple as well as multifaceted, complex projects involving drinking water and recycled water pipelines, sanitary sewer lines, treated wastewater and irrigation drainage discharges, water and wastewater treatment systems, surface water diversion facilities, and fish screens. Our firm has distinguished itself by providing creative strategies, responsive service, and high-quality deliverables for these and many other types of projects.

Assisting clients with the complexities of environmental approvals is the cornerstone of our services. Ascent integrates planning and environmental review with years of experience in project implementation to develop effective and streamlined approaches to regulatory compliance. We have the enthusiasm, resources, quality standards, dependability, integrity, and personal service that our clients desire and deserve. We first listen and understand, then deliver solutions aimed at exceeding our clients' expectations. As a result, we are skilled in project delivery for CEQA and environmental consulting services and offer the level of review, analysis, and decision support needed by East Bay Dischargers Authority (EBDA) to successfully process the proposed project.

Ascent is also certified as a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) by the State of California, Department of General Services (DGS, Supplier No. 1208561).

Management Team

Ascent's team has been carefully selected to provide EBDA with the most qualified environmental specialists and technical experts necessary for assistance with CEQA compliance. We have experience in both preparing CEQA documents and providing peer review of CEQA documents prepared by others; a successful record of document delivery and quality; an understanding of agency regulations and expectations; experience with projects in the Bay Area and elsewhere; and knowledge of design and construction of water resources projects, including linear pipeline projects like the one proposed by Cargill.

The project management team will be led by Gary Jakobs, AICP, who will serve as the principal-in-charge. Gary will provide overall quality assurance and strategic guidance. Andrea Shephard, PhD will serve as the project manager and will manage the team of Ascent staff, lead the coordination of the work, and serve as the day-to-day point of contact for EBDA staff. Andrea resided in Newark for several years and you can be assured she is very familiar with the project area. This team will be supported by other technical experts from Ascent.

Biosketches for our management team are provided below. Full resumes detailing the relevant experience of each team member is included in Attachment C.

Gary Jakobs, Project Principal

Gary Jakobs is a principal/project director with over 35 years of experience conducting CEQA/NEPA compliance throughout California. He specializes in water supply and wastewater treatment projects, having completed more than 30 related CEQA/NEPA compliance projects, many including SRF and CEQA-Plus requirements. Relevant projects include the Regional San EchoWater Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade EIR, including CEQA-Plus; Peer Review of Regional San's South County Ag Program EIR; River Islands at Lathrop Specific Plan EIR and Permitting (including recycled water storage and disposal modification), City of Lathrop; City of Lathrop Water, Wastewater Recycled Water Master Plan EIR; City of Galt Wastewater Treatment and Recycling EIR/EA (CEQA-Plus and NEPA compliance with Federal Grant); and Water and Wastewater Upgrades at California State Prisons. Gary regularly instructs other professionals and public agencies on environmental compliance.

Andrea Shephard, Senior Project Manager

Andrea Shephard, PhD, is a senior environmental project manager with 26 years of experience. She has extensive experience leading complex water resources projects through successful CEQA and NEPA processes in the Central Valley, Sierra Nevada foothills, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and San Francisco Bay Area. Andrea is an accomplished CEQA specialist and a skilled NEPA practitioner. She has managed projects involving water supply and wastewater treatment and conveyance infrastructure upgrades and expansions, dam/reservoir modifications, flood risk reduction improvements, water transfers, riparian and wetland habitat restoration, trails development, and more. She also has in-depth knowledge of environmental regulatory and permitting processes, including the Clean Water Act (Sections 404, 402, and 401), Rivers and Harbors Act (Sections 10 and 408), Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, Groundwater Sustainability Act, federal and state Endangered Species Acts (ESA Sections 7 and 10, CESA Section 2081), National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106), federal and state Clean Air Acts, State Water Resources Control Board water rights, and State Revolving Fund Clean Water and Drinking Water programs. Andrea integrates her knowledge of water resources, the environmental impact review process, agency permitting, and the construction process to expedite project implementation while achieving client objectives in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Representative Project Experience

Ostwald Water Pipeline Replacement Project IS/MND, Santa Clara County **California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)**

Ascent led environmental compliance for the Ostwald Water Line Replacement Project for the San Jose Water Company (SJWC) under our existing Master Services Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The project involved replacing a raw water intake pipeline originating from the Ostwald diversion dam on Los Gatos Creek in Santa Clara County. Ascent prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for use by CDFW in the project's CEQA review. Alternative alignments were considered, recognizing the proposed in-creek alignment. Key issues assessed in the IS/MND included biological resources, water quality, and construction traffic. The biological resources section analyzed potential impacts to sensitive habitats, California red-legged frog, Santa Cruz black salamander, California giant salamander, San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat, nesting raptors and birds, and waters of the United States.

Cement Hill Pipeline Project IS/MND, Solano County **Suisun-Solano Water Authority (Bennett Engineering)**

The New Cement Hill Pipeline provides a second 20-inch-diameter pipeline from the Cement Hill Water Treatment Plant (CHWTP) in the City of Fairfield to the site of Tanks 2A and 2B, allowing the tanks to become a clear well for the CHWTP. There were several construction and design constraints: the existing pipeline had to remain in operation during construction of the new pipeline; the crossing over Putah South Canal had to be above-ground; and the pipeline route extended through a vegetated area/unpaved roadway and a residential community.

Ascent prepared an IS/MND for the project and is conducting mitigation monitoring during construction of the project. Key resources of concern included a historical resource and special-status species. Ascent's scope of work included conducting biological resources and cultural resources surveys as well as modeling construction air quality and greenhouse gas emissions using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod). For mitigation monitoring, the Ascent biologist conducted pre-construction nesting surveys and performed construction biological monitoring to ensure elderberry trees and raptor and other bird nests were not affected during construction operations.

Lathrop Consolidated Treatment Facility Surface Water Discharge Project, San Joaquin County

City of Lathrop

Ascent recently completed an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the City of Lathrop that evaluated treatment plant modifications, construction of a new effluent pipeline, and installation of a new outfall along the San Joaquin River for discharge of treated effluent. Staff are now overseeing environmental permitting (Clean Water Act [CWA] Section 404/401, California Fish and Game Code Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, Endangered Species Act [ESA] Section 7 consultation, National Historic Preservation Act [NHPA] Section 106 consultation) and assisting with acquisition of Section 408 authorization for levee modifications from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and a levee encroachment permit from Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB). Key issues assessed in the EIR included water quality, construction impacts related to air quality and noise, and impacts to biological resources, including riparian and open-water habitat, special-status fish species, valley elderberry longhorn

beetle habitat, nesting raptors and birds, and riparian brush rabbit. Andrea Shephard led preparation of the EIR and is managing environmental permitting efforts for this project.

Harvest Water (formerly the South County Ag Program) CEQA/NEPA Compliance
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San)

Harvest Water (formerly the South County Ag Program) would provide a safe and reliable supply of tertiary-treated water for agricultural uses, reduce groundwater pumping, and support habitat restoration efforts. Regional San prepared a program EIR to analyze the environmental effects of the South County Ag Program and certified the EIR in March 2017. The program EIR includes program- and project-level analyses depending on the level of detail available at the time for each program element. Tiering from the Program EIR, Ascent prepared supplemental environmental documents for the following program elements: lateral pipelines and on-farm connections, wintertime recycled water application, ecosystem improvements, and a new groundwater accounting project.

For the lateral pipelines and on-farm connections element, Ascent prepared the following technical studies to support the CEQA document: air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, cultural resources, and biological resources.

Ascent is overseeing permitting activities being conducted by ESA. Permits required for Harvest Water include:

- ▲ CDFW Section 1600 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement
- ▲ USACE Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit
- ▲ Central Valley RWQCB Section 401 Water Quality Certification
- ▲ South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP) consistency

The SSHCP provides a framework for Endangered Species Act, Section 404, and Section 401 permitting and the Ascent/ESA team is assisting Regional San in being one of the first entities to use the SSHCP for compliance with these regulations.

Separate from the CEQA compliance process, Regional San is seeking federal grant funds from the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) for the construction of the recycled water delivery network included in Harvest Water. The issuance of grant funds would be a discretionary federal action and is therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Ascent is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for Reclamation and providing additional support related to EA distribution and the public review process.

Walnut Grove Pump Station Abandonment Project IS/MND, Sacramento County
Sacramento Area Sewer District/Brown and Caldwell

The project included installing a new 16-inch gravity sewer pipeline that connects to Pump Station S146, abandon the existing sewer pipeline, and removal of Pump Station S064. The project is located in Walnut Grove in Sacramento County and extends within SASD's sewer easement from Pump Station S064 southeast to Pump Station S146. The new pipeline follows the route of the existing 8-inch force main and would be 2,000 feet in length. Following installation of the new pipeline, the existing Pump Station S064 would be abandoned. Ascent prepared the IS/MND and federal and state permitting packages including

Section 404, Section 401, Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, Section 7 consultation for giant garter snake, and Section 106 compliance.

City of Fremont Climate Action Plan Update, Alameda County

City of Fremont

Ascent is providing technical expertise and project management assistance to support the development of the City of Fremont's new Climate Action Plan (CAP 2.0). CAP 2.0 will lay out the near-, medium-, and long-term pathways to achieve Fremont's carbon neutrality by 2045 goal while also advancing the City's commitment to mobility, affordable housing, economic development, innovation, safety, and quality of life. Ascent is developing GHG forecast scenarios, GHG reduction measures and adaptation strategies, and supporting public outreach for the plan.

Miller-Knox Shoreline Land Use Plan Amendment Program EIR

East Bay Regional Park District

Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline is a coastal gem of the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) system along the San Francisco Bay shoreline. A 1983 Land Use Development Plan originally guided recreation use and facility development at Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline. EBRPD proposed a comprehensive update of the 1983 plan with a Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) intended to enhance the Regional Shoreline's recreational, interpretive, and scenic values and fully incorporate and interconnect the use areas that comprise it.

Ascent assisted EBRPD with preparation of a program EIR to analyze the significant environmental effects associated with construction, operation, and maintenance of the extensive park improvements proposed in the LUPA. Specific areas of analysis included aesthetics, GHG emissions and climate change (including sea level rise), biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, and hydrology and water quality. As a part of the public scoping period, Ascent organized a meeting with regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over land and resources within Miller/Knox, including the State Lands Commission and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), to gather input on potential permitting requirements and expectations for contents of the EIR. Ascent also met again with BCDC to discuss the approach for addressing sea level rise in the CEQA document. The LUPA was approved and the EIR certified in spring 2019.

PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK

Project Understanding

EBDA is a Joint Powers Public Agency (JPPA) with member agencies consisting of the Cities of Hayward and San Leandro, Oro Loma Sanitary District, Union Sanitary District, and Castro Valley Sanitary District. EBDA also provides service by contract to the Livermore-Amador Valley Water Management Agency, which serves the Cities of Pleasanton and Livermore and the Dublin San Ramon Services District. EBDA owns and operates three effluent pump stations, a dechlorination facility, and a force main and outfall system to manage treated effluent from its member agencies' wastewater treatment plants and dispose of the effluent in the San Francisco Bay.

Cargill, Inc., a large agribusiness that operates salt ponds in Newark, CA, is proposing to accelerate its harvest of commercial salts in anticipation of sea level rise. The process would generate a brine of residual mixed sea salts (MSS) that would require disposal. As a sustainable and cost-effective method of managing the final disposition of the residual MSS brine, Cargill is proposing to discharge the brine to the East Bay Dischargers Authority's system. This would involve constructing facilities at the Cargill site and a new pipeline connecting the Cargill site in Newark to an existing EBDA pipeline downstream of the Union Sanitary District to harvest, dissolve, pump, and convey the residual MSS brine into the EBDA system. It is anticipated that the brine would be discharged to the EBDA system at an average rate ranging from 0.86 million gallons per day (MGD) to 2 MGD.

Scope of Work

Cargill has contracted with AECOM to prepare an Initial Study (IS) for the proposed project. As the lead agency for compliance with CEQA for the proposed project, EBDA is seeking assistance with completing the CEQA environmental review process.

For purposes of this scope and cost estimate, Ascent assumes that preparation of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) will be appropriate. Therefore, the following scope of work describes the anticipated activities to be conducted by Ascent to assist EBDA in completing the CEQA MND.

Task 1: Initiate and Manage Project Execution

Ascent's project manager will devote effort each month (6-month schedule assumed) to ensure an efficient and timely process for project execution. Ascent will maintain close communication with EBDA to ensure the objectives are met, the schedule is maintained, and the project is implemented within established budget parameters. To this end, Ascent's project manager and one other Ascent staff member, as needed, will prepare for and participate in one 2-hour (hr) project kickoff meeting and up to five conference calls (e.g., one 1-hr call per month) with EBDA, and Cargill, as appropriate.

During the kickoff meeting, the team will review and confirm the project description details; discuss available background information, including the AECOM IS; review the history of the project and any discussions to date with permitting agencies; discuss any areas of controversy and potential strategies; review the scope of work and determine if any adjustments are needed; establish a schedule for internal

deliverables; and agree on communication/review protocols. Subsequent meetings will discuss the status of the project, upcoming deliverables/milestones, and any technical/schedule/budget issues, as needed.

All meetings are assumed to be by video conference call. However, in-person meetings, if desired, can be accommodated with a modification to this scope and cost.

DELIVERABLES/MEETINGS

- ▲ One (2-hr) kickoff meeting by video conference call with two Ascent staff
- ▲ Five (1-hr) progress meetings by video conference call with two Ascent staff
- ▲ Monthly invoices and progress reports

Task 2: Provide Assembly Bill 52 Consultation Assistance

AB 52 established a consultation process with California Native American tribes for proposed projects in geographic areas that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with that tribe. The CEQA Lead Agency is required to begin consultation with California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area prior to the release of an IS/MND if: (1) a tribe requested in writing to be formally notified of projects in the tribe's traditionally and culturally affiliated area; and (2) a tribe responds, in writing, within 30 days after formal notification from the lead agency requesting consultation. (P.R.C. § 21080.3.1(b)). The lead agency shall begin the consultation process within 30 days of receiving a tribe's request. (P.R.C. § 21080.3.1(d-e)). Ascent will assist EBDA with the before mentioned AB 52 process in the form of drafting the notification letter to interested Native American Tribes for use by EBDA. Assistance with formal consultation is assumed to not be required. However, if one or more tribes respond to the notification requesting formal consultation, Ascent can assist EBDA in conducting the consultation with an amendment to this scope and cost.

DELIVERABLES/MEETINGS

- ▲ AB 52 Notification Letters that will be sent by EBDA

Task 3: Prepare Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

Task 3.1: Peer Review IS and Assemble Administrative Draft IS/MND

Ascent will peer review the AECOM IS and assemble the administrative draft IS/MND. The administrative draft IS/MND will include the following:

- ▲ Notice of Intent to Adopt an MND (NOI)
- ▲ Proposed MND
- ▲ AECOM IS and any associated appendices

Ascent will conduct a peer review of the IS prepared by AECOM to assess its completeness and the adequacy of the analysis and substantial evidence to support an MND. Following completion of the peer review, Ascent will prepare a brief memo summarizing the results of the peer review and convene a conference call with EBDA to discuss the findings.

The NOI will include a brief description of the project and its location; the starting and ending dates of the public review period; the web address where copies of the IS/MND and all documents referenced in the IS/MND can be readily accessed during normal business hours; and identification whether the project site is on any lists enumerated in Section 65962.5 of the Government Code (i.e., hazardous waste sites).

The MND will include a brief project description, summarize the findings of the AECOM IS, present the mitigation measures identified in the IS, and include a signature page for completion by EBDA following final project approval.

Upon completion of the administrative draft IS/MND, Ascent will submit it to EBDA for a 3-week review and comment period.

For purposes of this scope, schedule, and cost estimate, Ascent assumes that the AECOM IS will be deemed complete and sufficient without need for any additional analyses or revisions to impact discussions or mitigation measures, and the IS conclusions will support preparation of an MND. If the results of Ascent's peer review indicate that additional analyses or major revisions to the IS are required, or that the analysis does not support preparation of an MND and an EIR is required, a modification to this scope and cost may be required.

Task 3.2: Prepare Public IS/MND

Following review of the administrative draft IS/MND by EBDA and receipt of one set of consolidated comments electronically in tracked changes, Ascent will incorporate revisions and prepare the public IS/MND for distribution. Ascent will submit an electronic print-ready screencheck draft IS/MND to EBDA for final approval and then upon receipt of EBDA approval, Ascent will prepare the public IS/MND for posting on EBDA's website.

DELIVERABLES/MEETINGS

- ▲ Peer review results memo (electronical submittal in Adobe pdf format)
- ▲ One (1) 2-hr IS review meeting by video conference call
- ▲ Administrative draft IS/MND (electronic submittal in MS Word)
- ▲ Screencheck IS/MND (electronic submittal in MS Word and Adobe pdf formats)
- ▲ Public IS/MND (electronic submittal in MS Word and Adobe pdf formats; distribution of 35 thumb drives to SCH and public agencies)

Task 4: Distribute IS/MND and Complete CEQA-Required Noticing

Task 4.1: Distribute IS/MND for Public Review

Ascent, in conjunction with EBDA, and input from Cargill, as appropriate, will develop a distribution list to facilitate public and agency review of the IS/MND. Ascent will provide the distribution list during review of the administrative draft IS/MND for approval. Following EBDA approval of the public IS/MND, Ascent will provide the IS/MND electronically to EBDA for posting on the EBDA website and also distribute the IS/MND electronically to the distribution list for a 30-day public and agency review period.

Task 4.2: Publish/File CEQA Notices

In compliance with Section 15072 of the State CEQA Guidelines, Ascent will also publish the NOI in a newspaper of general circulation in the project area at the start of the 30-day review period and submit an electronic copy of the NOI to the Alameda County Clerk-Recorder for posting during the review period.

In addition, Ascent will prepare the Notice of Completion and file it electronically along with an electronic copy of the IS/MND with the State Clearinghouse (SCH) through the CEQA Submit Database. Prior to filing, Ascent will assist EBDA in registering with the SCH CEQA Submit Database and providing Ascent with authorization to file with the SCH on its behalf.

DELIVERABLES/MEETINGS

- ▲ Distribution list (electronical submittal in MS Word or MS Excel format)
- ▲ Newspaper notice (electronic submittal in MS Word format)
- ▲ Notice of Completion (electronic submittal in MS Word and Adobe pdf formats; 2 hard copies)

Task 5: Prepare Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan

Ascent will prepare the Mitigation Monitoring and Report Plan (MMRP) in accordance with Section 15063 of the CEQA Guidelines. This scope assumes that the MMRP will be based on the mitigation measures in the AECOM IS. The MMRP will identify mitigation measures proposed as part of the project, the implementation procedures, monitoring and reporting actions, responsibility, and schedule associated with each mitigation measure. Timing, implementation, and monitoring responsibilities for the mitigation measures will be shown in tabular format.

Ascent will prepare a draft and final MMRP. The draft MMRP will be submitted to EBDA after the IS/MND is released for public review. Upon completion of the public review process for the IS/MND, and after discussing any comments received on the environmental analysis with EBDA, and Cargill, if appropriate, Ascent will prepare the final MMRP. The final MMRP will include the mitigation measures included in the public IS/MND as revised if appropriate based on revisions resulting from public comment on the public IS/MND or comments received from EBDA on the draft MMRP. Ascent will submit the final MMRP electronically to EBDA for adoption along with the MND.

DELIVERABLES/MEETINGS

- ▲ Draft MMRP (electronic submittal in MS Word format)
- ▲ Final MMRP (electronic submittal in MS Word and Adobe pdf formats)

Task 6: Support IS/MND Adoption and Project Approval

Task 6.1: Review and Discuss Public/Agency Comments on IS/MND

Under CEQA, the lead agency is not required to provide formal responses to any comments received on the IS/MND during the review period but must "consider" such comments in its decision making. At the close of the review period, Ascent will review comments received on the IS/MND and convene a conference call with EBDA, and Cargill, if appropriate, to discuss any responses.

Task 6.2: Prepare Response to Comments Memorandum

If desired by EBDA, Ascent will then prepare a memorandum responding to the comments received on the IS/MND during the review period. The draft memo will be submitted to EBDA for review. If necessary, Ascent will incorporate comments and submit a final memo to EBDA.

Ascent has assumed a reasonable budget to prepare draft responses, however, there is always uncertainty regarding the nature and extent of comments that may be received. For the purposes of this scope of work, 16 hours of technical staff effort have been allocated for preparation of the draft response to comments memorandum and 6 hours of technical staff effort for the final memorandum. It is assumed that only one draft responses to comments memo will be prepared.

Task 6.3: Support Preparation for and Attend Hearing to Adopt MND

Ascent's project manager will participate by video conference to answer questions during EBDA's public/board meeting to adopt the MND and MMRP and approve the project. Prior to the meeting, Ascent will review the staff report or presentation materials prepared by EBDA staff and recommend changes, if appropriate. This scope of work assumes 4 hours for review and comment on the staff report and presentation materials, 1 hour of meeting preparation time and 2 hours for meeting participation.

Task 6.4: Prepare and File Notice of Determination

Ascent will prepare a Notice of Determination (NOD) and provide it with the draft response to comments memorandum. Upon approving the project, EBDA will sign the NOD and provide the signed NOD to Ascent for filing with the County and SCH. When filing with the County, Ascent will pay any required County administrative fee and the required California Department of Fish and Wildlife filing fee. Then Ascent will file an electronic copy of the County date-stamped NOD and CDFW filing fee receipt with SCH on behalf of EBDA through the SCH CEQA Submit Database and provide EBDA with an electronic copy of the County and SCH date-stamped NOD. Please note that to avoid extension of the 30-day statute of limitations on legal challenges to the project to 180 days under CEQA, the NOD must be filed with the County and SCH within 5 days of lead agency approval of the project.

DELIVERABLES/MEETINGS

- ▲ One (1) 2-hr comment review meeting by video conference call
- ▲ Draft responses to comments memo (electronic submittal in MS Word format)
- ▲ One (1) 2-hr public adoption hearing by video conference call
- ▲ Draft and final NOD (electronic submittal in Adobe pdf format)

SCHEDULE

The enclosed scope of work can be completed 6 months from notice to proceed as outlined in the table below.

Work Product/Milestone	Weeks from Notice to Proceed
Kickoff Meeting Held with EBDA	1
AECOM IS Peer Review Memorandum Submitted	4
AB 52 Notification Letters Submitted	5
Administrative Draft IS/MND Submitted	6
EBDA Review Completed	8
Screencheck Draft IS/MND Submitted	10
EBDA Approval Received	11
IS/MND Review Period Starts	12
Draft MMRP Submitted	14
IS/MND Review Period Ends	16
Draft Response to Comments Memorandum Submitted	18
EBDA Review Completed	20
Final Responses to Comments Memorandum Submitted	21
Final MMRP Submitted	22
IS/MND Adopted by EBDA	23
NOD Filed	24

ATTACHMENT B

PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK

CEQA CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE

CARGILL MIXED SEA SALT BRINE DISCHARGE PROJECT

The proposed price to provide CEQA Compliance Services for the Cargill Mixed Sea Salt Brine Discharge Project is estimated to be \$44,540 and is presented on the enclosed spreadsheet.

Please note that the price is estimated based on a good-faith effort and Ascent's current understanding of the project needs of EBDA. Variations in approach, issues, and deliverables can adjust the contract price.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. **Time and Materials.** Work is authorized on a time-and-materials basis and will be billed monthly.
2. **Price and Staff Allocation to Tasks.** Labor, subconsultant, and other direct costs have been allocated to tasks to determine the total budget. Ascent may reallocate costs and labor resources, as needed, as long as the total contract price is not exceeded.
3. **Billing Rates.** Costs were determined based on the proposed scope of work and Ascent's current billing rates. Any budget augmentations or contract amendments in subsequent years will be calculated using updated billing rates, unless precluded by contract terms.
4. **Environmental Analysis and Supporting Technical Studies.** It is assumed that no biological, cultural resources, hydrological, water quality, or emissions modeling or other new technical studies or analyses will be required to complete the CEQA compliance process.

Cost Estimate

CEQA Consulting Services for Cargill Mixed Sea Salt Brine Discharge Project

21-May-21

hourly rate:

Task	NAME	Price	Hours
1	Initiate and Manage Project Execution	\$ 8,765	46
2	Provide Assembly Bill 52 Consultation Assistance	\$ 1,305	9
3	Prepare Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration	\$ 15,945	93
3.1	Peer Review IS and Assemble Administrative Draft IS/MND	\$ 13,330	76
	AECOM IS Peer Review Memorandum	\$ 11,425	65
	Notice of Intent to Adopt MND	\$ 620	4
	Proposed MND	\$ 1,285	7
3.2	Prepare Public IS/MND	\$ 2,615	17
4	Distribute IS/MND and Complete CEQA-Required Noticing	\$ 2,330	16
4.1	Distribute IS/MND for Public Review	\$ 1,410	10
4.2	Publish/File CEQA Notices	\$ 920	6
5	Prepare Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan	\$ 2,945	19
6	Support IS/MND Adoption and Project Approval	\$ 8,990	50
6.1	Review Discuss Public/Agency Comments on IS/MND	\$ 2,710	14
6.2	Prepare Response to Comments Memorandum	\$ 4,260	24
6.3	Support Preparation for and Attend Hearing to Adopt MND	\$ 1,295	7
6.4	Prepare and File Notice of Determination	\$ 725	5
7	Permitting and Environmental Documentation As-Needed Support	\$ 10,000	56
LABOR SUBTOTAL		\$ 50,280	289

Jakobs	Shephard								
PIC	Sr. PM	Env Planner	Sr. AQ/Energy/ GHG/Noise Specialist	Sr Biologist	Editor	Graphics	GIS	WP	Admin
\$295	\$185	\$155	\$170	\$175	\$140	\$135	\$130	\$125	\$115
8	26	1	1	2					8
	1	3				2	2	1	
6	21	26	12	12	6	3	0	7	0
5	19	22	12	12	2	1	0	3	0
4	16	16	12	12	2	1		2	
	1	2						1	
1	2	4							
1	2	4			4	2		4	
0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	3
	2	2						4	2
	2	2						1	1
1	3	6	0	0	2	1	0	6	0
4	18	8	8	8	0	0	0	2	2
2	4		4	4					
2	6	6	4	4				2	
	7								
	1	2							2
	33		2	19					2
19	106	48	23	41	8	6	2	21	15
\$ 5,605	\$ 19,610	\$ 7,440	\$ 3,910	\$ 7,175	\$ 1,120	\$ 810	\$ 260	\$ 2,625	\$ 1,725

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES \$ 4,260

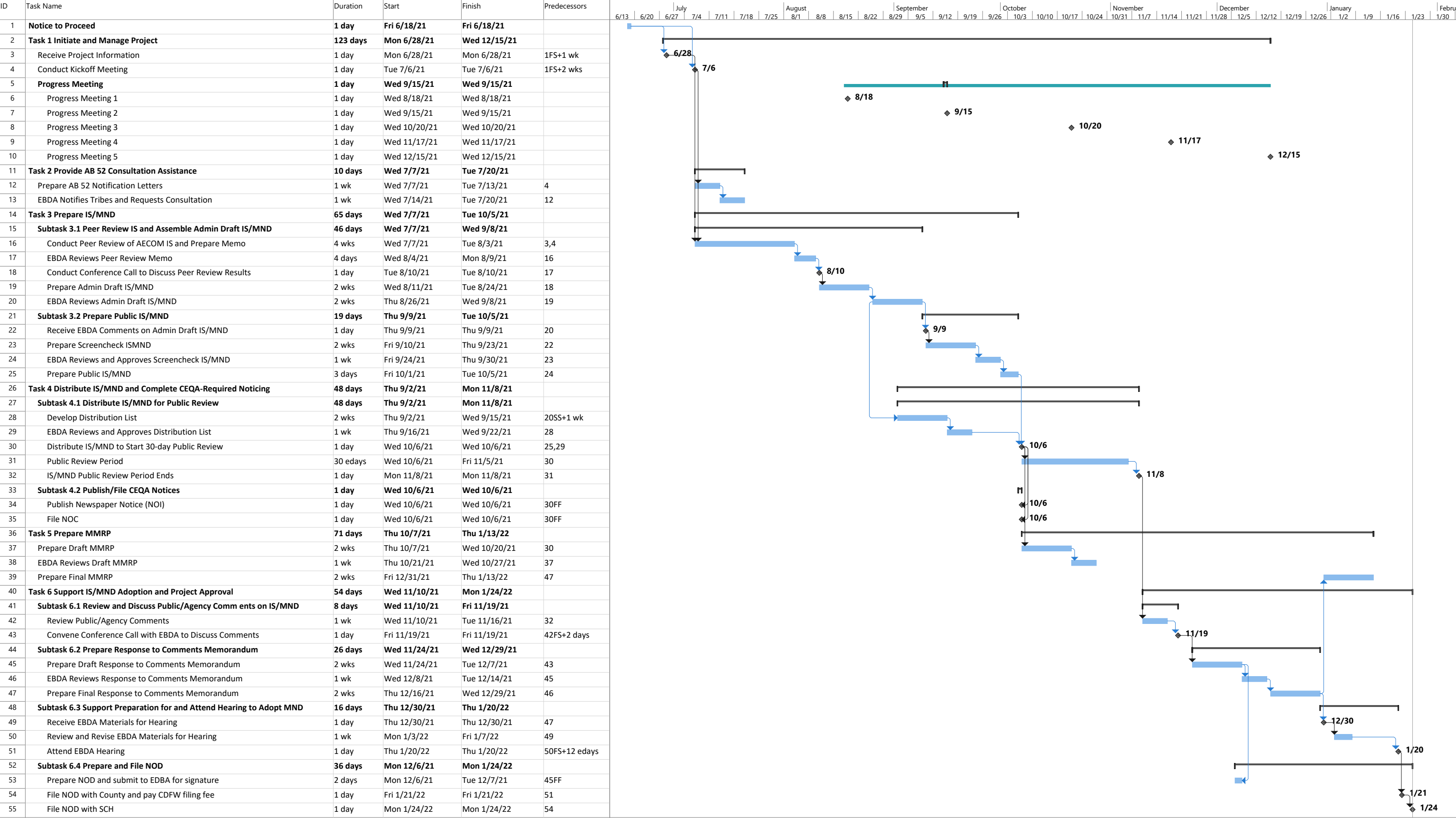
Printing and Reproduction \$ 500
Mileage / Parking / Travel \$ 30
Postage and Delivery \$ 100
Newspaper Publication and CEQA Filing Fees \$ 3,630

TOTAL PRICE \$ 54,540

Project No: 20210105.00

ASSUMPTIONS

Assumptions that explain the basis of the proposed price are enclosed and are an integral part of this proposed scope of work for services.



Project: Ascent-EBDA Cargill CE
Date: Thu 6/3/21

Task

Split

Milestone

Summary

Project Summary

Inactive Task

Inactive Milestone

Inactive Summary

Manual Task

Duration-only

Manual Summary Rollup

Manual Summary

Start-only

Finish-only

External Tasks

External Milestone

Deadline

Progress

Manual Progress

ATTACHMENT C
RESUMES



Gary Jakobs, AICP

PRINCIPAL

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE 35+

EDUCATION

BA, Economics and Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, 1981

CERTIFICATIONS

American Institute of Certified Planners

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Planning Association (APA)

Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP)

Urban Land Institute

REPRESENTATIVE PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS/PRESENTATIONS

Curriculum Director, AEP Advanced CEQA Workshops (Statewide) (2007–2019)

SB 743 (Transportation VMT) Panelist, CLE Conference (2018)

CEQA Importance Panel, AEP Institute (2015)

Lotus vs. Department of Transportation – Panelist, CLE Conference (2014)

SB 743 (Transportation Thresholds) – Panelist, APA Conference (2013)

The Art of the Response to Comment, AEP State Conference – Presenter (2012)

Climate Change, Land Use and Environmental Compliance Series, UC Davis Extension (2010, 2009, 2008, 2007)

Climate Change and Environmental Compliance: Methods and Approaches for Analysis, AEP (2008)

Global Climate Change and CEQA, Debate Panel, AEP Superior California Chapter (2007)

Advanced CEQA Training, AEP Spring Workshops (1998–2019)

CEQA Streamlining Toolbox, UC Davis Extension (2009, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004)

Gary Jakobs, AICP, is a principal/project director with a diverse background in preparing environmental planning studies throughout California and the western United States. He leads Ascent's NEPA and CEQA practice, ensuring all practitioners are current on practice methods, regulations, emerging trends, and applicable case law. He also serves as curriculum director for the Association of Environmental Professionals, taking responsibility for the topics and content of the annual Advanced CEQA Workshop, taught throughout the state. Gary has led more than 500 EIRs and also instructs other professionals and public agencies on environmental compliance. With 40 years of professional experience, he has participated in the analysis and management of projects, including large-scale planned communities and general plans, urban high-rise and redevelopment to water resources development, wastewater treatment, industrial and energy developments (including renewable energy projects), telecommunications, prisons, and airport expansions.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Regional San South County Ag Program CEQA Compliance, Sacramento County Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

Principal

The South County Ag Program would provide a safe and reliable supply of tertiary-treated water for agricultural uses, reduce groundwater pumping, support habitat restoration efforts, and provide near-term benefits to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Regional San prepared a program EIR to analyze the environmental effects of the South County Ag Program and certified the EIR in March 2017. The program EIR includes both program- and project-level analyses depending on the level of detail available at the time for each program element. Tiering from the Program EIR, Ascent is leading preparation of various supplemental CEQA documents for the following program elements: lateral pipelines and on-farm connections, wintertime irrigation, ecosystem improvements, and a new groundwater accounting project.

Regional San "EchoWater" Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade EIR (including CEQA-Plus), Sacramento County

Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San)

Principal/Project Director

Sacramento County's wastewater treatment plant is the largest discharger of treated wastewater to inland waterways in California. The discharge location is just upstream of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Regional San proposed upgrades to several treatment plant processes, including filtration (tertiary), disinfection, and ammonia removal. Thorough modeling was conducted to determine the effect of treated wastewater on downstream water users, fisheries, and the overall Delta resources. Regional San also pursued State Revolving Fund financing in support of this effort; therefore, in support, Ascent completed all the State Water Resources Control Board CEQA-Plus requirements. Ascent led consultation with NOAA Fisheries, USFWS, and CDFW. Ascent also assisted in procuring necessary environmental permits, including Section 404 permits. All federal consultation was completed within 6 months of initiation and the EchoWater Project, the largest capital project in Sacramento County, is under construction.

Gary Jakobs, AICP

Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Energy Recovery IS/MND, Placer County

City of Roseville (Kennedy/Jenks Consultants)

Project Director

The Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant (PGWWTP) is a full tertiary treatment facility equipped to produce Title 22 recycled water. The WWTP expansion project would increase the effective treatment capacity of the PGWWTP from 9.5 mgd to 12.5 mgd ADWF to accommodate projected growth through 2040. The project will add primary clarification, solids thickening, and anaerobic digestion facilities. The IS/MND also covers a separate, but related, energy recovery project that would beneficially utilize the digester gas produced by anaerobic digestion from the Expansion Project for generation of electricity, heat, and compressed natural gas for fueling City vehicles.

California American Water Hexavalent Chromium Treatment Systems, Sacramento County

California American Water (Black & Veatch)

Principal/Project Director

Ascent prepared notices of exemption and memorandums that evaluated potential environmental resources and CEQA compliance. On July 1, 2014, California's State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.010 mg/L (10 parts per billion) for hexavalent chromium became effective. California American Water owns and operates several water supply well stations in the Sacramento region that will require treatment to comply with this new MCL. The project consisted of well treatment improvements at several groundwater well sites and an interconnecting pipeline to convey water between well sites for centralized treatment. Ascent evaluated potential sensitive resources along the pipeline alignments and well sites and provided guidance on CEQA requirements for the project.

Lathrop Recycled Water Storage and Disposal Modifications, San Joaquin County

City of Lathrop

Principal/Project Director

The City of Lathrop and various project applicants desired modifications to the location, design, and operation of recycled water disposal sites (spray fields) and storage ponds relative to details provided in the City's Recycled Water Master Plan and various related EIRs. Ascent assisted the City and project applicants in developing a CEQA compliance strategy for the various proposed modifications and executed the strategy, preparing EIR addendums for proposed activities consistent with the requirements of Section 15164 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Galt Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Master Plan and Immediate Improvements Project CEQA-Plus EIR, Sacramento County

City of Galt

Principal/Project Director

Ascent prepared a focused program EIR for upgrades at the City's wastewater treatment plant, including expansion to accommodate General Plan growth projections. The EIR met compliance documentation needed to satisfy the State Water Resources Control Board CEQA-Plus requirements for State Revolving Fund loans as well as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's NEPA requirements for Special Appropriation Grants. Key issues included water quality, fisheries, terrestrial biological resources, agricultural land conversion, and air quality.

Healdsburg Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade EIR, Sonoma County

City of Healdsburg

Principal/Project Director

The proposed upgrade to the existing City of Healdsburg Wastewater Treatment Plant included a new treatment, storage, and either disposal of water by current means (basalt pond) or construction of a water recycling distribution pipeline to dispose of some or all treated wastewater. Because the growth projections in the Healdsburg General Plan were being revised, the City examined whether a capacity upgrade was necessary as part of the project. Any capacity upgrade was required to consider the Urban Growth Boundary Initiative and Growth Management Initiative, passed by voters in 1996 and 2000, respectively. Gary directed the preparation of an EIR and supporting technical studies.



Andrea L. Shephard, PhD

SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

26

EDUCATION

PhD, Biological Oceanography,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology/
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

BS, Marine Biology and Biology,
University of North Carolina Wilmington

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

California Association of Environmental
Professionals (AEP), AEP Superior
Chapter, Vice President of Programs
(2018-2020), At-Large Board Member
(2021-present)

Flood Management Association (FMA)

California WaterReuse

Andrea Shephard, PhD, is a senior environmental project manager with 26 years of experience in project management, including 15 years focusing on CEQA/NEPA document preparation for water resources and other related projects. She is known for her collaborative working style, commitment to meeting client expectations, and leading effective teams. Andrea is a CEQA/NEPA compliance expert and has substantial expertise in directing complex water resources and infrastructure development projects, including water supply and wastewater infrastructure, dam modifications, water transfers, flood risk reduction, habitat restoration, trails, and other projects. Integrating and streamlining CEQA and NEPA review and complex regulatory permitting requirements is critical on these multifaceted projects. Andrea's knowledge of environmental regulatory processes and permitting requirements enables her to direct impact analyses that focus on answering specific questions needed for timely permit issuance and project implementation.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Lathrop Consolidated Treatment Facility Surface Water Discharge Project EIR, San Joaquin County

City of Lathrop

Project Manager

The City of Lathrop is proposing to construct infrastructure and obtain an NPDES permit from the Central Valley RWQCB to allow discharge of tertiary treated disinfected effluent into the San Joaquin River as part of managing its overall water supplies through buildout. Currently, recycled water is stored in ponds and used for urban and agricultural irrigation. The project would allow existing storage ponds and land application areas designated for urban uses to be developed in accordance with the City of Lathrop General Plan. The project would involve treatment facility modifications to dechlorinate treated effluent, installation of a dedicated effluent discharge pipeline, and construction of a new side-bank outfall along the San Joaquin River. Andrea worked with the City and others to address siting, design, and permitting constraints to define the project, and managed preparation of the EIR and Findings of Fact. She is also overseeing environmental permitting and assisting with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers encroachment permit and Section 408 Categorical Permissions process to obtain authorization for modifications to the federal levee which is needed to construct the outfall. Key issues addressed in the EIR include air quality, terrestrial and aquatic biological resources, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, and noise.

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo Water Reclamation Facility EIR, San Luis Obispo County

Trustees of the California State University

Project Manager

California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly or University) recently completed its 2035 Master Plan to guide the development and use of campus lands for the next quarter century. The 2035 Master Plan is projecting that enrollment will increase to 25,000 and the amount of on-campus living will double by 2035. The proposed growth on campus not only increases the demand for water supply but will also increase wastewater flows. Cal Poly is proposing to construct an on-campus water reclamation facility (WRF) that will treat wastewater

Andrea L. Shephard, PhD

generated on campus to a tertiary disinfected level that meets Title 22 standards. The reclaimed water would then be used for irrigation of agricultural land and recreational fields to offset the additional water demands created by the growth of the University. Construction would include the new WRF, a lift station, conveyance pipelines serving new and existing on-campus facilities, a new storage reservoir, and distribution pipelines to serve land application areas. Andrea is leading a multidisciplinary team to provide engineering design, geotechnical and hydrologic investigations, environmental compliance with CEQA, and permitting.

Ceres Water and Sewer System Master Plans EIR, Stanislaus County

City of Ceres

Project Manager

The City's Water and Sewer System Master Plans identified a series of projects to upgrade existing system components, conveyance and distribution pipelines, booster pump stations, storage reservoirs, and other associated facilities to improve water and wastewater distribution, system operations, and maintenance. The projects would be implemented in three phases (near-term, intermediate-term, and long-term). The EIR evaluated the near-term water and sewer infrastructure projects at a project level because these projects were sufficiently defined to allow meaningful project-level analysis. Because intermediate- and long-term projects were not as yet well defined, the EIR evaluated these longer-term projects at a program-level. Andrea managed preparation of this program- and project-level EIR.

Rancho Murieta Recycled Water System Expansion IS/MND, Sacramento County

Rancho Murieta Community Services District

Project Manager

The District proposed the expanded use of recycled water in the community of Rancho Murieta to augment surface water supplies to meet non-potable water demands. The District planned to consolidate Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) R5-01-124 and WDR R5-2007-0109 into a renewed WDR for the District's wastewater reclamation plant and a new Master Reclamation Permit to expand its approved recycled water use areas to serve new development within the District's service area and to serve adjacent pasturelands. Existing use areas consisted of two golf courses and adjacent pasturelands. New recycled water use areas included residential front- and backyards, parks, athletic fields, commercial and street landscaping, dust control, and additional pasturelands. The project involved upgrading the disinfection system at the existing wastewater reclamation plant and installing other infrastructure necessary to produce, store, and deliver the recycled water to the expanded reuse areas. Andrea managed preparation of the IS/MND.

South Livermore Wastewater Disposal Feasibility Study for Transfer of Development Rights, Alameda County

Todd Engineers

Environmental Scientist

The wastewater feasibility analysis addressed the development of a restaurant, winery, and estate home on a 20-acre site in south Livermore. Andrea was responsible for the wastewater feasibility analysis. She conducted site evaluation and soils analysis, prepared wastewater flow and strength estimates, prepared preliminary wastewater treatment and disposal system design, developed supporting documentation for groundwater nitrate loading analysis, and produced the technical report in support of an MND.

Middle River Intake & Pump Station Project EIR/EIS, San Joaquin and Contra Costa Counties

Contra Costa Water District

Water Quality Specialist

The project entailed construction of the Middle River Intake and Pump Station to improve source water quality. The project involved a new diversion in the Central Delta to provide better water quality and conveyance of the diverted water into the District's system. Andrea was responsible for environmental analysis and production of the joint EIR/EIS assessing project construction.

East Porterville Water Supply Project Notice of Exemption, Tulare County

California Department of Water Resources

CEQA Task Leader

This project involved providing a reliable and sustainable drinking water supply for approximately 1,100 residential properties in the unincorporated disadvantaged community of East Porterville. It included drilling new wells and installing one water storage tank, two booster pump stations, over 15 miles of a combination of mainline and distribution pipelines, 1,100 service connections, and 300 fire hydrants. DWR completed the project in cooperation with the State Water Board, Office of Emergency Services, the City of Porterville, and the County of Tulare. Andrea led completion of a Notice of Exemption and supporting environmental documentation to satisfy federal cross-cutting requirements in support of an SRF loan.



Stephanie Rasmussen

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

17

EDUCATION

BS, Environmental Biology and Management, University of California, Davis, 2003

Stephanie Rasmussen has 17 years of experience as a project manager, assistant project manager, and environmental analyst. She has assisted with preparation of CEQA, NEPA, and TRPA documents, habitat conservation plans, resource management plans, and permit packages. Her project experience includes work on public and private sector projects, including natural resources, water resources, wastewater treatment, public facilities, flood control, and development projects. Stephanie's responsibilities include project management and coordination as well as writing, editing, and compiling the various sections of environmental documents. She understands the regulatory guidelines and legal requirements, as well as the fundamentals of preparing and delivering these documents.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Ostwald Waterline Replacement Project IS/MND, Santa Clara County

California Department of Fish and Wildlife/San Jose Water Company

Project Manager

Stephanie was the project manager for preparation of the IS/MND. The San Jose Water Company (SJWC) proposed to replace a raw water intake pipeline originating from the Ostwald Diversion Dam on Los Gatos Creek in Santa Clara County. SJWC applied to CDFW for a Fish and Game Code Section 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement. CDFW was the lead agency for CEQA compliance. Ascent prepared an IS/MND for use by CDFW in the project's CEQA review. Key issues in the IS/MND included biological resources, water quality, and construction traffic. [2017–2018]

Arcade Creek Pipeline Crossing Project, Sacramento County

Sacramento Suburban Water District (Bennett Engineering Services)

Project Manager

SSWD has an existing 14-inch cast iron water pipeline under the bed of Arcade Creek in Citrus Heights that has been undermined and is currently exposed. SSWD proposes to replace the exposed pipeline with a new pipeline attached to the adjacent bridge. Once the new pipeline is attached to the bridge, the existing pipeline would be removed and the new pipeline would be connected to existing pipeline on either side of Arcade Creek. The project will result in temporary disturbance of Arcade Creek and the adjacent riparian habitat. Ascent prepared the Notice of Exemption in compliance with CEQA and state permitting packages including Section 401 and Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement. Stephanie led preparation of the NOE and permit applications for the project. [2019–ongoing]

Packer Ranch Fish Screen and Pump Station Upgrade Project IS/MND, Colusa County

California Department of Fish and Wildlife/Colusa Indian Community Council

Project Manager

Stephanie served as the project manager for conducting CEQA technical review of the IS/MND. The Colusa Indian Community Council (CICC) proposed installment of a retractable and self-cleaning fish screen system and replacement of existing components (i.e., platform, pumps, pilings, pipes, and walkway) at the Packer Ranch Diversion site. The project required a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement. CDFW's issuance of a LSAA required compliance with CEQA,

Stephanie Rasmussen

and CDFW assumed lead agency status for the project under CEQA. CICC prepared an IS/MND for the proposed project. Ascent, as a contractor to CDFW, conducted an independent review and analysis of the Initial Study. [2017–2018]

Sump 85 Relocation Project CEQA-Plus IS/MND, Sacramento County

City of Sacramento (Brown and Caldwell)

Project Manager

The project would replace the ageing Sump 85 sewage pumping station with a new pump station that would be located 0.06 mile north of the existing Sump 85 site. The new pump station would include new submersible pumps, wet wells, manholes, below and above-grade piping, vertical surge tanks, a generator and electrical equipment building, fiber optic line, a microwave communications tower, and a restroom. The project would also include demolition of the existing pump station and associated tie-in work related to commissioning of the new station and decommissioning of the existing station. The City is pursuing State Revolving Fund financing in support of this effort; therefore, the IS/MND also addresses the State Water Resources Control Board CEQA-Plus requirements. A portion of the fiber optic line would be parallel to Bay Drive Drainage Ditch and will require a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement from California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Ascent is preparing the CEQA-Plus IS/MND and Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement. Stephanie led preparation of the CEQA-Plus IS/MND and Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration. [2020–ongoing]

Walnut Grove Pump Station Abandonment Project IS/MND, Sacramento County

Sacramento Area Sewer District (Brown and Caldwell)

Project Manager

The project included installing a new 16-inch gravity sewer pipeline that connects to Pump Station S146, abandon the existing sewer pipeline, and removal of Pump Station S064. The project is located in Walnut Grove in Sacramento County and extends within SASD's sewer easement from Pump Station S064 southeast to Pump Station S146. The new pipeline follows the route of the existing 8-inch force main and would be 2,000 feet in length. Following installation of the new pipeline, the existing Pump Station S064 would be abandoned. Ascent prepared the IS/MND and federal and state permitting packages including Section 404, Section 401, Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, Section 7 consultation for giant garter snake, and Section 106 compliance. Stephanie led preparation of the IS/MND and permitting packages. [2017–2019]

Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Energy Recovery Project CEQA-Plus IS/MND, Placer County

City of Roseville (Kennedy/Jenks Consultants)

Project Manager

The Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant (PGWWTP) is a full tertiary treatment facility equipped to produce Title 22 recycled water. The WWTP expansion project would increase the effective treatment capacity of the PGWWTP from 9.5 mgd to 12.5 mgd ADWF to accommodate projected growth through 2040. The project includes primary clarification, solids thickening, and anaerobic digestion facilities. The IS/MND also covers a separate, but related, energy recovery project that would beneficially utilize the digester gas produced by anaerobic digestion from the Expansion Project for generation of electricity, heat, and compressed natural gas for fueling City solid waste vehicles. The City was pursuing State Revolving Fund financing in support of this effort; therefore, the IS/MND also addresses the State Water Resources Control Board CEQA-Plus requirements. Stephanie was the project manager for the CEQA-Plus IS/MND and the Addendum to the IS/MND. [2015–2018]

Regional San "EchoWater" Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade EIR (including CEQA-Plus), Sacramento County

Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

Environmental Analyst

Sacramento County's wastewater treatment plant is the largest discharger of treated wastewater to inland waterways in California. The discharge location is just upstream of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The project included upgrades to several treatment plant processes, including filtration (tertiary), disinfection, and ammonia removal. The EIR for the EchoWater Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade was certified in October 2014. Regional San also pursued State Revolving Fund financing in support of this effort; therefore, the analysis addressed the State Water Resources Control Board CEQA-Plus requirements. Ascent led consultation with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries, USFWS, and CDFW. Stephanie assisted with preparation of the Final EIR and the CEQA-Plus package. [2014]



Carlos Alvarado

WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

15

EDUCATION

BS, Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology (Ecotoxicology), University of California, Davis, 2005

SCIENTIFIC PERMITS

CDFW Scientific Collecting Permit SC-8581

USFWS CTS Recovery Permit TE-39186A-0

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The Wildlife Society (TWS) International, Western Section and Sacramento-Shasta Chapter

Sacramento-Shasta Chapter Representative to TWS Western Section Board. Second term as president of the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of TWS 2015. Past president 2014 and 2016, president 2013, vice president 2012.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish – native speaker

SOFTWARE CAPABILITIES

SonoBat, Wildlife Acoustics Echo Meter Touch, CNDDb, USFWS IPaC, BIOS

REPRESENTATIVE PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS/PRESENTATIONS

Elkhorn Slough Coastal Training Program. California tiger salamander workshop, co-instructor, Suisun, CA (2016)

Southwestern Desert Bats Workshop participant, Center for Desert Studies, Zzyzx, CA (October 2010)

US Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Training Program, Richard Chinn Environmental Training Inc., Sacramento, California (2007)

Raptor Field Techniques Workshop, Lindwood Springs Research Station, WI (October 2006)

Carlos Alvarado is a wildlife biologist with experience conducting technical analyses and field surveys. His specialized experience includes inventory and monitoring surveys for nesting birds; focused surveys for California tiger salamander and other herpetofauna; small mammal trapping; anadromous and freshwater fish surveys; and acoustic monitoring, habitat assessments, and handling of bats. He has 16 years of experience preparing NEPA and CEQA documents, biological assessments, environmental assessments, mitigation and monitoring plans, annual monitoring reports, species-focused survey reports, biological resource evaluations, habitat mapping, and jurisdictional wetland identification and delineations. He is an exceptional field biologist, who makes careful observations and provides feasible recommendations to help his clients achieve regulatory compliance.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Ostwald Waterline IS/MND, Santa Clara County

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Wildlife Biologist/Author

The San Jose Water Company (SJWC) proposed to replace a raw water intake pipeline originating from the Ostwald diversion dam on Los Gatos Creek in Santa Clara County. SJWC applied to CDFW for a Fish and Game Code Section 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement; CDFW is the lead agency for CEQA compliance. Ascent prepared an IS/MND for use by CDFW in the project's CEQA review. Carlos authored the biological resources section that analyzes potential impacts to sensitive habitats, California red-legged frog, Santa Cruz black salamander, California giant salamander, San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat, nesting raptors and birds, and waters of the United States. [2017–2018]

Cement Hill Pipeline Project IS/MND, Solano County

Suisun-Solano Water Agency (Bennett Engineering)

Project Biologist

The new Cement Hill pipeline will provide a second 20-inch-diameter pipeline from the Cement Hill Water Treatment Plant (CHWTP) in Fairfield to the site of the existing Tank 2A and future Tank 2B, allowing the tanks to become a clear well for the CHWTP. There are several construction and design constraints: the existing pipeline must remain in operation during construction of the new pipeline; a crossing over the Putah South Canal must be aboveground; and the planned pipeline route extends through a vegetated area/unpaved roadway and a residential community. Carlos conducted a biological and wetland assessment survey. To document the fieldwork, he prepared a report and submitted it to Bennett Engineering. [2018–ongoing]

Sailor Bar Pump Station Rehabilitation Project, Sacramento County

Sacramento Area Sewer District (Carollo Engineers)

Biologist

The Sacramento Area Sewer District (SASD) has proposed to replace the Sailor Bar Pump Station (S073) and its components. The Sailor Bar Pump Station is located within the American River Parkway in Fair Oaks. The Sailor Bar Pump Station was placed into service in 1969 and is beyond its mechanical service life. As a subconsultant to Carollo Engineers, Ascent has provided environmental services related to biological resources, noise and construction traffic constraints,

Carlos Alvarado

technical studies and CEQA support services, permitting, and project management and coordination to support the engineering design services. Specifically, Ascent helped advise the engineering team to minimize impacts to biological resources, helped coordinate with the County in preparation of the IS/MND, prepared an aquatic resources delineation and avoidance strategy for jurisdictional waters, and prepared a notification of Lake and Streambed Alteration for CDFW. Ascent is also assisting with project implementation and providing pre-construction clearance surveys per the conditions in the Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement. Carlos was a member of the team that conducted the biological constraints assessment, conducted a pre-activity bat assessment, developed and provided the workers environmental awareness training, and conducted the pre-activity western pond turtle and general clearance surveys.

Lathrop Consolidated Treatment Facility Surface Water Discharge Project EIR, San Joaquin County

City of Lathrop

Biologist

The City of Lathrop is proposing to construct necessary infrastructure and obtain an NPDES permit from the Central Valley RWQCB to allow discharge of tertiary treated disinfected effluent into the San Joaquin River as part of managing its overall water supplies through buildout. Currently, recycled water is stored in ponds and used for urban and agricultural irrigation. The project would allow existing storage ponds and land application areas designated for urban uses to be developed in accordance with the City of Lathrop General Plan. The project would involve treatment facility modifications to dechlorinate treated effluent, installation of a dedicated effluent discharge pipeline, and construction of a new side-bank outfall along the San Joaquin River. Ascent worked with the City and others to address siting, design, and permitting constraints to define the project, and is preparing the EIR, overseeing environmental permitting, and assisting in the process to obtain authorization for modifications to the federal levee which is needed to construct the outfall. Key issues addressed in the EIR include air quality, terrestrial and aquatic biological resources, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, and noise. Carlos conducted the biological constraints assessment surveys and co-authored the terrestrial biological resources section of the EIR and biological assessment for valley elderberry longhorn beetle, riparian brush rabbit, and giant garter snake.

PG&E Line 131 Gas Pipeline Direct Exam and Repairs, Alameda County

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Biological Monitor

Carlos was part of the biological team responsible for providing construction biological monitoring during repairs to the gas line at 19 repair sites, providing daily construction monitoring reports to the project's biologist. He conducted clearance surveys as construction and repair crews moved through the alignment. Target species and habitats included San Joaquin kit fox, California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Alameda whipsnake, callippe silverspot butterfly, large flower fiddleneck, and vernal pools. A biological monitoring summary report was submitted to the resource agencies.

Los Medanos K-1 Replacement Project, Contra Costa County

SPEC Services

Wildlife Biologist

PG&E proposed the replacement of the Los Medanos K-1 gas storage compressor with either an electrified facility or a gas-driven unit. Ascent conducted a preliminary environmental constraints review and prepared the land use constraints analysis for the feasibility study undertaken to analyze both options. Carlos prepared a letter report presenting the methods and results of a constraints analysis specific to biological resources, which included a reconnaissance-level evaluation of the existing facility and the replacement options. [2016–2017]

Castle Rock State Park Entrance Project IS/MND, Santa Cruz County

Sempervirens Fund (Callander Associates Landscape Architecture)

Wildlife Biologist

Ascent prepared an IS/MND to evaluate the potential effects of the Castle Rock State Park Entrance Project. Sempervirens Fund submitted an application to Santa Cruz County for the development of an open space facility on a 32.8-acre private parcel on Skyline Boulevard that is adjacent to the existing Castle Rock State Park. After completion, the open space facility and property would be transferred to California State Parks and would function as an entrance feature, visitor center, parking area, and recreational area for the state park. Castle Rock State Park provides habitat for many sensitive biological resources, including the state and federally protected marbled murrelet, rare plants, anadromous fish, and sensitive bat species. Carlos was the lead biologist conducting preconstruction nesting bird and bat surveys in structures and trees on the property. He co-authored a survey report following the surveys. [2012–2014]



Dimitri Antoniou, AICP

AIR QUALITY/GHG/ENERGY/NOISE SPECIALIST

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

11

EDUCATION

MS, City and Regional Planning,
California Polytechnic State University,
2010

BS, Environmental Management and
Protection, California Polytechnic State
University, 2008

CERTIFICATIONS

American Institute of Certified Planners
(No. 02817)

TRAINING

Lakes Environmental AERMOD Air
Dispersion Modeling Course

GIS Mapping and Disaster Planning
Contractor: Cal Fire San Luis Obispo

SOFTWARE CAPABILITIES

ArcGIS, CalEEMod, AERMOD, HARP,
Google Earth, Microsoft Office Suite,
Adobe Design Suite

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Planning Association
California (APACA), AICP (2014-present)

PUBLICATIONS

Antoniou, Dimitri Theodore. (2010).
Background Report for the Water
Conservation Handbook. MS of City and
Regional Planning. California Polytechnic
University, San Luis Obispo, CA.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Greek

REPRESENTATIVE PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

September 2017. "Community Risk
Reduction Strategy: A Hayward Case
Study," Session Speaker, Sacramento
Valley Section APACA Speaker Series,
Sacramento

Dimitri Antoniou, AICP, is a senior air quality/greenhouse gas, energy, and noise specialist with 11 years of experience conducting, reviewing, and overseeing the preparation of technical analyses for CEQA compliance. He is proficient in the use of multiple emission estimation models (e.g., California Emissions Estimator Model [CalEEMod], the emission factors model [EMFAC], Off-Road Emissions Inventory Program [OFFROAD]), GHG prediction protocols (e.g., Local Government Protocols, AP 42 emission factors), and various noise prediction models (e.g., Traffic Noise Model [TNM]). Dimitri also has extensive knowledge of tools and software used to conduct health risk assessments (HRAs), such as air dispersion modeling software AERMOD, and the risk assessment tool HARP. He provides technical assistance to Ascent's staff, clients, and regulatory agencies regarding appropriate methods of analysis for consistency with local (e.g., air districts, noise ordinances), state (e.g., CEQA case law, CARB Scoping Plan), and federal (NEPA, HUD) laws. In addition, he oversees the preparation of HRAs, ranging from small construction to large university campus projects, and reviews all technical modeling for accuracy and compliance with CEQA. He has a deep understanding of the various types of CEQA documents and associated different levels of technical analysis needed for each, always applying this extensive knowledge when preparing scopes of work, developing technical approaches to analyses, and conducting quality control reviews.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Energy Recovery IS/MND, Placer County

City of Roseville (Kennedy/Jenks Consultants)

Senior Air Quality, GHG, and Noise

The Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant (PGWWTP) is a full tertiary treatment facility equipped to produce Title 22 recycled water. The WWTP expansion project would increase the effective treatment capacity of the PGWWTP from 9.5 to 12.5 mgd ADWF to accommodate projected growth through 2040. The project will add primary clarification, solids thickening, and anaerobic digestion facilities. The IS/MND also covers a separate, but related, energy recovery project that would beneficially utilize the digester gas produced by anaerobic digestion from the expansion project for generation of electricity, heat, and compressed natural gas for fueling City solid waste vehicles.

Selby Slag Site EIR, Contra Costa County

California Department of Toxic Substances Control

Planner Air Quality, Climate Change, Noise

Ascent prepared an EIR in support of DTSC's efforts to clean up the hazardous substances at the Selby Slag Site, which is situated adjacent to the Carquinez Strait between the towns of Crockett and Rodeo in Contra Costa County. The EIR was prepared to examine the environmental impacts associated with implementation of a Remedial Action Plan that would address contamination from the metal smelter that formerly operated on the Selby Slag Site. Key issues included hazardous materials, cultural resources, terrestrial and aquatic biology, wetlands, and construction-related traffic. [2015–ongoing]

Dimitri Antoniou, AICP

Southwest Area Water Storage Tank Project IS/MND, Yolo County

City of Woodland

Environmental Planner/Noise, Air Quality and Climate Change Analyst

The City of Woodland constructed a new 3.0 million-gallon water storage tank and booster pump station facility on approximately 1.2 acres near the southwest limits of Woodland, in Yolo County. This project has improved water service and storage for treated surface water delivered from the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency. The project replaced an existing groundwater well and pump when they were no longer functional. Dimitri prepared the impact analysis for the air quality, GHG, and noise sections of the IS/MND.

Concannon Warehouse Building IS/MND, Alameda County

County of Alameda

Project Manager/Air Quality, Climate Change, and Noise Analyst

Ascent prepared an IS/MND, for Alameda County that evaluated the environmental effects of a proposed administration/warehouse building at the Concannon Vineyards complex in Alameda County. The applicant, The Wine Group, proposed the construction of a new 50,615-square-foot building on their existing facilities. The building's primary function would be to provide additional storage space for wine supplies and materials (e.g., dry bottles and boxes, packaged cases of wine), and administrative offices for existing employees. The building would provide a dedicated warehouse space to store equipment and supplies to support existing production operations. Dimitri managed preparation of the IS, including technical sections such as noise, air quality, and climate change, associated graphics, and maps using GIS software. He also coordinated the document submittal process with the applicant and Alameda County.

Regional San "EchoWater" Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade EIR, Sacramento County

Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

Assistant Project Manager/Senior Air Quality, GHG, and Noise

Sacramento County's wastewater treatment plant is the largest discharger of treated wastewater to inland waterways in California. The discharge location is just upstream of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Regional San upgraded its system to several treatment plant processes, including filtration (tertiary), disinfection, and ammonia removal. Thorough modeling was conducted to determine the effect of treated wastewater on downstream water users, fisheries, and the overall Delta resources. Regional San sought SRF financing in support of this effort; therefore, the analysis addressed the State Water Board CEQA-Plus requirements. Ascent led consultation with NOAA Fisheries, USFWS, and CDFW. Dimitri's role as an assistant project manager included coordinating EIR production with staff, subconsultants, and the client, as well as managing task completion, project budget, and schedule compliance. In addition, he conducted the technical noise, air quality, and GHG analyses for the EIR. He conducted site-specific air dispersion modeling using AERMOD for dust emissions associated with construction activities and recommended dust control measures to mitigate emissions. GHG emissions are directly related to the energy consumption at the facility and therefore impacts can vary greatly depending on the different disinfection technology options. Dimitri evaluated project-generated GHG emissions for each alternative and recommended the construction of renewable energy sources as mitigation to reduce GHG emissions.

Galt Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Master Plan and Phase 1 Immediate Improvements Project CEQA-Plus EIR (CEQA/NEPA Compliance), Sacramento County

City of Galt

Air Quality and Climate Change Analyst

Ascent prepared an IS/MND and based on that analysis, prepared a focused PEIR for upgrades at the City's wastewater treatment plant, including expansion to accommodate General Plan growth projections. In addition, Ascent prepared the NEPA compliance documentation needed to satisfy the SWRCB CEQA-Plus requirements for State Revolving Fund loans as well as EPA's NEPA requirements for Special Appropriation Grants. Key issues included water quality, fisheries, terrestrial biological resources, agricultural land conversion, and air quality. Dimitri prepared the air quality and GHG analysis for the PEIR. The air quality analysis evaluated short-term construction and long-term operational impacts to air quality. The GHG analysis quantified GHG emissions from construction activities as well as wastewater treatment processes. Mitigation measures were recommended to reduce impacts.



Zachary Miller, AICP

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

12

EDUCATION

MS, City and Regional Planning,
Environmental Planning Emphasis,
California Polytechnic State University,
San Luis Obispo

MS, Engineering, Transportation
Planning, California Polytechnic State
University, San Luis Obispo

BA, Urban Studies and Planning,
University of California, San Diego

CERTIFICATIONS

American Institute of Certified Planners,
(No. 025880)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Planning Association (APA)
member

SOFTWARE CAPABILITIES

ArcGIS, Adobe Design Suite, AutoCAD,
Synchro

Zachary Miller, AICP, is an environmental and transportation planner with 12 years of experience in transportation planning, long-range planning, land use planning, and environmental impact analysis. He is an expert in addressing CEQA's requirement for vehicle miles traveled (VMT) analysis as the basis for transportation impacts. Zachary has worked on a variety of transportation projects throughout the state, ranging from multibillion-dollar public transportation infrastructure and transit projects to small-scale traffic studies. He has reviewed and commented on transportation sections prepared for CEQA environmental documents by transportation subconsultants. He specializes in working with transportation planning and traffic engineering consultants to ensure their technical analysis will adequately support a CEQA section. Additionally, he is an expert in addressing CEQA's requirement for VMT analysis as the basis for transportation impacts.

Zachary has worked on a variety of CEQA and NEPA environmental documents, including environmental impact reports, initial studies, and technical studies. Prior to joining Ascent, he worked as a transportation planning consultant and received dual master's degrees in city and regional planning and civil engineering at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, where his focus was on environmental and transportation planning, respectively.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline Land Use Plan Amendment Program EIR, Contra Costa County

East Bay Regional Park District

Associate Transportation Planner

Zachary was the project transportation analyst for the CEQA review of the Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA). Miller/Knox is a shoreline park in the community of Point Richmond. The LUPA is intended to enhance the park's recreational, interpretive, biological, historic, and scenic values and fully incorporate and interconnect the trails and paths throughout the park and with the Bay Trail. Zachary served as the project transportation analyst for the CEQA review of the project and developed the transportation analysis methodology. Additionally, he analyzed the significant environmental effects related to transportation associated with implementation of the LUPA. [2017–2018]

Mount Umunhum Environmental Restoration and Public Access Project EIR, Santa Clara County

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Transportation Planner

Ascent prepared an EIR for the Mount Umunhum Environmental Restoration and Public Access Project. The project includes demolition of structures associated with a former air force station located at the peaks of Mount Umunhum and Mount Thayer in the Santa Cruz mountains (Santa Clara County). After demolition, the project involves ecological and landform restoration and would include several trail connections, as well as several open space amenities, including campground, viewing and ceremonial areas, and a visitors center. Zachary served as the project

Zachary Miller, AICP

transportation analyst for the CEQA review of the project. He performed the analysis for determining whether implementation of the project would result in significant environmental effects related to transportation and prepared the transportation/traffic chapter of the EIR.

Corn Palace EIR, Santa Clara County

City of Sunnyvale

Transportation Planner

Ascent prepared the EIR for the 8.8-acre project site, commonly known as the Corn Palace, a site previously used for agricultural purposes. The site currently contains uncultivated agricultural land, two residential homes, farm structures, and a farmstand. The project proposed demolition of the on-site structures for development of a master-planned residential community of 58 single-family two-story homes and a public park. The site is located west of Lawrence Expressway and is bordered by Lily, Toyon, and Dahlia Avenues. Zachary served as the project transportation analyst for the CEQA review of the project.

Rancho Seco Solar II Project EIR, Sacramento County

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Transportation Planner

SMUD proposed to lease SMUD-owned land to a third party to build and operate an alternating current photovoltaic (PV) solar power facility that would be up to 150 megawatts (MW) in size. SMUD planned to purchase the solar power generated from the PV facility through a contract with the third party. The project included installation of PV solar panels, a substation, switchgear, and interconnection to the existing subtransmission or transmission system. At the end of the project's useful life (anticipated to be 20 years or more), it would be decommissioned and the site would be restored. Ascent prepared an EIR to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the project and is also procuring wetlands permits and providing endangered species consultation. Zachary developed the analytical approach and assumptions related to transportation, conducted the transportation analysis, and prepared the transportation chapter of the EIR. The EIR was certified in October 2018.

Mather South Community Master Plan EIR, Sacramento County

County of Sacramento

Associate Transportation Planner

Mather South LLC is proposing to master plan and redevelop approximately 850 acres of the former Mather Air Force Base. The plan area is located east of Zinfandel Drive, north of Kiefer Boulevard, west of the Folsom South Canal, and south of Douglas Road in unincorporated Sacramento County. The Master Plan would be built out over many years and would result in air pollutants and GHG emissions associated with construction activities and operation (e.g., vehicle traffic associated with proposed land use types, electricity demand, and waste generation). Zachary worked closely with Sacramento County staff and the County's transportation consultant to ensure that the technical transportation analysis adequately supported the environmental document. Additionally, he prepared the transportation/traffic chapter of the EIR.

New Sacramento Criminal Courthouse EIR, Sacramento County

Judicial Council of California—Administrative Office of the Courts

Transportation Planner

Ascent prepared the EIR for the New Sacramento Criminal Courthouse in downtown Sacramento. The primary purpose of the project is to expand existing county courthouse facilities to accommodate the existing criminal case load and to increase the level of security currently provided. The proposed project includes development of a new 405,000-square-foot courthouse facility and renovation of the existing Schaber Courthouse. The EIR evaluated two potential project sites: one site in the Sacramento Railyards and the other at 301 Capitol Mall (former site of the Towers on Capitol Mall). Zachary worked closely with the transportation subconsultant to ensure that the technical transportation analysis adequately supported the environmental document. Additionally, he prepared the transportation/traffic chapter of the EIR.