

# **Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project EIR**

## **Scope of Work**

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### **Introduction**

The following scope of work summarizes the tasks and assumptions that the project team will use to prepare the environmental impact report EIR on the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project (ASR). The scope of work has been divided into the following 13 tasks.

- Task 1. Initiate Project
- Task 2. Prepare Project Description and Alternatives
- Task 3. Prepare Notice Of Preparation (NOP)
- Task 4. Participate in Public and Agency Scoping Meetings
- Task 5. Finalize Project Description and Alternatives
- Task 6. Prepare Administrative Draft EIR
- Task 7. Prepare Draft EIR
- Task 8. Participate in Publish Hearings on Draft EIR
- Task 9. Prepare Administrative Final EIR
- Task 10. Prepare Final EIR
- Task 11. Participate in CEQA Certification Hearings
- Task 12. Prepare and File Notice of Determination
- Task 13. Attend Board Meeting/Workshops and Quarterly Updates

This scope and attached cost estimate are based on conversations with Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) staff, work previously completed on the ASR in 2003 (Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project – Final Phase I Technical Memorandum, March 2003), and information contained in the Administrative Draft EIR on the MPWMD Water Supply Project (December 2003). The scope and cost estimate reflects the level of effort required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The EIR will disclose the environmental impacts of constructing and operating the ASR. The ASR would divert, transport, and store water from the Carmel River. The purposes of the EIR include: 1) support for MPWMD's petition to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for a change in the diversion of water from the Carmel River for the Seaside Groundwater Basin full-scale ASR injection/recovery project; and 2) better coordination of existing MPWMD water supply resources through construction of a new well and testing of a well couplet at the existing Santa Margarita Test Well site. The project is not intended to provide compliance with

SWRCB Order 95-10, and is not a component of any long-term water supply program, including Cal Am's Coastal Water Project.

The EIR will include a project-level evaluation of the "near-term" elements of the ASR (conversion of the existing test well to a two-well, fully operational system on the current well site, and any pipeline improvements needed to support the two wells) and a program-level evaluation of additional new wells at other locations. The project-level evaluation will focus on the operation of two wells at MPWMD's existing Seaside Groundwater Basin injection/recovery well site and the effects on Carmel River resources as a result of operating a larger, full-scale ASR. The program-level evaluation will focus on the effects of constructing and operating the additional facilities required (i.e., pump stations, pipelines, up to four new injection/extraction wells within the Seaside Groundwater Basin at two new sites, etc.) allowing operation of a full-scale ASR. The completed project is expected to yield up to 1,300-1,800 acre-feet of water annually. The MPWMD will refine yield estimates based on updated analyses.

### Assumptions

- MPWMD will develop the project description information for the EIR based on engineering studies and current operations experience.
- MPWMD will be responsible for preparing the analysis of Carmel River hydrologic and fisheries effects.
- A NEPA compliance document is not covered by this scope. The US Army or their agent will be responsible for providing NEPA compliance if required.
- Much of the background and setting information collected for the Water Supply Project EIR can be incorporated into the ASR EIR.
- The ASR is a stand-alone project and is not considered an element of the pending Coastal Water Project or any other long-term water supply program for Monterey area cities.
- Additional environmental documentation may be required to allow construction of the project elements necessary for operation of a full-scale ASR.

## Task 1. Initiate Project

Project initiation will include a meeting with MPWMD staff. To initiate the project, the Jones & Stokes' project director and project manager, will meet with MPWMD staff to obtain existing materials, determine project elements, formulate alternatives, determine data collection protocol, and review the project schedule.

### Assumptions

- Jones & Stokes project management staff will attend one project initiation meeting with MPWMD staff.

## Task 2. Develop Project Description and Project Alternatives

Task 2 includes developing the project description and description of project alternatives. The project description will include a discussion of the location of each project element (e.g., pipelines, extraction wells, and injection/extraction wells) and how the project will be constructed and operated. The project description will be revised and incorporated into the Notice Of Preparation (NOP).

### Assumptions

- MPWMD will be responsible for developing the project description.
- Jones & Stokes will work with MPWMD to identify and describe alternatives.

## Task 3. Prepare Notice of Preparation

Jones & Stokes will prepare the NOP. The NOP will include a summary of the project description and identify alternatives, a project area map, and description of major issues. An administrative draft of the NOP will be provided to MPWMD for review and comment. Once comments are received, Jones & Stokes will revise the NOP and forward to the Monterey County Recorders Office for posting, and the State Clearinghouse for filing. Jones & Stokes will prepare a public meeting notification for publication in local newspapers.

During this period, the project team will initiate informal consultation with regulatory and land planning agencies as necessary. This may include the following entities—California Department of Fish and Game (DFG); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (NOAA Fisheries); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM); the U.S. Army Presidio

of Monterey Annex; California Department of Transportation; Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District; California Coastal Commission; Monterey County; the Fort Ord Reuse Authority; and the Cities of Monterey, Seaside, Marina, Del Rey Oaks, and Sand City.

### **Assumptions**

- MPWMD will be responsible for distributing the NOP.

## **Task 4. Participate in Public and Agency Scoping Meetings**

Jones & Stokes will participate in public and agency scoping meetings. Jones & Stokes will provide an overview of the proposed project, potential environmental issues, and project schedule. Jones & Stokes will prepare a report that summarizes the issues raised during the scoping period. The report will include a list of agencies, interest groups, and individuals that commented during the scoping period and will summarize their comments.

### **Assumptions**

- Two scoping meetings will be held in the Monterey area.

## **Task 5. Finalize Project Description and Description of Alternatives**

Under Task 5, the project description and description of alternatives will be revised based on input received during the public and agency scoping process. Task 5 is also a milestone for review of the project work plan. This review will provide an opportunity to modify the scope of services and budget as knowledge of issues associated with the project increases. Jones & Stokes will modify the work plan and discuss changes with the MPWMD if needed.

### **Assumptions**

- MPWMD will be responsible for finalizing the project description and description of alternatives..
- The alternatives will be described at the level needed for a comparative analysis to the proposed project. The alternatives will not be evaluated in equal level of detail.
- Potential alternatives include a small desalination plant, wastewater reclamation, side-stream storage, stormwater detention, and alternative well locations.

## Task 6. Prepare Administrative Draft EIR

Under this task, Jones & Stokes will prepare the Administrative Draft EIR. This will include a final version of the project description and description of alternatives, a description of existing conditions, and the results of the impact assessment. Jones & Stokes will provide MPWMD an outline of the EIR for approval before drafting the existing conditions and impact sections. Once MPWMD approves the outline, Jones & Stokes will begin drafting the EIR sections. Jones & Stokes will provide a completed Administrative Draft EIR to MPWMD for review and comment. If requested, the project team will meet with MPWMD to receive comments and discuss issues. Jones & Stokes then will revise the Administrative Draft EIR and provide a Draft EIR as discussed in Task 7 below.

### Assumptions

- Five copies of the Administrative Draft EIR will be provided to MPWMD.
- Model runs of CVSim and a description of potential hydrologic effects will be provided by MPWMD staff.
- MPWMD will be responsible for evaluating effects on Carmel River fisheries.
- MPWMD will be responsible for assessing changes in the hydrologic characteristics of the Seaside Groundwater Basin as a result of operating the near-term (project-level analysis) and full-use (program-level analysis) ASR.
- MPWMD will be responsible for assessing water quality effects of injecting water into the Seaside Groundwater Basin.
- Stand-alone technical reports for the resource topics will not be produced.
- Cultural resource and biological resource surveys, to a limit of 4 person-days, will be conducted.
- For the planning topics (i.e., land use, agricultural production, public services, recreation, visual resources, utilities, economics, population and housing, environmental justice) existing information will be supplemented as necessary.
- For the traffic analysis, no modeling will be conducted. A qualitative discussion of circulation issues and construction traffic will be provided.

## Task 7. Prepare Draft EIR

Jones & Stokes will incorporate comments received from MPWMD on the Administrative Draft EIR. Once the comments have been incorporated, Jones & Stokes will provide MPWMD with a "screen check" Draft EIR for final review and approval before completing a "camera-ready" Draft EIR.

Commensurate with producing the Draft EIR, Jones & Stokes will draft the Notice Of Completion (NOC). Jones & Stokes will revise the NOC based on comments from the MPWMD.

### **Assumptions**

- Jones & Stokes will provide one camera-ready Draft EIR, 10 bound copies, and an electronic version. .
- MPWMD will be responsible for reproduction and distribution of the draft EIR.

## **Task 8. Participate in Public Hearings on Draft EIR**

Jones & Stokes will participate in the public hearings on the draft EIR. We will assist MPWMD in preparing informational and presentation materials for the meetings, including fact sheets, presentation boards, and a PowerPoint presentation. We will prepare talking points for the meeting presenters.

### **Assumptions**

- Two public hearings on the Draft EIR will be held.
- MPWMD will be responsible for meeting logistics.

## **Task 9. Prepare Administrative Final EIR**

When the public comment period closes, Jones & Stokes will review and categorize written comments and public hearing oral comments. Jones & Stokes will meet with MPWMD staff to discuss approaches to responding to the comments and to agree on a format for the Final EIR. This will also serve as a milestone for review of project budget and scope. On completion of the Administrative Final EIR, Jones & Stokes will meet with MPWMD staff to discuss responses and changes made to the Draft EIR.

Task 9 also includes preparation of the draft mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMP). The MMP will identify and describe project mitigation features that will ensure the protection of environmental resources present in the project area. We will provide the draft MMP to MPWMD for review and comment.

### **Assumptions**

- Five copies of the Administrative Final EIR will be produced for internal review.

- Comments of similar nature will be responded to in a single, general common response.
- No major reevaluation of issues will be required, and no new modeling will be undertaken.
- MPWMD will respond to comments on the Carmel River hydrology and fisheries, and Seaside Basin groundwater hydrology and quality sections of the Draft EIR.
- MPWMD will be responsible for preparing elements of the MMP that address effects on Carmel River fisheries and groundwater quality.

### **Task 10. Publish Final EIR and Prepare Findings**

Upon completion of Task 9, Jones & Stokes will prepare the Final EIR, prepare findings, and complete the MMP. A “screen check” draft of the Final EIR will be provided to the MPWMD for review and approval before production of a “camera-ready” version is completed.

Under this task, the MMP will be finalized based on comments received from the MPWMD staff. Jones & Stokes also will prepare draft findings of fact and a draft statement of overriding considerations if necessary. The findings will describe how MPWMD will address each significant impact identified in the EIR. A draft statement of overriding considerations will be developed in the event some mitigation is not available to reduce a significant impact to a less-than-significant level. Jones & Stokes will assist MPWMD in preparing a fact sheet summarizing the Final EIR, and will also prepare talking points to aid in answering questions from the media or others about the final document.

#### **Assumptions**

- Jones & Stokes will produce one “camera-ready” version, 10 bound copies, and an electronic version of the Final EIR.
- MPWMD will be responsible for reproducing and distributing the Final EIR.

### **Task 11. Participate in CEQA Certification Hearings**

Jones & Stokes will assist MPWMD staff in preparing for the CEQA certification hearings on the EIR. Jones & Stokes project managers will attend the hearings.

#### **Assumptions**

- One public hearing will be held to certify the EIR.

## **Task 12. Prepare and File Notice of Determination**

Jones & Stokes will prepare a draft Notice Of Determination (NOD) if MPWMD decides to certify the EIR and approve the project. The NOD will summarize the project's significant impacts and state if mitigation measures were adopted, if findings were prepared, and if a statement of overriding considerations was prepared. We will provide the draft NOD to the MPWMD for review and comment. Jones & Stokes will revise the NOD based on MPWMD comments. Jones & Stokes will file the NOD with Monterey County and the State Clearinghouse.

## **Task 13. Attend MPWMD Board Meetings/Workshops/Quarterly Updates**

Jones & Stokes will attend up to six MPWMD Board meetings/workshops/quarterly updates. Jones & Stokes will coordinate with MPWMD staff to develop topics to be discussed at the meetings and supporting materials and presentations. The objective of the meetings will be to ensure that the MPWMD Board is apprised of the status of the environmental analysis.

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