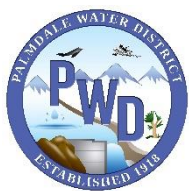
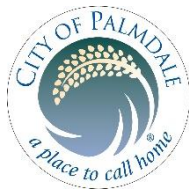


# PALMDALE RECYCLED WATER AUTHORITY RECYCLED WATER FACILITIES PLAN

Addendum No. 1  
SCH No. 2014101064

Prepared for  
Palmdale Recycled  
Water Authority

August 2020





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626 Wilshire Boulevard  
Suite 1100  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
213.599.4300  
esassoc.com



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# **PRWA RECYCLED WATER FACILITIES PLAN**

## **Addendum No. 1**

### **1.0 Introduction**

#### **1.1 Purpose of the Addendum**

The Palmdale Recycled Water Authority (PRWA) is a joint powers authority of the City of Palmdale (City) and the Palmdale Water District (PWD). In January 2014, the PRWA completed the PRWA Recycled Water Facilities Plan (PRWA Plan or project), which includes construction and operation of distribution pipelines and one new pump station. In October 2014, the PRWA as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) prepared a Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Final MND or 2015 MND) to implement the PRWA Plan. A Notice of Determination for the Final MND was filed with the State Clearinghouse in December 2015.

This Addendum to the 2015 MND is required by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) in support of the State Revolving Funds (SRF) application submitted to assist in financing Phase 2 of the Recycled Water Facilities Plan. The State Board has requested the Addendum because the Final MND will be 5 years old in January 2020; as such, the purpose of the Addendum is to provide a consistency analysis that reconfirms the findings in the 2015 Final MND. Among other changes that may have occurred since adoption of the Final MND, this Addendum will analyze environmental impacts associated with necessary minor modifications to Phase 2 of the PRWA Plan proposed by PRWA.

#### **1.2 Regulatory Background**

Section 15164(b) of the CEQA Guidelines provides that an addendum to an adopted negative declaration for a project is permissible if: (1) only minor technical changes or additions are necessary; or (2) neither a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) or negative declaration is required pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15162. Subsequent environmental documents must be prepared if:

1. Substantial changes are proposed in the project requiring major revisions of the previous environmental document because of the changes will create new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously-identified significant effects;
2. Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken that will require major revisions of the previous environmental document as a result of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously-identified significant effects; or

3. New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time of the certification or adoption of the previous environmental document, has been discovered and shows that:
  - a. The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous environmental document;
  - b. Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous environmental document;
  - c. Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or
  - d. Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous environmental document would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

PRWA has evaluated the environmental impacts of the proposed modifications and, as Lead Agency under CEQA, has determined that none of these conditions apply. Therefore, an Addendum to the 2015 MND is the appropriate environmental document to analyze the proposed modifications.

## 2.0 Adopted Project Overview

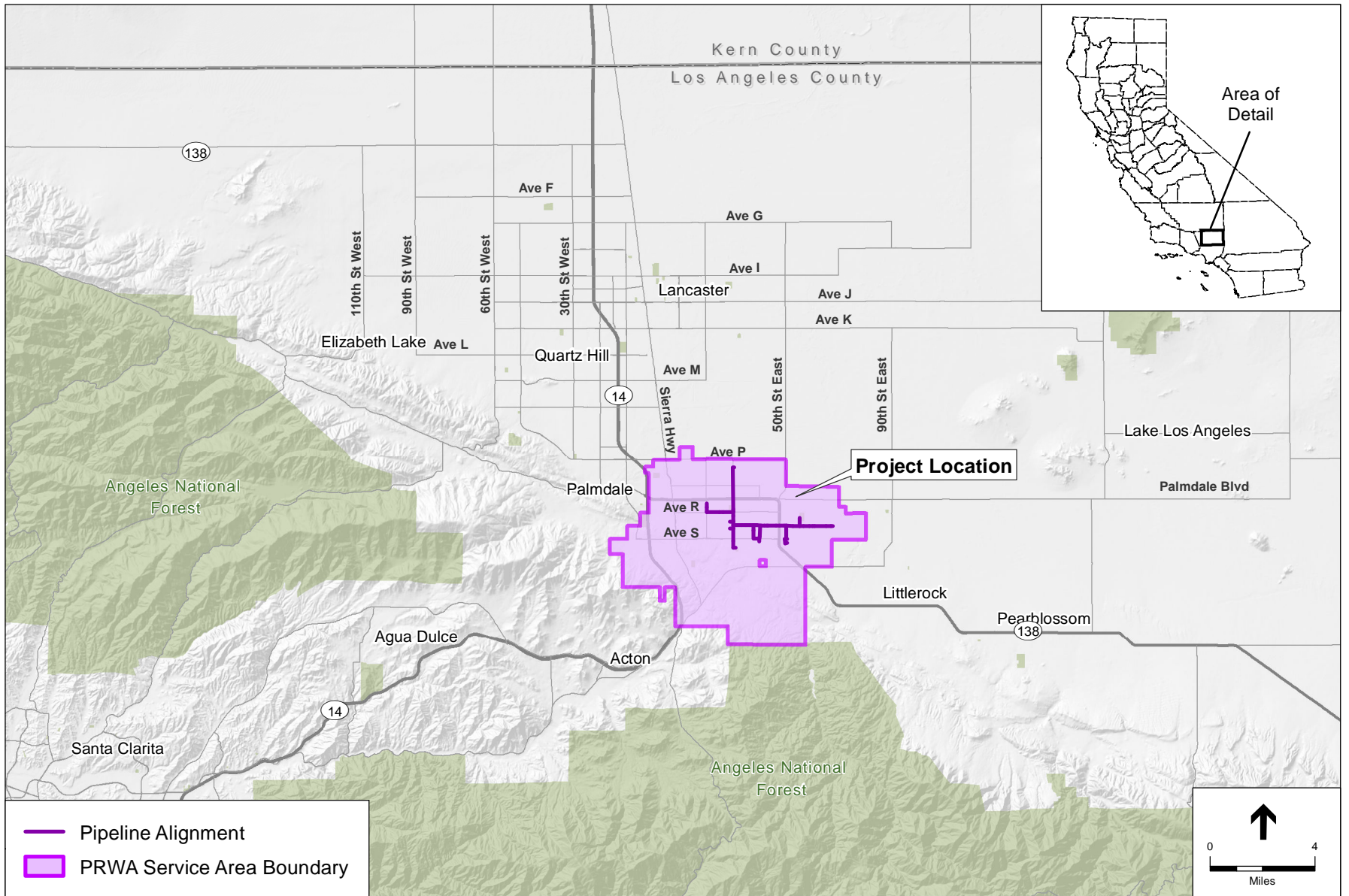
This section includes an overview of all project phases as proposed in the 2015 MND. As part of the Board resolution to adopt the MND, the Phase 5 pipeline was removed from the project and thus is not discussed in this Addendum No. 1. In addition, as stated above, SRF funding will support only Phase 2 of the project. Therefore, the environmental consistency analysis prepared for this Addendum will focus on environmental impacts associated with Phase 2 components including any modifications made since the adoption of the MND.

### 2.1 Project Location

The adopted project was proposed to be within the PRWA service area, which encompasses 46 square miles and includes a portion of the City of Palmdale and unincorporated Los Angeles County within the boundaries of PWD (**Figure 1**). The project location is approximately 60 miles north of Los Angeles and 95 miles southeast of the City of Bakersfield, at an elevation approximately 2,600 feet above mean sea level.

The PRWA service area is located along the southwestern perimeter of the Antelope Valley. The Antelope Valley is a 2,400-square mile triangular basin bounded on the northwest by the Tehachapi Mountains, on the southwest by the San Gabriel Mountains, and on the east by a series of buttes and hills that roughly parallel the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County Line. The PRWA is located in a high desert climate, characterized by hot dry summers and cool wet winters. Within the PRWA's service area, land use is primarily residential. However, downtown Palmdale includes commercial, industrial, and public services uses and a small amount of agriculture is located east of the LA-Palmdale Regional Airport.





SOURCE: ESRI

PRWA Recycled Water Facilities Plan IS/MND  
Addendum No. 1. 150478.01

**Figure 1**  
Palmdale Recycled Water Authority Service Area

## 2.2 Project Components

The adopted PRWA Recycled Water Facility Plan includes construction and operation of distribution pipelines and laterals and pumping facilities as described below and shown in **Figure 2**. The adopted project includes phased construction to provide up to 1,325 AFY of tertiary-treated recycled water to PRWA customers, primarily for landscape irrigation at parks, schools, and golf courses. As indicated in the 2015 MND and below, the Phase 1 alignment had already been constructed prior to publication of the adopted project.

### 2.2.1 Pump Station

The adopted project includes installation of one new pump station at the Palmdale Water Reclamation Plant (PWRP) as part of Phase 2 (see **Figure 3**). The PWRP is owned and operated by LACSD No. 20. The plant, which occupies 286 acres east of Highway 14, provides tertiary treatment for 12 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater. The adopted project indicates that the Phase 2 pump station would have a firm pumping capacity of about 800 brake horsepower (bhp), which is based on a maximum supply capacity of about 6,675 gallons per minute (gpm) and 70 percent pump efficiency. The pump station would be housed within a masonry building and would have a footprint of approximately 15 feet by 35 feet, which would accommodate up to four installed vertical turbine pumps at build-out, mounted at grade above a concrete slab. There the adopted project includes implementation of either a buried concrete wet well below the pump motors, or vertical pump cans extending through the concrete slab and into the ground below. The pump station building would include an electrical control room to house new electrical panels for the pumps. The adopted plan includes other major pump station components including a generator, for standby power, a surge tank, and a small amount of piping.

### 2.2.2 Pipelines

The adopted project includes up to 70,000 linear feet of new recycled water pipe, with pipeline diameters ranging from six inches (for laterals) to 24 inches (for distribution pipes). The majority of the pipeline alignments were planned to be within developed and paved portions of roadway rights-of-way. Adopted plans for recycled water pipeline segments and phases are listed in **Table 1** and shown in **Figure 4**. Phase 1 of the project has already been built, with a pipeline leading from the PWRP down 30<sup>th</sup> Street East to Avenue R.

**TABLE 1**  
**ROADWAYS WITH PROPOSED RECYCLED WATER PIPELINES**

Distribution Pipelines (24-inch diameter)	Laterals (6-inch to 12-inch diameter)
<b>Phase 2</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRWA pump station at PWRP</li> <li>• 30<sup>th</sup> Street East between Avenue R and Avenue R-8</li> <li>• Avenue R-8 between 30<sup>th</sup> St East and 55<sup>th</sup> St East</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Avenue R-6 to Desert Rose Elementary School</li> <li>• 55 Street East to Dominic Massari Park</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 3</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avenue R and 20th Street East to Palmdale High School</li> <li>• 37th Street East, Avenue S, 40th Street East to Dry Town Water Park</li> <li>• 50th Street East to Buena Vista Elementary School</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 4</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avenue R-8 between 55<sup>th</sup> St East and 65<sup>th</sup> St East</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avenue R-8 to Los Amigos School and Pete Knight High School</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 6</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30<sup>th</sup> Street East between Avenue R-8 and Joshua Hills Elementary School and Park</li> <li>• East Avenue R-12 to Palmdale Park</li> </ul>

### 3.0 Objectives of the Project

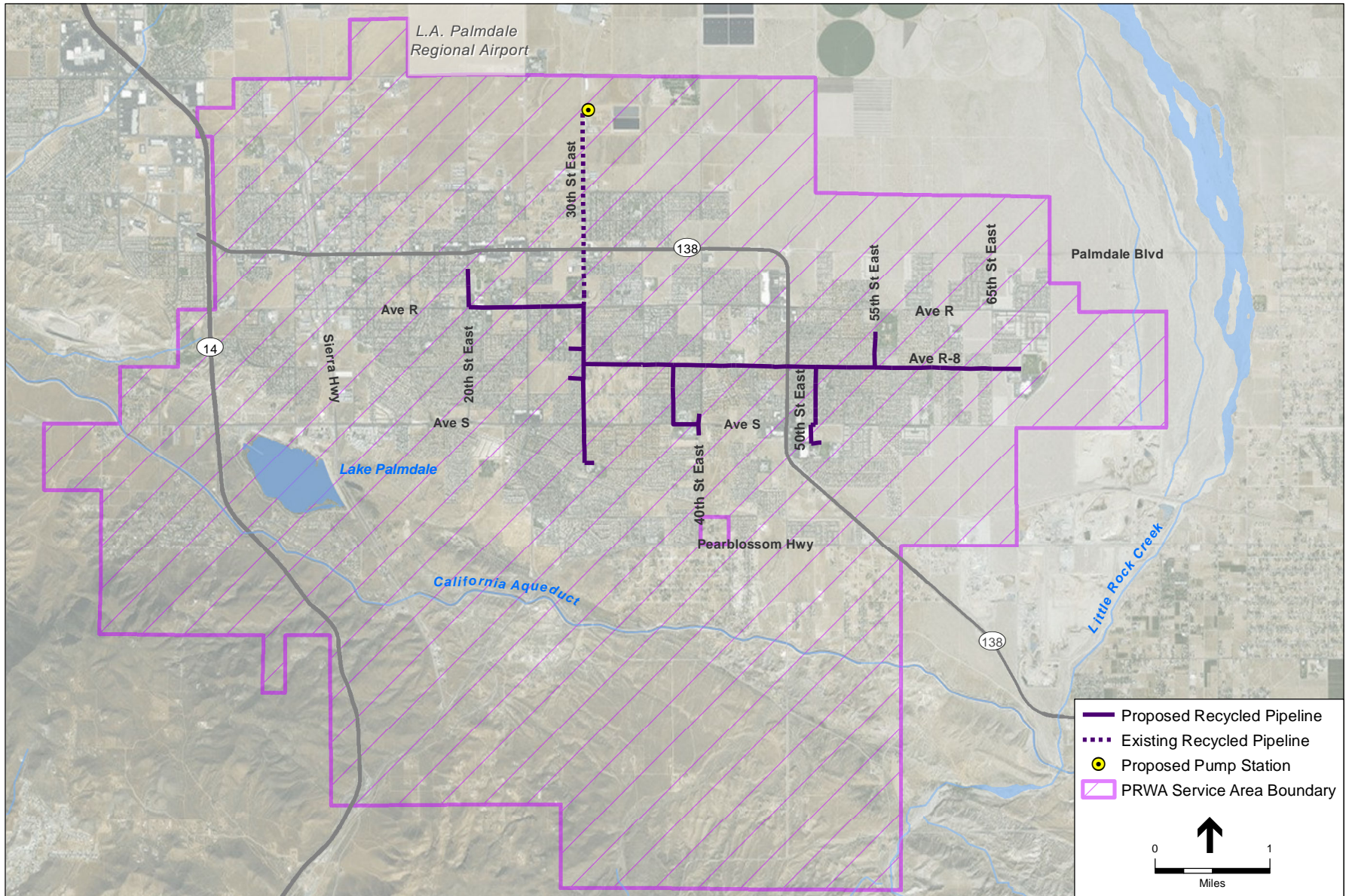
The project maintains the same objectives as listed within the 2015 MND and are included below:

- Reduce dependence on the SWP and groundwater supplies
- Improve water supply reliability
- Preserve potable water supplies
- Provide a potential source of supply for groundwater recharge

### 4.0 Description of Proposed Modifications

The proposed modifications to Phase 2 components that are evaluated in this Addendum are identified in **Figure 5** and include the following:

**Elimination of East Avenue R-6 Pipeline:** Construction of the Phase 2 pipeline along 30<sup>th</sup> Street East between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 would no longer include a lateral water pipeline proposed to extend west to Desert Rose Elementary School via East Avenue R-6.



SOURCE: ESRI

PRWA Recycled Water Facilities Plan IS/MND  
Addendum No. 1. 150478.01

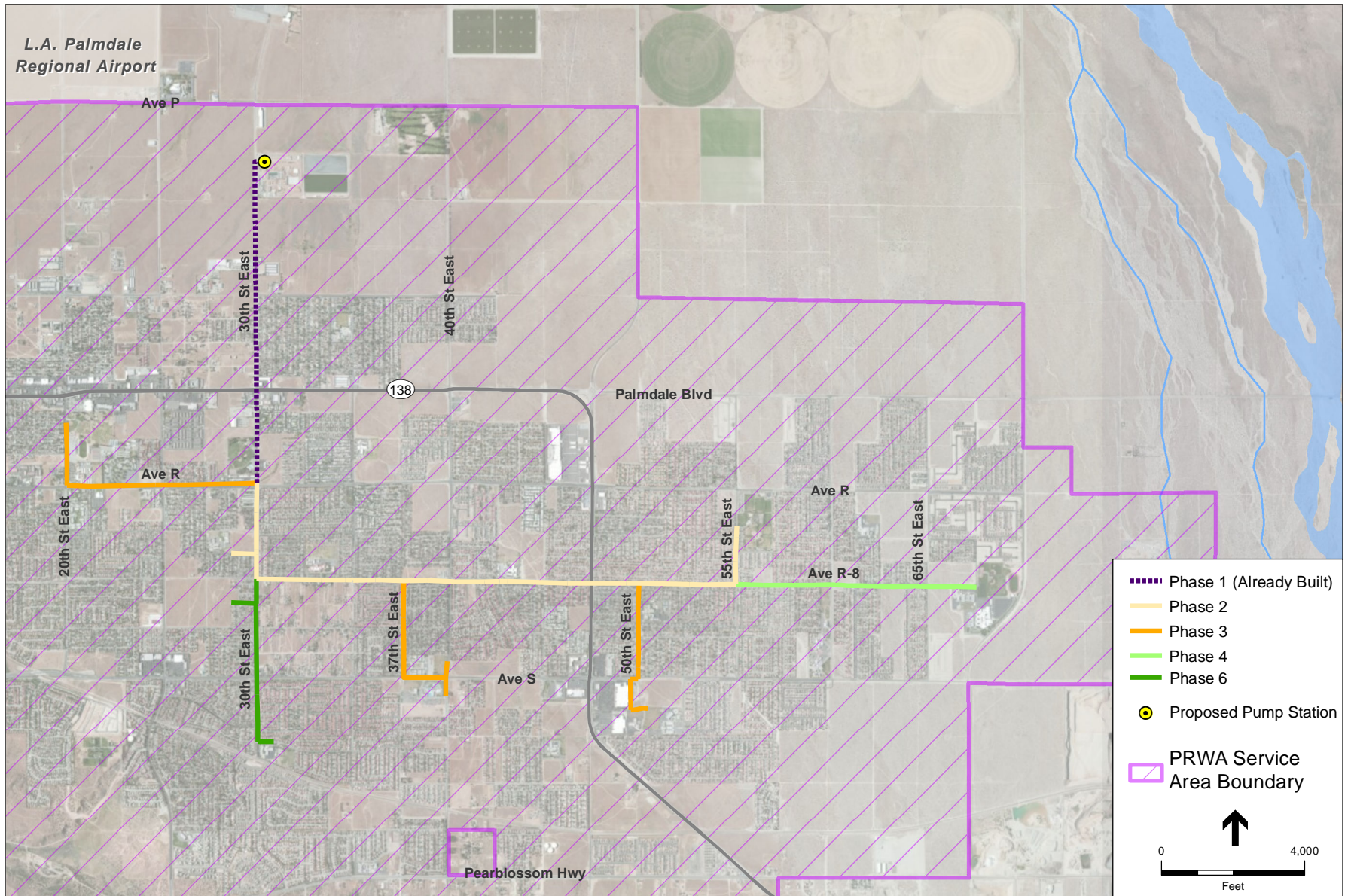
**Figure 2**  
PRWA Recycled Water Facilities Plan Components (Adopted)



SOURCE: ESRI

PRWA Recycled Water Facilities Plan IS/MND  
Addendum No. 1. 150478.01

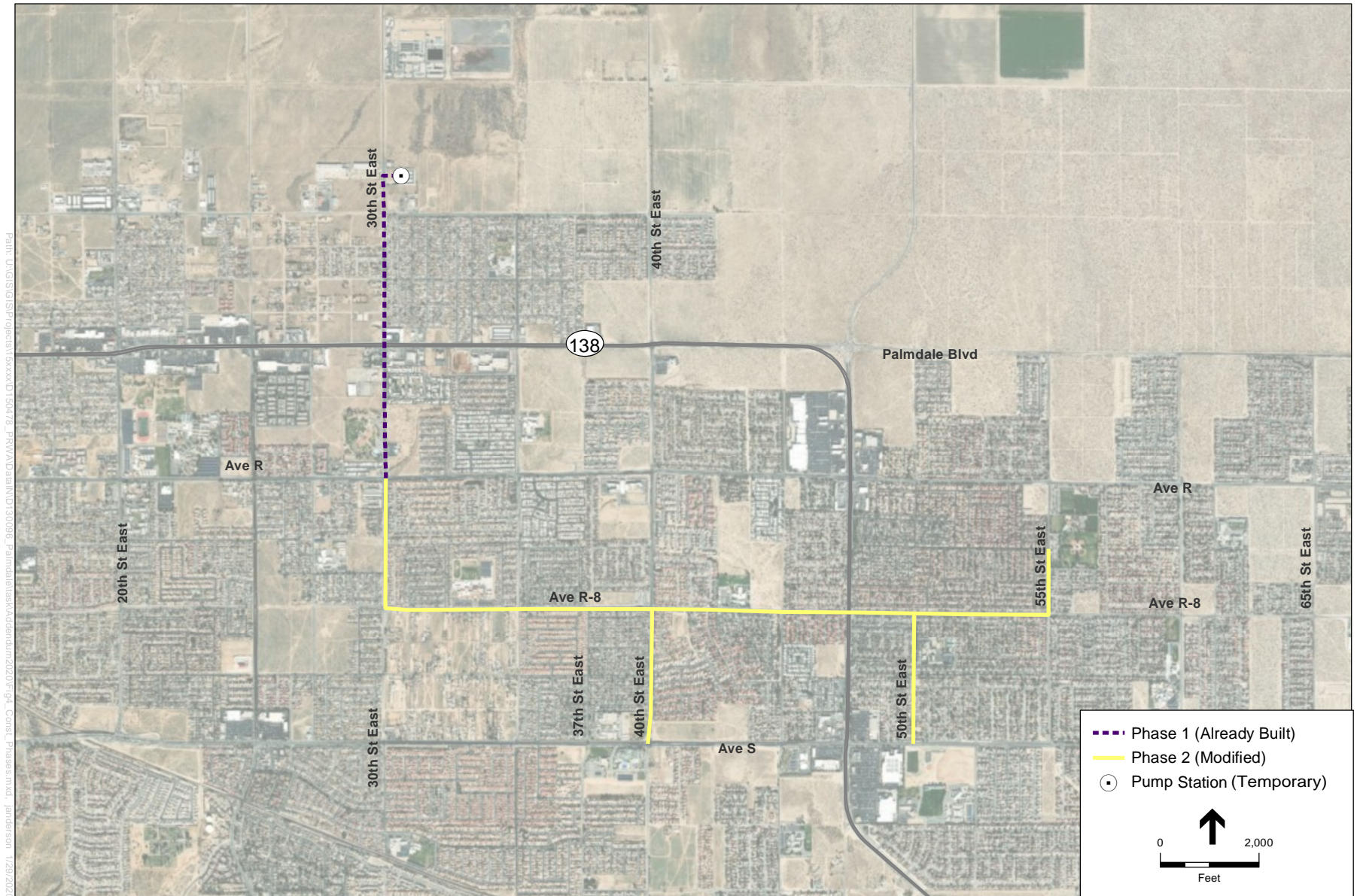
**Figure 3**  
Proposed Pump Station (Adopted)



SOURCE: ESRI

PRWA Recycled Water Facilities Plan IS/MND  
Addendum No. 1. 150478.01

**Figure 4**  
Proposed Construction Phases (Adopted)



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SOURCE: ESRI

PRWA Recycled Water Facilities Plan IS/MND  
Addendum No. 1. 150478. 01

**Figure 5**  
Proposed Phase 2 Modifications

**Phase 2 Construction Addition– Lateral Pipeline on 50<sup>th</sup> Street East:** A lateral water pipeline proposed for Phase 3 construction would be moved to Phase 2 construction, with a minor modification. The lateral water pipeline would be constructed as planned, extending south from Avenue R-8 to Yellen Park, but would no longer extend to Buena Vista Elementary School.

**Phase 2 Construction Addition and Location Change – Lateral Pipeline on 37<sup>th</sup> Street East:** A lateral water pipeline originally proposed for Phase 3 construction on 37<sup>th</sup> Street East would be moved to Phase 2 construction, and would include a location change. The lateral water pipeline will no longer extend south from Avenue R-8 to Dry Town Water Park via 37<sup>th</sup> Street East, Avenue S, and 40<sup>th</sup> Street East. The lateral water pipeline would instead be constructed entirely on 40<sup>th</sup> Street East to connect to Dry Town Water Park.

## 5.0 Environmental Consistency Analysis

This section includes summaries of project impact findings that were described in the 2015 MND for each environmental resource area, updates to environmental settings in the project area since the 2015 MND was adopted, and consistency analyses that describe changes to project impacts and mitigation requirements as a result of the proposed modifications. As stated previously, the SRF funds received for the project would support Phase 2 of the PRWA Plan. Therefore, consistency analyses in this section focus on the minor modifications to the Phase 2 alignment.

As described in Section 4.0, *Description of Proposed Modifications*, this Addendum adds two Phase-3 lateral pipeline alignments to Phase 2 with minor modifications: the 50<sup>th</sup> Street East alignment that would extend from Avenue R-8 to Yellen Park (previously planned to extend to Buena Vista Elementary School), and the 40<sup>th</sup> Street East alignment (previously planned to be constructed along 37<sup>th</sup> Street East) that would from Avenue R-8 to Dry Town Water Park. Additionally, this Addendum eliminates installation of two lateral pipeline alignments, including a lateral pipeline which would have extended west from the 30<sup>th</sup> Street alignment along East Avenue R-6 to Desert Rose Elementary School, and a lateral pipeline which would have extended east from the 37<sup>th</sup> street pipeline to 40<sup>th</sup> street along East Avenue S. The proposed modifications are not anticipated to result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts than previously described in the 2015 MND, as the proposed modifications would not change the project area significantly or include construction of any components that would be implemented differently than the pipeline components that were analyzed in the 2015 MND. However, the consistency analyses below will describe any impacts or mitigation requirements that would differ from the findings of the 2015 MND due to the proposed modifications, regardless of changes in impact significance, and describe updates to environmental settings for the project area that may have occurred since adoption of the 2015 MND.

The consistency analyses below will also reflect the December 2019 update to the CEQA Appendix G checklist and analyze impacts of the modified Phase 2 alignment to Wildfire and Energy. For the purposes of this Addendum, Energy is addressed together with Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire is addressed as a new environmental topic. Tribal Cultural Resources, while now included in the CEQA Appendix G checklist, are not analyzed in this Addendum. Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), which requires a lead agency to consult with California



Native American tribes to identify tribal cultural resources, only applies to projects for which a notice of preparation or a notice of negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration was filed on or after July 1, 2015. The PRWA Plan MND was filed in January 2015 (AB 52, Chapter 532, Section 11(c)), September 25, 2014). As such, AB 52 is not applicable to this project and tribal cultural resources are not addressed.

## 5.1 Aesthetics

### 5.1.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.1, *Aesthetic Resources*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for aesthetic resources impacts and concluded that project impacts would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. Impacts to light and glare during nighttime construction were found to be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measure AES-1**, which requires PRWA to ensure the construction contractor uses construction lighting that is shielded and directed downward to illuminate only the necessary work space and avoid light spill into neighboring residential properties. Project impacts to light and glare during operation were found to be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measure AES-2**. Mitigation Measure AES-2 requires the construction contractor to apply to the pump stations and other aboveground appurtenances non-glare exterior coatings that are colored an earth tone to blend in with the surrounding landscape, and that all lights be shielded and faced downward. All other impacts to aesthetic resources were found to be less than significant.

### 5.1.2 Environmental Setting

The 2015 MND includes a description of environmental settings in the project area based on the City of Palmdale General Plan and found that all scenic roadways in the project area were located to the south and west of the project facilities. The project facility sites were found to be within developed areas throughout the PRWA's service area, including paved public roadways and immediately adjacent vacant lands. However, none of the project roadways were designated as State-designated scenic highways. Further, due to flat topography of the service area, both foreground and middle-ground views included the structures and landscaping along the project roadways. Background views were found to include the distant foothills and ridgelines that form the horizon.

### 5.1.3 Consistency Analysis

Proposed modifications to Phase 2 would not change the area of influence for aesthetic effects described in the 2015 MND. Construction and operation of the proposed facility sites would remain within previously developed areas throughout the PRWA's service area, including paved public roadways and immediately adjacent vacant lands, and would not be located within a State-designated scenic highway.

Since the environmental settings for aesthetic resources have not changed since the 2015 MND and no new sources of light and glare are proposed as part of the project, the proposed modifications would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts than previously

described in the 2015 MND. Implementation of Mitigation Measures AES-1 and AES-2 as previously described in the 2015 MND would reduce Phase 2 construction and operation impacts to aesthetic resources to less-than significant-levels. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce the potential for aesthetics impacts related to Phase 2 modifications to occur. Therefore, impacts to aesthetic resources related to the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No additional mitigation is required.

## 5.2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

### 5.2.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.2, *Agriculture and Forestry Resources*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to agricultural resources in the project area and concluded that there would be **No Impact** to agriculture and forestry resources as a result of the project. Construction and operation of the proposed project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use; would not conflict with zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act Contract; would not conflict with existing zoning for forest land or timberland; would not result in the loss or conversion of forest land; and would not otherwise result in conversion of lands zoned for agricultural use and forest use. No mitigation was required.

### 5.2.2 Environmental Setting

The 2015 MND includes a description of environmental settings in the project area using the State's Important Farmland Map of Los Angeles County and other local planning documents. The 2015 MND found that the project area included only lands classified as "Urban and Built-Up Land" and "Other Land," and did not include any farmland, forest land, or timberland in the project area that could potentially be impacted by the project.

### 5.2.3 Consistency Analysis

The State's 2016 update to the Important Farmland Map of Los Angeles County does not include any farmland, forest land, or timberland land in the project area that could be impacted by the proposed project. Uses in the modified Phase 2 project area remain classified as "Urban and Built-Up Land" and "Other Land" (California Department of Conservation, 2016). Local planning documents have not been updated since the 2015 MND to include additional agriculture and forestry resources in the project area. Therefore, no additional or more severe impacts to agricultural and forestry resources would occur as a result of the proposed modifications to Phase 2, and no additional mitigation is required. Therefore, there would be **No Impact** to agriculture and forestry resources as a result of the proposed modifications to Phase 2.

## 5.3 Air Quality

### 5.3.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to air quality and concluded that construction and operation of the proposed project would not: conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan; violate air quality standards or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation; result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in non-attainment criteria pollutants; expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; or create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. All impacts were considered to be **Less than Significant**. No mitigation was required.

### 5.3.2 Environmental Setting

The project area is located in the southern region of the Antelope Valley, within the larger Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB). The MDAB encompasses about 21,480 square miles and includes the desert portions of San Bernardino County, Riverside County, Palo Verde Valley, and the cities of Palmdale and Lancaster in the Antelope Valley. The MDAB is an assemblage of mountain ranges interspersed with long broad valleys that contain dry lakes. The project site is located in the westernmost portion of the MDAB within the jurisdiction of the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD).

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) use monitored air quality data to designate areas according to their attainment status for criteria air pollutants. The three basic designation categories are nonattainment, attainment, and unclassified. Unclassified is used in an area that cannot be classified on the basis of available information as meeting or not meeting the standards. Both CARB and USEPA have designated portions of the AVAQMD as being nonattainment for a variety of pollutants. **Table AQ-1** shows the attainment designations and classifications for the AVAQMD updated as of March 2020.

### 5.3.3 Consistency Analysis

The modifications to the proposed project, as detailed in Section 4.0 above, would eliminate a lateral pipeline and re-align two other segments of the original pipeline. However, construction of a pipeline is typically conducted by segments limiting construction to a given distance within any given day. Daily emissions associated with the modified alignment and schedule would not result in an increase in daily emissions associated with the construction of the proposed project. The original MND assumed that construction would occur in 2015. Construction under this addendum would not begin until after 2020, therefore the construction fleet would potentially be more efficient reducing the daily emissions from what was identified in the original MND as well as potentially reducing exposure to sensitive receptors. Consistent with the original MND, the revised project would not result in growth-inducing development; would result in negligible operational emissions due to worker trips to and from the project area for routine maintenance; and would result in the same potential odor emissions from construction and operational activities. Therefore, the modifications to the project would result in no new significant environmental impacts. Impacts to air quality related to the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would be **Less than Significant**, and no mitigation is required.

**TABLE AQ-1**  
**AVAQMD DESIGNATIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS**

Ambient Air Quality Standard	AVAQMD State : Federal
Ozone – 1 Hour	Nonattainment : NA
Ozone – 8 Hour	Nonattainment : Nonattainment
Respirable Particulate Matter (PM10 )	Nonattainment : Unclassified/Attainment
Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) – 24 hour	NA : Unclassified/Attainment
Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) – Annual	Unclassified : Unclassified/Attainment
Carbon Monoxide	Attainment : Unclassified/Attainment
Nitrogen Dioxide	Attainment : Unclassified/Attainment
Sulfur Dioxide	Attainment : Unclassified/Attainment
Lead	Attainment : Unclassified/Attainment
Visibility Reducing Particles	Unclassified : NA
Sulfates	Attainment : NA
Hydrogen Sulfide	Unclassified : NA
Vinyl Chloride	Unclassified : NA

NA = Not Applicable  
SOURCE: AVAQMD, 2020.

## 5.4 Biological Resources

### 5.4.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND evaluated impacts to biological resources in the project area and concluded that construction and operational impacts of the project would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**, with implementation of Mitigation Measures **BIO-1 through BIO 7, BIO-9 and BIO-10**, which are briefly described below. BIO-8 and BIO-11 described in Section 5.4.1, *Summary of Previous Impact Analysis*, can be omitted as Phase 5 is no longer a part of the Project.

- **BIO-1:** Prior to ground disturbing activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction clearance surveys in areas where potential habitat exists for silvery legless lizard, coast horned lizard, southern grasshopper mouse, and American badger.
- **BIO-2:** All steep-walled trenches or excavation pits used during construction shall be covered at all times except when being actively utilized.
- **BIO-3:** A Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) shall be implemented to educate construction crews and contractors on sensitive biological resources that could occur on the project site.
- **BIO-4:** If construction and vegetation removal is proposed during the typical bird nesting period (February 1 through August 31), preconstruction surveys for nesting/roosting bird species shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within 30 days prior to construction, with

at least one survey conducted no more than five days prior to the onset of construction (or vegetation removal).

- **BIO-5:** A pre-construction survey shall be conducted within areas containing suitable habitat for burrowing owls 14 to 30 days prior to clearing of the site by a qualified biologist in accordance with the most recent CDFW protocol, currently the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFW, 2012).
- **BIO-6:** Prior to project implementation, a habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to determine the potential for the Mohave ground squirrel to occur within and adjacent to the project site.
- **BIO-7:** The PRWA shall have a qualified biologist conduct a pre-construction plant survey to determine and map the location and extent of special-status plant species populations within the construction right-of-way.
- **BIO-9:** The PRWA shall implement the following measures to protect wildlife movement corridors: 1.) All night lighting shall be directed downward to reduce the effects of light pollution on adjacent areas that may be used by wildlife; 2.) To reduce the attractiveness of the project site for wildlife, water shall not be allowed to pond on the project site; and trash shall be stored in a sealable, wildlife-proof container and removed from the project site each week; and 3.) speed limits on the project site shall be 25 mph.
- **BIO-10:** Efforts shall be made to prevent permanent native vegetation loss to the greatest extent feasible, specifically Joshua trees and native desert vegetation within the City of Palmdale that are protected in accordance with the City's Joshua Tree and Native Desert Vegetation Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 14.04 of Title 14 of the Palmdale Municipal Code), and native desert vegetation within unincorporated areas in accordance with the California Desert Native Plants Act.

## 5.4.2 Environmental Setting

The project site is located in unincorporated Los Angeles County and the City of Palmdale; approximately 60 miles north of the City of Los Angeles and 95 miles southeast of the City of Bakersfield, along the southwestern perimeter of the Antelope Valley. The Antelope Valley is a 2,400-square mile triangular basin bounded on the northwest by the Tehachapi Mountains, on the southwest by the San Gabriel Mountains, and on the east by a series of buttes and hills that roughly parallel the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County Line.

The proposed recycled water pipeline would be constructed within the public right-of-way of City of Palmdale and Los Angeles County streets. Land uses in the vicinity of the project site vary in degree of development and disturbance, including residential, commercial, industrial and institutional development, as well as active and fallow agricultural fields and undisturbed open space. The project site includes the proposed pipeline and 15 feet therefrom that would be subject to direct impacts during construction.

## 5.4.3 Consistency Analysis

Proposed modifications to project facilities and pipeline installation would not change the impacts to biological resources described in the 2015 MND. Construction and operation of the proposed

facility sites would remain within previously developed areas throughout the PRWA's service area, such as paved public roadways.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) (CDFW 2020) and California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Inventory (CNPS 2020) were queried to identify special-status plant and wildlife species that have been recorded in the region since the 2015 MND (see **Appendix A**). The queries included the Palmdale United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle map in which the project is located as well as the surrounding eight USGS quadrangles. No new special-status plant or wildlife occurrences have been recorded, since these databases were queried for the Biological Resources section of the 2015 MND.

An approximate 42-acre vacant lot is situated on the north-side of Avenue R 8 East, in-between 43<sup>rd</sup> Street East and 45<sup>th</sup> Street East, that contains numerous Joshua trees and other desert vegetation. This vacant lot sits north of where the Phase 2 pipeline will be installed within Avenue R 8 East. Joshua trees are protected in accordance with the City of Palmdale's Joshua Tree and Native Desert Vegetation Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 14.04 of Title 14 of the Palmdale Municipal Code), as well as the California Desert Native Plants Act. No Joshua trees or other desert vegetation are expected to be disturbed removed by project activities; however, if Joshua trees are not avoidable and are needed to be disturbed or removed within the City's limits as a consequence of construction activities, the PRWA must fulfill one of the requirements outlined in Mitigation Measure BIO-10 to reduce potential impacts to Joshua trees to a less than significant level. Specifically, BIO-10 shall be implemented to indicate Joshua trees (and certain native desert vegetation species) that would be impacted within unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County are subject to the California Desert Native Plants Act. In accordance with this Act (Section 80101 (a)), the project proponent shall pay the required fee to Los Angeles County per Joshua tree that would be removed as a result of the project, which is not less than two dollars (\$2) per plant and shall also include the cost of issuing a permit and may cover other related costs, including, but not limited to, administration, enforcement, and research costs. All other Mitigation Measures outlined in the 2015 MND, with the exception of BIO-8 and BIO-11, are adequate to reduce biological resource impacts to a less than significant level. Therefore, impacts to biological resources related to the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No additional mitigation is required.

## 5.5 Cultural Resources

### 5.5.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.3, *Cultural Resources*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential cultural resources impacts in the project area, including historical resources, archaeological resources, paleontological resources and human remains, and concluded that impacts would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment identified three historic-era archaeological resources (CA-LAN-1558H, CA-LAN-1609H, and CA-LAN-1613H) immediately adjacent to (within 150 feet of) the project area, and it was determined that there was a potential for inadvertent discovery of subsurface cultural resources within the project area.

Construction and operation impacts to historical and archaeological resources would be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measures CUL-1** and **CUL-2**. Mitigation Measure CUL-1 requires PRWA to train construction personnel on the types of cultural resources that may be encountered and of the proper procedures to follow in the inadvertent discovery of cultural materials. Mitigation Measure CUL-2 requires PRWA to halt work in the event of the discovery of cultural materials until it can be assessed for significance by a qualified archaeologist. If the discovery is found to be significant (i.e., qualifies as a historical resource or unique archaeological resource), then PRWA is required to develop and implement a Cultural Resources Treatment Plan. PRWA is also required to consult with Native American tribes in the event the discovery is prehistoric or Native American in origin. Construction and operation impacts to paleontological resources would be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measure CUL-3**, which requires PRWA to halt work in the event of the discovery of fossil materials until it is assessed for significance by a qualified paleontologist. If the discovery is found to be significant (i.e., qualifies as a unique paleontological resource), the PRWA is required to implement appropriate treatment. The 2015 MND concluded that construction and operation impacts to human remains would be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measure CUL-4**, which requires PRWA to halt work in the vicinity of a human remains discovery and comply with Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5.

## 5.5.2 Environmental Setting

A records search update was conducted on February 5, 2020 at the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) housed at California State University, Fullerton. The update was conducted to identify any cultural resources that may have been identified within or adjacent to the Phase 2 alignment since 2014. The records search results indicate that 45 cultural resources studies have been conducted within a 0.5-mile radius of the Phase 2 alignment. Approximately 25 percent of the 0.5-mile records search radius has been included in previous cultural resources surveys. Of the 45 previous studies, three (LA-1938, -9679, and -11135) overlap the project area. In addition to the studies on file at the SCCIC, ESA has on file a study that covered the Phase 2 alignment (Gonzalez and Ehringer, 2014). The entirety of the Phase 2 alignment has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.

The records search results indicate that nine cultural resources have been previously recorded within a 0.5-mile radius of the Phase 2 alignment (**Table CUL-1**). Of the nine cultural resources, five (CA-LAN-1553H, 3384H, -3786H, -4160H, and 4161H) are historic-period archaeological sites and four are historic architectural resources (P-19-150148, -186957, -188188, and -192304). No archaeological or historic architectural resources have been recorded within or immediately adjacent to (within 150 feet of) the Phase 2 alignment.

**TABLE CUL-1**  
**PREVIOUSLY RECORDED CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN A 0.5-MILE RADIUS OF THE PHASE 2 ALIGNMENT**

P-Number (P-19-)	Permanent Trinomial (CA-LAN-)	Description	Date Recorded	Approx. Distance
1553	1553H	Historic-period archaeological site: homestead with three associated trash scatters	1989	0.45 mi.
3384	3384H	Historic-period archaeological site: trash scatter from the 1930s	2004	0.45 mi.
3786	3786H	Historic-period archaeological site: concrete foundations of a demolished home	2005	0.30 mi.
4160	4160H	Historic-period archaeological site: remains of an historic residence and associated residential debris	2010	0.30 mi.
4161	4161H	Historic-period archaeological site: concrete slab foundations, asphalt foundation remains, and linear brick feature	2010	0.45 mi.
150148	-	Historic architectural resource: Pearland Store and Restaurant	1996	0.25 mi.
186957	-	Historic architectural resource: single-story residence	2005	0.45 mi.
188188	-	Historic architectural resource: single-family residential complex	2005	0.40 mi.
192304	-	Historic architectural resource: alignment of the Palmdale to Victorville Road	2015	0.50 mi.

SOURCE: SCCIC, 2020.

### 5.5.3 Consistency Analysis

The updated records search for cultural, archaeological, and paleontological resources in the project area described above do not indicate that there are any such resources in the immediate vicinity of the modified Phase 2 alignment. Therefore, the proposed Phase 2 alignment modification would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts with implementation of mitigation. Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-4 would be implemented as described in the 2015 MND and would reduce impacts of the modified project related to cultural, archaeological, and paleontological resources to less-than-significant levels. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce the potential for cultural resource impacts related to Phase 2 modifications to occur. Therefore, impacts to cultural resources related to the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No additional mitigation is required.

## 5.6 Geology, Soils and Seismicity

### 5.6.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.6, *Geology, Soils and Seismicity*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential project impacts to geology, soils and seismicity in the project area and concluded that construction and operation impacts related to liquefaction and expansive soils would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. Implementation **Mitigation Measure GEO-1**, which requires preparation of a design-level geotechnical investigation and report prior to approval of



construction plans, would reduce any liquefaction and expansive soils impacts on project facilities to less-than-significant levels. Project construction impacts on topsoil and subsoil due to grading and excavation were found to be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measure GEO-2**. Mitigation Measure GEO-2 requires PRWA to prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that prescribes temporary Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control water and wind erosion during construction of the project. All other impacts related to geology, soils, and seismicity were found to be less than significant.

### 5.6.2 Environmental Setting

The 2015 MND includes a detailed summary of geologic conditions in Antelope Valley and in the project area using local planning documents and previous geologic studies that overlap the PRWA Plan Area. These settings included the modified Phase 2 pipeline area and remain applicable.

In general, soils within the Valley are derived from downslope migration of loess and alluvial materials, mainly from granitic rock sources originating along the eastern slopes of the Tehachapi and San Gabriel Mountains. Foothills of the San Gabriel and Sierra Pelona Mountains line the southern and western boundaries of the Recycled Water Facilities Plan study area. The study area is located within the flat basin area, which is filled with unconsolidated alluvium and lacustrine deposits. The alluvial deposits consist of unconsolidated to moderately indurated (hardened) poorly sorted gravel, sand, silt, and clay. The lacustrine deposits are primarily thick layers of blue-green silty clay and brown clay with interbedded sand and silty layers. These deposits accumulated in a lake or marsh which covered large parts of the Antelope Valley at the end of the Pleistocene Epoch. Due to the dry climate, soils do not contain significant amounts of organic matter and have a low intrinsic fertility. These soils have a low to moderate shrink-swell potential and low to moderate subsidence potential.

The 2015 MND's review of the California Geological Survey (CGS) showed the San Andreas Fault Zone traversing in a southeast-trending alignment to the southwest of the project area. The San Andreas Fault Zone is designated as an Alquist-Priolo special study area requiring development setbacks. None of the proposed project facilities would be within the Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone.

### 5.6.3 Consistency Analysis

Environmental settings described in the 2015 MND for geology, soils, and seismicity conditions in the project area have not changed since adoption of the MND. The proposed modifications to Phase 2 would not modify the project area to the extent that construction and operation of project components would occur in areas with geologic conditions that differ from those described in the 2015 MND. Therefore, no additional or more severe construction or operation impacts would occur as a result of settings changes or as a result of proposed modifications to Phase 2. Implementation of Mitigation Measures GEO-1 and GEO-2 as described in the 2015 MND would reduce construction and operation impacts related to geology, soils, and seismicity to less-than-significant levels. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue

R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce the potential for geology, soils and seismicity impacts related to Phase 2 to occur. Therefore, impacts on geology and seismicity related to the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No additional mitigation is required.

## 5.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

### 5.7.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The Final MND evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to greenhouse gas emissions and concluded that construction and operation of the proposed project would not: generate greenhouse gas emissions that may have a significant impact on the environment; or conflict with applicable plans, policies, or regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. Impacts were determined to be **Less than Significant**. No mitigation was required.

### 5.7.2 Environmental Setting

Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere are referred to as greenhouse gases (GHGs) because they capture heat radiated from the sun as it is reflected back into the atmosphere, much like a greenhouse does. Prominent GHGs contributing to the greenhouse effect are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>). Carbon dioxide is the “reference gas” for climate change, meaning that emissions of GHGs are typically reported in “carbon dioxide-equivalent” (CO<sub>2</sub>e) measures. There is international scientific consensus that human-caused increases in GHGs have and will continue to contribute to global warming, although there is uncertainty concerning the magnitude and rate of the warming. Potential global warming impacts in California may include, but are not limited to, loss in snow pack, sea level rise, more extreme heat days per year, more high ozone days, more large forest fires, and more drought years. Secondary effects are likely to include global rise in sea level, impacts to agriculture, changes in disease vectors, and changes in habitat and biodiversity.

### 5.7.3 Consistency Analysis

The modifications to the proposed project, as detailed in Section 4.0 above, would eliminate a lateral pipeline and re-align two other segments of the original pipeline. The 2015 MND quantified emissions of GHGs for construction occurring in 2015 and 2016. Construction under this addendum would not begin until after 2020, therefore the construction fleet would potentially be more efficient reducing construction and operational emissions from equipment and mobile sources. Operational emissions could also be reduced from what was identified in the 2015 MND due to the installation and use of potentially more efficient equipment. Therefore, the modified project would result in GHG emissions that are consistent with, or less than those identified in the 2015 MND. The modified project has the same purpose of developing and increasing recycled water use within the community. Therefore, consistent with the original MND, the modified project would not conflict with plans or policies identified for the reduction of GHG emissions. Therefore, the modifications to the project would result in no new significant environmental

impacts. Impacts associated with GHG emissions related to the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would remain **Less than Significant**, and no mitigation is required.

## 5.8 Hazards

### 5.8.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials in the project area and concluded that project impacts regarding accidental release of hazardous materials; handling hazardous materials within a quarter mile of existing schools; nearby hazardous materials sites; creating a hazard within an airport land use plan; and wildland fires during construction and operation would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. Construction impacts associated with interference with an emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan were found to be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measures HAZ-1** and **HAZ-2**, which requires preparation of a contingency plan for contaminated soils and/or groundwater and a hazardous materials management and spill prevention and control plan, respectively, impacts regarding upset and accident conditions, nearby schools, and active hazardous materials sites would be reduced to less-than-significant levels. Implementation of **Mitigation Measure HAZ-3**, which requires coordination with airport agencies to ensure proper protections measures are integrated into a construction safety program, would reduce impacts related to the Los Angeles County Airport Land Use Plan (ALUP) to a less-than-significant level. Implementation of **Mitigation Measure HAZ-4** requires PRWA's construction contractor to develop and maintain emergency access strategies and would reduce impacts to emergency response protocols to a less-than-significant level. **Mitigation Measure HAZ-5** requires compliance with fire hazard safety measures during construction and would reduce impacts related to wildland fires to a less than significant level.

### 5.8.2 Environmental Setting

The 2015 MND describes environmental settings in the project area relevant to hazards and found that U.S. Air Force Plant 42 and LA-Palmdale Regional Airport properties, which include industrial and aerospace uses, were located to the north of the project area, approximately 0.7 miles from the pump station at the PWRP and approximately 1.75 miles from the nearest proposed recycled water pipeline at 20<sup>th</sup> Street East and Avenue R. In the PRWA Plan area, dense urban development was found to be interspersed with large expanses of vacant land. Hazardous materials in the project area included household hazardous materials common to residential areas, including fertilizers, fuels, and household cleaning products. These settings remain applicable to the project area.

In addition, a limited regulatory agency records search was performed for the study area. The records search included the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) GeoTracker database and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor database. The 2015 MND found that U.S. Airport Plant 42 was listed as an active cleanup site on the Cortese List; however, the updated search of the GeoTracker database and Cortese List prepared for this Addendum indicates the cleanup site status has been changed to inactive. The

updated Cortese List further indicates that Plant 42 requires evaluation as of August 18, 2018 (SWRCB, 2020; DTSC 2020).

### 5.8.3 Consistency Analysis

As stated above, an updated search of the Cortese List database identifies the U.S. Air Force Plant 42 as a State response site, however the site is no longer active. All other environmental settings relevant to hazards in the project area are the same or have not changed significantly. Therefore, no additional construction or operation impacts would occur as a result of environmental settings changes and no new mitigation is required.

Since the proposed Phase 2 alignment modification would not expand the project area to the extent that it would be located in the vicinity of any new hazardous materials sites, the proposed Phase 2 modifications would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts related to new hazards in the project area. Implementation of Mitigation Measures Mitigation Measures HAZ-1 through HAZ-5 as described in the MND would reduce all Phase 2 impacts related to hazardous materials to less-than-significant levels. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce the potential for hazardous materials impacts related to Phase 2 modifications to occur. Therefore, impacts related to hazardous materials as a result of the proposed modifications to Phase 2 to would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No new mitigation would be required.

## 5.9 Hydrology and Water Quality

### 5.9.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.9, *Hydrology and Water Quality*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to water quality in the project area and concluded that project impacts related to water quality standards and waste discharge requirements would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. Implementation of **Mitigation Measures HYDRO-1** through **HYDRO-5**. Mitigation Measures HYDRO 1 through HYDRO 5 require the following: implementation of applicable backflow prevention devices, implementation of minimum pipeline separation standards, painting recycled water pipelines with purple paint, advising the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Cross Connection Control Program of new recycled water use sites prior to placing into service, and inspection and testing for possible cross connections with the potable water system. Project impacts on groundwater were found to be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measure HYDRO-6** which requires PRWA to obtain and comply with requirements of dewatering permits issued by the Lahontan RWQCB for dewatering activities. Project impacts related to erosion and siltation would be reduced to less-than-significant levels with implementation of **Mitigation Measure HYDRO-7**, which requires PRWA to develop and implement a SWPPP using Best Management Practices (BMP) to minimize erosion and sedimentation. All other project impacts related to hydrology and water quality were found to be less than significant or have no impact.

## 5.9.2 Environmental Setting

Chapter 2 (*Project Description*) and Section 9.9 (*Hydrology and Water Quality*) of the 2015 MND include a summary of regulatory requirements and other settings related to hydrology and water quality conditions in the PRWA Plan Area. Environmental settings for hydrology and water quality have not changed since adoption of the Final MND. All environmental settings, including standards held by the Federal government, State, and local agencies that were described for the project area in the Final MND remain applicable.

## 5.9.3 Consistency Analysis

Environmental settings and applicable regulatory requirements described in the 2015 MND for water quality conditions and groundwater supply in the project area have not changed since adoption of the MND. As a result, no additional or more severe impacts would occur as a result of settings or regulatory changes applicable to the project area. Since the proposed modifications to Phase 2 primarily consist of recycled water pipeline alignments, and would not introduce any components that differ significantly from those described in the 2015 MND, the proposed Phase 2 modifications would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts to hydrology and water quality conditions in the project area. Implementation of Mitigation Measures Mitigation Measures HYDRO-1 through HYDRO-7 as described in the MND, in addition to compliance with applicable regulations relevant to groundwater supply and water quality described above, would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce the potential for hydrology and water quality impacts related to Phase 2 modifications to occur. Therefore, impacts to hydrology and water quality related to the Phase 2 modifications would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No new mitigation is required.

## 5.10 Land Use and Land Use Planning

### 5.10.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.10, *Land Use and Land Use Planning*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to land use and land use planning in the project area based on local planning documents and concluded that impacts to land use and land use planning would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. The MND found that impacts to the Palmdale Regional Airport (PMD) Airport Influence Area (AIA) related to construction of the temporary pump station at the existing industrial facility (the PRWP) would be less than significant with implementation of **Mitigation Measures LU-1 through LU-4**. Mitigation Measures LU-1 through LU-4 require PRWA to submit their proposed project plans to Los Angeles County ALUC; prepare an airport construction safety plan; identify ground elevation and submit design plans for airspace analysis (FAA Part 7460 review); and to prevent the creation of temporary or permanent wildlife attractants (open sources of water, inappropriate seed mixtures, or inappropriate landscaping designs). All other impacts were found to be less than significant or have no impact.

## 5.10.2 Environmental Setting

The 2015 MND describes environmental settings related to land use and land use planning in the PRWA Plan Area using City of Palmdale and County of Los Angeles planning documents. It was found that the proposed pipelines would generally be constructed within existing ROWs (paved and unpaved) and adjacent vacant lands. Public ROWs are defined as “a strip of land... intended to be or is presently occupied by a road, sidewalk, railroad, electric transmission lines, oil or gas pipeline, *water line*, sanitary storm sewer, bikeway, pedestrian walkway, or other public use” (City of Palmdale Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 1 Article 16 [1994]).

The pump station was found to be located within the PRWP which is zoned Airport Industrial (M-3) by the City of Palmdale (City of Palmdale, 2013). Permitted uses in Zone M-3 include sewage treatment, subject to approval of a conditional use permit (CUP) (City of Palmdale Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 6, Article 63, Section 63.06). The PWRP is owned by LACSD No. 20. The 2015 MND states that PRWA would be required to acquire an easement from LACSD No. 20 for encroachment on their site prior to implementing the pump station. The proposed pump station is also located within the AIA for the Palmdale Regional Airport (PMD).

## 5.10.3 Consistency Analysis

All settings and regulations described in the 2015 MND for land use and land use planning in the project area remain accurate as regulations have not been updated. The proposed modifications to Phase 2 would not re-locate construction and operation of the proposed project into areas outside of the land use designations analyzed in the 2015 MND, including the AIA designation for the pump station. Therefore, construction and operation of the Phase 2 would not result in any additional impacts than those previously described as a result of settings changes.

The proposed Phase 2 modifications would not introduce project components to areas with land use regulations that differ from those described in the 2015 MND. Thus, the Phase 2 modifications would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts to land use in the project area. Implementation of Mitigation Measures LU-1 through LU-4 as described in the MND would reduce impacts related to the proposed Phase 2 modifications to less-than-significant levels. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce the potential for land use impacts related to Phase 2 modifications. Therefore, impacts to land use and land use planning related to the Phase 2 modifications would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No new mitigation is required.

## 5.11 Mineral Resources

### 5.11.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.11, *Mineral Resources*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to mineral resources in the project area and concluded that mineral resource impacts that would occur as a result of the project would be **Less than Significant**. No mitigation was required.

### 5.11.2 Environmental Setting

The 2015 MND describes environmental settings related to mineral resources in the PRWA Plan Area using City of Palmdale General Plan and Mineral Land Use Classification Maps prepared by the California Department of Conservation. It was found that the majority of the mines in the greater project area were scattered throughout the San Gabriel Mountains and have long been inactive. The 2015 MND also found that nonmetallic minerals were located in widely segregated areas near Palmdale. Known and potential major deposits of sand and gravel, crushed rock, clay, limestone, and dolomite were also identified in the Palmdale area.

An updated search of the Mineral Land Classification Maps found that the project area is designated as MRZ-3, indicating there are no known mineral deposits of significance in the City of Palmdale (California Department of Conservation, 2020).

### 5.11.3 Consistency Analysis

Mineral resources in the project area have not changed since the adoption of the 2015 MND, and Phase 2 modifications would not result in construction or operation of components on lands outside the area that was analyzed in the 2015 MND. As a result, implementation of Phase 2 modifications would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts than those previously described. Therefore, all impacts to mineral resources related to the Phase 2 modifications would remain **Less than Significant**. No mitigation is required.

## 5.12 Noise

### 5.12.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.12, *Noise*) determined that temporarily impacts during project construction to ambient noise levels in the project vicinity would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. Implementation of **Mitigation Measures NOISE-1** and **NOISE-2** would be required to reduce temporary impacts related to existing noise standards and ambient noise levels during construction to less-than-significant levels. These mitigation measures require PRWA to: identify and employ noise-reducing construction practices; to notify all residents and businesses within 500 feet of construction areas of the construction schedule in writing a minimum of two weeks prior to ground-breaking; and to designate Noise Complaint Coordinator. These measures are required to be included in contract documents between PRWA and the construction contractor. Impacts related to groundbourne vibration, permanent increases in ambient noise, and airport noise would be less than significant. There would be no impact related to noise levels in the vicinity of private airstrips.

### 5.12.2 Environmental Setting

Noise is generally defined as unwanted sound. Sound, traveling in the form of waves from a source, exerts a sound pressure level (referred to as sound level) that is measured in decibels (dB), which is the standard unit of sound amplitude measurement. Noise levels from a particular source generally decline as distance to the receptor increases. Other factors, such as the weather and

reflecting or barriers, also help intensify or reduce the noise level at any given location. The background information associated with noise and vibration as identified in the original MND has not change.

The City of Palmdale’s Noise Element provides specific noise standards to judge the relative significance of project-related noise impacts. Policy N1.1.3 limits new stationary (i.e., permanent) noise sources to no more than 65 dBA CNEL exterior with mitigation incorporated. Policy N1.2.2 restricts construction hours during the evening, early morning, and Sundays. To implement the General Plan, the City’s Noise Ordinance (Municipal Code, Chapter 8.28 Building Construction Hours and Operation and Noise Control) prohibits construction activities in residential zoning districts between 8:00 PM and 6:30 AM and all day on Sunday. Exemptions to these working hours would require the approval of the City engineer.

### 5.12.3 Consistency Analysis

Environmental settings described for noise conditions in the project area in the 2015 MND have not changed. Therefore, project construction and operation would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts than those previously described and additional mitigation is required as a result of changes to project settings.

Modifications to Phase 2 of the project eliminates the installation of some lateral pipeline alignments and moves the installation of one pipeline alignment from 37<sup>th</sup> Street to 40<sup>th</sup> Street. The pipeline alignment on 40<sup>th</sup> Street is only 800 feet east of 37<sup>th</sup> Street and would be constructed in the same manner as the originally proposed pipeline location. That is, in compliance with ordinances, codes, and other regulatory requirements applicable to the City described in the MND, and in compliance with Mitigation Measures NOISE-1 and NOISE-2. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce noise impacts related to the Phase 2 pipeline. However, as noise impacts are depending on location to the receptors and receptors line the entire length of the project alignment, the removal of the lateral pipeline would only reduce noise impacts to those receptors in the immediate vicinity of the extension being eliminated. Therefore, this modification would not introduce any additional impacts or more severe impacts than previously described and Phase 2 impacts would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No additional mitigation measures are required.

## 5.13 Population and Housing

### 5.13.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.13, *Population and Housing*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts related to population in the project area and concluded that indirect impacts to population growth in the project area would be **Less than Significant**. No mitigation was required. The PRWA Plan was also evaluated for its potential to result in the displacement of people or housing, however the 2015 concluded that the PRWA Plan would have no impact. No mitigation was required.



### 5.13.2 Environmental Setting

The majority of the PRWA service area overlaps with the PWD service area. Thus, population and water supply/demand growth estimates within the PWD service area are the best proxy for the same metrics within PRWA boundaries. The 2015 MND characterized existing population settings in the PRWA Plan area with estimates that were included in the 2010 PWD Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). However, PWD updated the UWMP in 2015. Therefore, this addendum evaluates impacts based on the 2015 UWMP (PWD, 2015) which includes updated population estimates for the PRWA Plan area, and PWD's Strategic Water Resources Plan (PWD, 2010) which includes PWD's strategies for meeting future water demand.

The 2015 UWMP indicates that the PWD service area has experienced steady population growth, with over 20 percent population increase since the year 2000, and estimates that the population in the PWD service area will increase from 118,227 in 2015 to 157,300. The UWMP further projects that water demands will grow at a similar rate to the population projections at approximately 2% over the 20-year horizon, growing from 20,800 AFY in 2020 to 25,000 AFY in 2040 (PWD, 2015).

The 2016 Strategic Water Resources Plan describes PWD's planned approaches to meet projected water demands, including acquiring and developing new imported supplies, storing water in the local groundwater basin by developing surface spreading facilities and injection wells, adding groundwater pumping capacity, and pursuing recycled water exchange opportunities.

### 5.13.3 Consistency Analysis

As described above, the 2015 MND describes population and water demand settings in the project area using PWD's 2010 Urban Water Management Plan. The 2015 update to the UWMP reflects adjusted population projections from SCAG that result in much more conservative estimates of population growth and water demand for the PWD service area. However, the updated projections indicate a net positive trend of growth for population and water demand in the PWD service area through 2040. Thus, measures outlined in the 2016 Strategic Resources Plan (see above) to meet projected water demand would remain applicable to the project area, and Phase 2 remains consistent with the 2016 Strategic Resource Plan.

The proposed Phase 2 modification would not increase PWD's recycled water capacity in substantial manner, such that indirect growth impacts would occur to a greater extent than those analyzed in the 2015 MND. Therefore, the Phase 2 modifications not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts than previously described, and impacts would remain **Less than Significant**. No mitigation is required.

## 5.14 Public Services

### 5.14.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.14, *Public Services*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to public services in the project area and concluded that the proposed project in and of itself would

not generate growth that would place new demands on local public services, such as schools, parks, fire, police, or other public service providers. Additionally, operation and maintenance of the proposed project would not be labor intensive and would not increase the need for new PRWA staff. Therefore, the 2015 MND found that **No Impact** to public services in the project area would occur as a result of the PRWA Plan and no mitigation was required.

### **5.14.2 Environmental Setting**

The proposed facilities would be located within the City of Palmdale and unincorporated Los Angeles County. Fire protection services are provided by the Los Angeles County Fire Department. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement services and the California Highway Patrol provides traffic enforcement services to the study area.

The elementary, high school and college districts serving the Palmdale area include: Palmdale School District, Antelope Valley Union High School District, and Antelope Valley Community College District. Each is an independent agency governed by a Board of Trustees. The City of Palmdale Recreation and Culture Department provides public park services to the area.

### **5.14.3 Consistency Analysis**

The proposed modifications would move pipeline construction to streets that are in close proximity to those that were analyzed in the 2015 MND. As a result, the public services described for the project area in the 2015 MND remain applicable to the modified project. Therefore, construction and operation of the Phase 2 modifications would not result in any additional or more severe impacts than those previously described.

The proposed modifications to Phase 2 of the project move the installation of one pipeline alignment from 37<sup>th</sup> Street to 40<sup>th</sup> Street. This modification does not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts than previously described. Therefore, there would be **No Impact** on public services. No mitigation is required.

## **5.15 Recreation**

### **5.15.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis**

The 2015 MND (Section 9.15, *Recreation*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to recreational facilities in the project area and concluded that there would be **No Impact** on recreational facilities. The 2015 MND found that the project does not include or require construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Additionally, implementation of the proposed project in and of itself would not generate growth that could result in increased use of existing parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. No mitigation was required.

### 5.15.2 Environmental Setting

The City of Palmdale Recreation and Culture Department manages 18 parks and recreation facilities in PRWA's service area (City of Palmdale, 2016). Domenic Massari Park located at 37761 30<sup>th</sup> Street East, Palmdale Oasis Park located at 3850 East Avenue S, and Yellen Park located at 5100 East Avenue S are located nearest to the intersections where the Phase 2 pipeline would be constructed. Additionally, the Angeles National Forest borders the greater project area to the south and is managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

### 5.15.3 Consistency Analysis

The environmental settings described in the 2015 MND for recreational facilities in the project area have not changed. Therefore, no additional or more severe impacts would occur due to settings changes (i.e. new park facilities in the vicinity of the project).

Phase 2 of the project eliminates the installation of some lateral pipeline alignments and moves the installation of one pipeline alignment from 37<sup>th</sup> Street to 40<sup>th</sup> Street. The modifications are minor, however, and Phase 2 of the PRWA Plan remains primarily a pipeline construction project. As such, the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would not increase use of existing facilities or result in a need for additional facilities, and would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts than previously described. Therefore, **No Impact** to recreational facilities would occur as a result of Phase 2, and no mitigation is required.

## 5.16 Transportation and Traffic

### 5.16.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.16, *Transportation and Traffic*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to transportation and traffic in the project area and concluded that impacts of the PRWA Plan related to transportation and traffic would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. The 2015 MND found that impacts, particularly during construction of the recycled water pipelines on public roads, would have the potential to affect applicable circulation plans, congestion plans, hazards, public transit, and bicycle facilities. However, **Mitigation Measure TRA-1**, which requires PRWA's construction contractor to prepare and implement a Traffic Control Plan, was required to be implemented and would reduce traffic impacts to less-than-significant levels.

### 5.16.2 Environmental Setting

Applicable transportation plans and policies in the project area were described in the 2015 MND. Planning documents applicable to the project area include the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Congestion Management Program (CMP) (MTA, 2010), the Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan (SCAG, 2012), the Antelope Valley Transit Authority Comprehensive Long-Range Transit Plan (AVTA, 2010), and the Circulation Element of the Palmdale General Plan (City of Palmdale, 1993).

AVTA bus routes 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, and 15 would be affected by pipeline installation. In addition, there are existing and planned bikeways on roadways that coincide with the proposed pipeline alignments. The City of Palmdale has adopted a Bikeway and Multi-Purpose Trail Plan (City of Palmdale, 2019), as documented in the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Element of the City's General Plan (City of Palmdale, 1993; see Exhibit PRT-1). The Adopted Master Plan for Bikeways includes planned bikeways along Avenue R, Avenue R-8, and Avenue S in the project area, as well as 55<sup>th</sup> Street East and 30<sup>th</sup> Street East. Portions of the modified Phase 2 pipelines (formerly Phase 3) that cross Avenue S would intersect with an existing Los Angeles County bikeway. In addition, a section of the modified Phase 2 pipeline (formerly Phase 3) on 30<sup>th</sup> Street East, between Avenue R and Avenue R-6, would be built along a small portion of a Los Angeles County Bikeway.

### 5.16.3 Consistency Analysis

Applicable transportation plans have not been updated since adoption of the 2015 MND.

Phase 2 of the project eliminates the installation of some lateral pipeline alignments and moves the installation of one pipeline alignment from 37<sup>th</sup> Street to 40<sup>th</sup> Street. Since the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would not move project construction to locations outside of the City of Palmdale's circulation system which could be more severely impacted, and because PRWA is proposing an expansion of Phase 2 and eliminating multiple phases (thereby reducing the overall amount of construction at various intersections within the City of Palmdale), impacts from these modifications would not substantially alter traffic to the extent that additional or more significant impacts would occur. The addition of the lateral water pipeline on 50<sup>th</sup> Street East to Phase 2 construction, which was originally proposed for Phase 3 construction, would extend the amount of time that Phase 2 construction was originally planned to occur. However, the temporary impacts on traffic circulation and public transit during construction would be much less significant than those previously analyzed in the PRWA Plan, as the PRWA Plan originally included a six-phase construction period. Further, implementation of a traffic control plan in compliance with Mitigation Measure TRA-1 would reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, impacts to traffic in the Phase 2 construction area would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No additional mitigation is required.

## 5.17 Utilities, Service Systems, and Energy

### 5.17.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9.17, *Utilities, Service Systems and Energy*) evaluated the PRWA Plan for potential impacts to utilities, service systems, and energy in the project area and concluded that impacts related to wastewater treatment requirements, storm water facilities, water supply, landfills, per capita energy consumption, wasteful energy consumption, energy infrastructure, and energy policies and standards would be **Less Than Significant**. No mitigation was required.

The 2015 MND also found that the proposed project would not create the need for additional water for wastewater facilities other than those proposed, and would not create demand for wastewater treatment facilities. Further, solid waste generation would be limited to construction-

related activities and would not affect available solid waste disposal capacity in the region. Therefore, the 2015 MND found that the project would have no impact with regard to these areas and no mitigation was required.

### 5.17.2 Environmental Setting

Chapter 2 (*Project Description*) as well as Section 9.17 (*Utilities and Service Systems*) of the 2015 MND include regulatory settings related to utilities service systems in the PRWA Plan Area. Environmental settings have not changed since adoption of the Final MND. All environmental settings that were described for the project area in the Final MND remain applicable.

### 5.17.3 Consistency Analysis

Consistent with the original analysis, the modified project would offset and replace the use of imported water with recycled water, therefore decreasing the energy intensity associated with providing water to the area. Given the reduction in energy intensity from imported water, the modified project would not result in wasteful or unnecessary consumption of energy, would not require construction of new sources of energy supplies or infrastructures, and would not conflict with energy efficiency policies or standards. Therefore, the modified project would have no new environmental impacts associated with energy use, and all impacts to utilities, service systems and energy related to the Phase 2 modifications would remain **Less than Significant**. No mitigation is required.

## 5.18 Wildfire

### 5.18.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

The 2015 MND (Section 9., *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*) analyzed the project for potential impacts related to emergency response and evacuation planning, and impacts related to wildfire risk, and found that impacts would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**.

Impacts related to emergency response planning would be reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation of Mitigation Measures HAZ-4 and TRAF-1. Mitigation Measure HAZ-4 as described in the 2015 MND requires PRWA to coordinate with its construction contractor to develop comprehensive strategies for maintaining emergency access, including, but not limited to maintaining steel trench plates at the construction sites to restore access across open trenches and identification of alternate routing around construction zones, and notifying local emergency service providers of the construction schedule. Mitigation Measure TRAF-1 requires PRWA to coordinate with emergency service providers in the area in advance of project construction.

Impacts related to wildfire risk were found to be less than significant with implementation of Mitigation Measure HAZ-5, which would ensure the following: all staging areas, welding areas, or areas slated for development using spark-producing equipment would be cleared of dried vegetation or other material that could ignite; any construction equipment that includes a spark arrestor would be equipped with a spark arrestor in good working order; contractors would require all vehicles and crews working at the project site to have access to functional fire

extinguishers at all times; and construction crews shall have a spotter during welding activities to look out for potentially dangerous situations, including accidental sparks.

However, since adoption of the Final MND, the scope of wildfire impact analysis required to meet CEQA standards was expanded pursuant to an Appendix G update in 2019. As a result, the modified project will be analyzed below, against the updated impact thresholds, to ensure that impacts would not increase in severity as a result of project modifications or changes to environmental settings. The updated threshold questions are as follows:

**If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:**

- Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?
- Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?
- Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

### 5.18.2 Environmental Settings

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) designates “Very High Fire Hazard Severity” (VHFHS) zones according to their potential to cause fire hazards due to relevant factors such as fuels, terrain, and weather, and provide the basis for application of various mitigation strategies to reduce risks to buildings associated with wildfires. The proposed project would be constructed entirely within areas of the City of Palmdale designated as a Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Non-VHFHS Zone (CAL FIRE, 2007). However, near the project are fire hazard zones have the potential to be impacted, or otherwise impact the project, due to their close proximity. The entire southwestern portion of the City that are, in general, southwest of Rancho Vista Boulevard are designated as an LRA VHFHSZ (CAL FIRE, 2008); and areas just south of the City boundary are designated as a State Responsibility Area (SRA) with moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones (CAL FIRE, 2007).

### 5.18.3 Consistency Analysis

CAL FIRE FHSZ maps have not been updated since adoption of the 2015 MND and, similar to the original project, the modified project would be located in areas designated as LRA Non-VHFHS Zone. The LRA and SRA VHFHS Zones in the southeastern portion of the City have also kept the same designation. The modified project area would still be located in public roadways and driveways and have the potential to interfere with emergency response times and emergency evacuation routes in the project area. However, there would be an overall reduction in the project construction within public roads in the City as a result of construction phase

elimination. As a result, environmental settings described for the project in the 2015 MND have not changed significantly and the potential for impacts related to wildfire risk and emergency response planning due to settings changes remains the same. Mitigation Measures HAZ-4, HAZ-5, and TRAF-1 would be implemented as described in the 2015 MND to further reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels. No additional mitigation is required.

Phase 2 of the project eliminates the installation of some lateral pipeline alignments and moves the installation of one pipeline alignment from 37<sup>th</sup> Street to 40<sup>th</sup> Street. The change in location would not move pipeline construction to roads with more severe fire hazard severity or to a larger street that facilitates higher traffic levels, such as an arterial road or highway, that is more likely to be prioritized in emergency response planning than 37<sup>th</sup> Street. Further, the extent of the pipeline construction area and construction schedule would be reduced as a result of the proposed modifications, reducing potential impacts related to construction-related fire hazards and emergency response planning described in the 2015 MND. Mitigation Measures HAZ-4, HAZ-5, and TRAF-1 would be implemented as described in the 2015 MND to ensure that impacts remain at less-than-significant levels during construction. As a result, impacts to emergency response planning and wildfire risk would be similar or less significant than impacts described for the original project in the 2015 MND. No additional mitigation would be required.

The project would not involve the construction of any support infrastructure such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities that could exacerbate wildfire risk. Mitigation Measure HAZ-5, described above, would ensure that fire risk measures are taken during staging and construction. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation. The modified project area is relatively flat and would not take place on sloped surfaces. The 2015 MND (Section 9.6, *Geology, Soils, and Seismicity*) determined that impacts related to flooding landslides in the project area as a result of the project were less than significant, and no mitigation was required. The modified project remains primarily a pipeline project, and does not add any components that vary from those analyzed in the 2015 MND. As such, risk downslope flooding or landslide as result of post-fire slope instability or drainage changes would remain less than significant, and no additional mitigation would be required.

In summary, there would be no new or more severe wildfire impacts that would occur as a result of updates to CEQA Appendix G thresholds, project modifications, or changes to environmental settings. Therefore, impacts would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**. No new mitigation is required.

## 5.19 Mandatory Findings of Significance

### 5.19.1 Summary of Previous Impact Analysis

Section 9.18, *Mandatory Findings of Significance*, of the 2015 MND analyzed the project to determine if the project would:

- Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the

range of a rare or endangered plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory;

- Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable; or
- Have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effect on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

The 2015 MND found that impacts would be **Less than Significant with Mitigation**.

The 2015 MND found that project impacts during construction would have the potential to adversely affect biological species, including special-status plant and wildlife species. Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-11 would reduce impacts to biological resources to a less-than-significant level. Regarding project impacts to cultural resources, the 2015 MND found that impacts during construction would be potentially significant. Implementation of Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-4 would reduce potentially significant impacts to cultural resources to a less-than-significant level.

Environmental analysis in the 2015 MND found no direct significant effects that could not be mitigated to a less than significant level. However, it was determined that, when the project was considered in combination with other projects in the region, the proposed project had the potential to result in a contribution to a potentially significant cumulative impact based on present (2015), past, and reasonable foreseeable projects in the Antelope Valley. To minimize the potential for cumulative impacts, **Mitigation Measure CUM-1** would be implemented. Mitigation Measure CUM-1 required PRWA to consult with local jurisdictions and other regional agencies to coordinate construction schedules and location of other related projects in the vicinity, and to minimize potential conflicts or compounding effects.

With regard to substantial adverse effects to humans, the 2015 MND determined that implementation of all mitigation measures described in Sections 9.1 through 9.18 would reduce both direct and indirect impacts to humans to a less-than-significant level.

### 5.19.2 Environmental Setting

As described in previous sections, the proposed modifications to the project would not change the project location to the extent that the project area would be larger or drastically different. The proposed modifications would move the location of some parts of the Phase 3 pipeline to nearby streets in the City, and reduce the project size via elimination of construction areas that were proposed for Phase 4, 5 and 6 pipelines. However, any updated environmental standards described for the project area in local and regional regulatory documents, as described in the Environmental Settings for the impact discussions above, would apply to the modified project. Additionally, the proposed modifications to the project would be analyzed in combination with any past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects in Antelope Valley for cumulatively considerable impacts. The 2015 MND included a list of projects in Section 9.18. Since adoption of the MND, the list of local projects has expanded as follows:



- North Los Angeles / Kern County Regional Recycled Water Project, which addresses transmission pipelines, pump stations, storage tanks, and recycled water applications;
- PWD's Water System Master Plan Update (PWD 2016);
- Varied water main replacements as part of PWD's ongoing capital improvement program;
- PWD's Littlerock Reservoir sediment removal project;
- City of Palmdale, AVEK, LACWW, and PWD Upper Amargosa Creek recharge project;
- Expansion of the PWRP, LWRP, and RWWTP by LACSD No. 20, LACSD No. 14, and Rosamond Community Services District, respectively;
- Recycled water project by the Rosamond Community Services District;
- Various roadway and/or storm drainage improvement projects by Caltrans,
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, City of Palmdale, and City of Lancaster;
- City of Palmdale's Trade and Commerce Center Specific Plan Area, and other planned development projects; and
- U.S. Forest Service's Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project

### 5.19.3 Consistency Analysis

As described in Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*, of this Addendum, construction and operation of the proposed facility sites would remain within previously developed areas throughout the PRWA's service area. No new special-status plant or wildlife occurrences have been recorded for the modified project area, and no Joshua trees or other desert vegetation are expected to be disturbed removed by project activities; however, if Joshua trees are not avoidable and are needed to be disturbed or removed within the City's limits as a consequence of construction activities, the PRWA must fulfill one of the requirements outlined in Mitigation Measure BIO-10 to reduce potential impacts to Joshua trees to a less than significant level. All other Mitigation Measures outlined in the 2015 MND, with the exception of BIO-8 and BIO-11 that were specific to Phase 5 which has been eliminated from the modified project, are adequate to reduce biological resource impacts during construction to a less than significant level. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce the potential for biological resource impacts related to Phase 2 modifications to occur.

As described in Section 5.5, *Cultural Resources*, of this Addendum, an updated records search for cultural, archaeological, and paleontological resources in the project area described in Section 5.5, above, do not indicate that there are any such resources in the immediate vicinity of the modified Phase 2 alignment. Therefore, the proposed Phase 2 alignment modification would not result in any additional impacts or more severe impacts with implementation of mitigation. Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-4 would be implemented as described in the 2015 MND and would reduce impacts of the modified project related to cultural, archaeological, and paleontological resources to less-than-significant levels. Additionally, the elimination of the East Avenue R-6 Pipeline between Avenue R and Avenue R-8 and the East Avenue S pipeline

between 37<sup>th</sup> Street and 40<sup>th</sup> Street would further reduce the potential for cultural resource impacts related to Phase 2 modifications to occur.

Since the modified project remains primarily a pipeline project, and does not add any components that vary from those analyzed in the 2015 MND, once the project is constructed there would be no long-term operational impacts to biological and cultural resources in the project area. Therefore, potentially significant impacts to biological resources and cultural resources as a result of settings changes and modified components would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**.

The 2015 MND determined that many of the potential environmental impacts of the project would occur during construction. However, since construction related impacts of the project were found to be temporary and localized, impacts were found to only be potentially significant if they were combined with similar impacts, or if projects occurred at the same time and proximity to other projects in the region. As described in other sections, the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would not significantly change the location or character of the pipeline project to the extent that new or more significant impacts would occur in the local project area. As a result, construction impacts related to the Phase 2 modifications would remain temporary and localized. Therefore, impacts would only be considered potentially significant if other similar impacts occur at the same time and proximity of the modified project, or other projects occur at the same time and proximity of the modified project. Since the list of projects in the region that was included in the 2015 MND may be outdated, the environmental settings above include an updated list in order to describe any new projects in the region that have begun or have been planned since adoption of the 2015 MND. Although the number of projects in the project region has grown since adoption of the 2015 MND, most nearby projects would not include construction in the same location as the modified project, and are not anticipated to include construction that would occur at the same time as construction of the modified project. However, PWD's 2016 Water System Master Plan includes construction of a pipeline on 47<sup>th</sup> Street East. The pipeline would extend south to the 47<sup>th</sup> Street East/Avenue R-8 intersection and would be located adjacent to Phase 2 Pipeline construction areas. The construction schedule for WSMP components indicate that construction of the pipeline would occur in the "years following 2020" (PWD, 2016). Thus, construction would have the potential to occur at the same time as construction of the Phase 2 Pipeline portions that are located on Avenue R-8, and could contribute to cumulatively considerable impacts at the 47<sup>th</sup> Street East/Avenue R-8 intersection. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure CUM-1 as described in the 2015 MND would ensure that any cumulative impacts would be mitigated to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, no new or more significant impacts related to the proposed modifications would occur as a result of the proposed modifications or environmental settings changes. Impacts would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**.

As described previously, the proposed modifications to Phase 2 would not significantly change the location or character of the pipeline project. Impacts would primarily occur during construction, and the project area would not be modified to the extent that project construction would occur in areas that would have the potential to have additional or more significant effects on human beings. Implementation of all mitigation measures described in this Addendum would reduce potentially significant impacts to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, the proposed

modifications would not introduce environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly, as a result of the proposed modifications or environmental settings changes. Impacts would remain **Less than Significant with Mitigation**.

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Appendix A  
**CNDDDB Search Results**







# Selected Elements by Common Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database



**Query Criteria:** Quad (Palmdale (3411851) OR Del Sur (3411863) OR Lancaster West (3411862) OR Lancaster East (3411861) OR Sleepy Valley (3411853) OR Ritter Ridge (3411852) OR Pacifico Mountain (3411841) OR Agua Dulce (3411843)) AND Taxonomic Group (Dune OR Scrub OR Herbaceous OR Marsh OR Riparian OR Woodland OR Forest OR Alpine OR Inland Waters OR Marine OR Estuarine OR Riverine OR Palustrine OR Fish OR Amphibians OR Reptiles OR Birds OR Mammals OR Mollusks OR Arachnids OR Crustaceans OR Insects)

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b>arroyo chub</b> <i>Gila orcuttii</i>	AFCJB13120	None	None	G2	S2	SSC
<b>arroyo toad</b> <i>Anaxyrus californicus</i>	AAABB01230	Endangered	None	G2G3	S2S3	SSC
<b>Bell's sage sparrow</b> <i>Artemisiospiza belli belli</i>	ABPBX97021	None	None	G5T2T3	S3	WL
<b>burrowing owl</b> <i>Athene cunicularia</i>	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<b>California glossy snake</b> <i>Arizona elegans occidentalis</i>	ARADB01017	None	None	G5T2	S2	SSC
<b>California legless lizard</b> <i>Anniella spp.</i>	ARACC01070	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	SSC
<b>California red-legged frog</b> <i>Rana draytonii</i>	AAABH01022	Threatened	None	G2G3	S2S3	SSC
<b>coast horned lizard</b> <i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>	ARACF12100	None	None	G3G4	S3S4	SSC
<b>coastal California gnatcatcher</b> <i>Polioptila californica californica</i>	ABPBJ08081	Threatened	None	G4G5T2Q	S2	SSC
<b>Cooper's hawk</b> <i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	ABNKC12040	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<b>Crotch bumble bee</b> <i>Bombus crotchii</i>	IIHYM24480	None	Candidate Endangered	G3G4	S1S2	
<b>ferruginous hawk</b> <i>Buteo regalis</i>	ABNKC19120	None	None	G4	S3S4	WL
<b>Le Conte's thrasher</b> <i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>	ABPBK06100	None	None	G4	S3	SSC
<b>least Bell's vireo</b> <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	ABPBW01114	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S2	
<b>loggerhead shrike</b> <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	ABPBR01030	None	None	G4	S4	SSC
<b>merlin</b> <i>Falco columbarius</i>	ABNKD06030	None	None	G5	S3S4	WL



Selected Elements by Common Name  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
California Natural Diversity Database



Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
<b>Mohave ground squirrel</b> <i>Xerospermophilus mohavensis</i>	AMAFB05150	None	Threatened	G2G3	S2S3	
<b>Mojave Riparian Forest</b> <i>Mojave Riparian Forest</i>	CTT61700CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<b>mountain plover</b> <i>Charadrius montanus</i>	ABNNB03100	None	None	G3	S2S3	SSC
<b>Northern California legless lizard</b> <i>Anniella pulchra</i>	ARACC01020	None	None	G3	S3	SSC
<b>prairie falcon</b> <i>Falco mexicanus</i>	ABNKD06090	None	None	G5	S4	WL
<b>quino checkerspot butterfly</b> <i>Euphydryas editha quino</i>	IILEPK405L	Endangered	None	G5T1T2	S1S2	
<b>Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub</b> <i>Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub</i>	CTT32720CA	None	None	G1	S1.1	
<b>San Joaquin pocket mouse</b> <i>Perognathus inornatus</i>	AMAFD01060	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
<b>Santa Ana sucker</b> <i>Catostomus santaanae</i>	AFCJC02190	Threatened	None	G1	S1	
<b>southern California rufous-crowned sparrow</b> <i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>	ABPBX91091	None	None	G5T3	S3	WL
<b>Southern California Threespine Stickleback Stream</b> <i>Southern California Threespine Stickleback Stream</i>	CARE2320CA	None	None	GNR	SNR	
<b>Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest</b> <i>Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest</i>	CTT61310CA	None	None	G4	S4	
<b>Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest</b> <i>Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest</i>	CTT61330CA	None	None	G3	S3.2	
<b>southern grasshopper mouse</b> <i>Onychomys torridus ramona</i>	AMAFF06022	None	None	G5T3	S3	SSC
<b>southern mountain yellow-legged frog</b> <i>Rana muscosa</i>	AAABH01330	Endangered	Endangered	G1	S1	WL
<b>Southern Riparian Scrub</b> <i>Southern Riparian Scrub</i>	CTT63300CA	None	None	G3	S3.2	
<b>Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland</b> <i>Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland</i>	CTT62400CA	None	None	G4	S4	
<b>Southern Willow Scrub</b> <i>Southern Willow Scrub</i>	CTT63320CA	None	None	G3	S2.1	
<b>southwestern willow flycatcher</b> <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	ABPAE33043	Endangered	Endangered	G5T2	S1	
<b>Swainson's hawk</b> <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	ABNKC19070	None	Threatened	G5	S3	
<b>Townsend's big-eared bat</b> <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	AMACC08010	None	None	G3G4	S2	SSC



**Selected Elements by Common Name**  
**California Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**California Natural Diversity Database**



<b>Species</b>	<b>Element Code</b>	<b>Federal Status</b>	<b>State Status</b>	<b>Global Rank</b>	<b>State Rank</b>	<b>Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP</b>
<b>tricolored blackbird</b> <i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	ABPBXB0020	None	Threatened	G2G3	S1S2	SSC
<b>two-striped gartersnake</b> <i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>	ARADB36160	None	None	G4	S3S4	SSC
<b>unarmored threespine stickleback</b> <i>Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni</i>	AFCPA03011	Endangered	Endangered	G5T1	S1	FP
<b>Valley Needlegrass Grassland</b> <i>Valley Needlegrass Grassland</i>	CTT42110CA	None	None	G3	S3.1	
<b>vernal pool fairy shrimp</b> <i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>	ICBRA03030	Threatened	None	G3	S3	
<b>western pond turtle</b> <i>Emys marmorata</i>	ARAAD02030	None	None	G3G4	S3	SSC
<b>Wildflower Field</b> <i>Wildflower Field</i>	CTT42300CA	None	None	G2	S2.2	
<b>Yuma myotis</b> <i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	AMACC01020	None	None	G5	S4	

**Record Count: 45**



Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants

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## Plant List

38 matches found. *Click on scientific name for details*

### Search Criteria

California Rare Plant Rank is one of [1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3, 4], FESA is one of [Endangered, Threatened, Candidate, Not Listed], CESA is one of [Endangered, Threatened, Rare, Not Listed], Found in Quads 3411863, 3411862, 3411861, 3411853, 3411852, 3411851 3411843 and 3411841;

<a href="#">Modify Search Criteria</a>	<a href="#">Export to Excel</a>	<a href="#">Modify Columns</a>	<a href="#">Modify Sort</a>	<a href="#">Display Photos</a>	CA Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Blooming Period			
<a href="#">Acanthoscyphus parishii var. parishii</a>	Parish's oxytheca	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Jun-Sep	4.2	S3S4	G4?T3T4
<a href="#">Androsace elongata ssp. acuta</a>	California androsace	Primulaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jun	4.2	S3S4	G5?T3T4
<a href="#">Arctostaphylos glandulosa ssp. gabrielensis</a>	San Gabriel manzanita	Ericaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Mar	1B.2	S3	G5T3
<a href="#">Arctostaphylos parryana ssp. tumescens</a>	interior manzanita	Ericaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Feb-Apr	4.3	S3S4	G4T3T4

<u>Astragalus preussii</u> var. <u>laxiflorus</u>	Lancaster milk-vetch	Fabaceae	perennial herb	Mar-May	1B.1	S1	G4T2
<u>Calochortus catalinae</u>	Catalina mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	(Feb)Mar-Jun	4.2	S3S4	G3G4
<u>Calochortus clavatus</u> var. <u>clavatus</u>	club-haired mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	(Mar)May-Jun	4.3	S3	G4T3
<u>Calochortus clavatus</u> var. <u>gracilis</u>	slender mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Mar-Jun(Nov)	1B.2	S2S3	G4T2T3
<u>Calochortus palmeri</u> var. <u>palmeri</u>	Palmer's mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S2	G3T2
<u>Calochortus plummerae</u>	Plummer's mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jul	4.2	S4	G4
<u>Calochortus striatus</u>	alkali mariposa lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jun	1B.2	S2S3	G3?
<u>Calystegia peirsonii</u>	Peirson's morning-glory	Convolvulaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Apr-Jun	4.2	S4	G4
<u>Canbya candida</u>	white pygmy-poppy	Papaveraceae	annual herb	Mar-Jun	4.2	S3S4	G3G4
<u>Castilleja gleasoni</u>	Mt. Gleason paintbrush	Orobanchaceae	perennial herb (hemiparasitic)	May-Jun(Sep)	1B.2	S2	G2
<u>Castilleja plagiotoma</u>	Mojave paintbrush	Orobanchaceae	perennial herb (hemiparasitic)	Apr-Jun	4.3	S4	G4
<u>Chorizanthe parryi</u> var. <u>parryi</u>	Parry's spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	1B.1	S2	G3T2
	Mojave spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jul	4.2	S4	G4

Chorizanthe  
spinosa

<u>Cryptantha clokeyi</u>	Clokey's cryptantha	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Apr	1B.2 S3	G3
<u>Diplacus johnstonii</u>	Johnston's monkeyflower	Phrymaceae	annual herb	(Apr)May -Aug	4.3 S4	G4
<u>Dodecahema leptoceras</u>	slender-horned spineflower	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	1B.1 S1	G1
<u>Eriastrum rosamondense</u>	Rosamond eriastrum	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	Apr- May(Jun- Jul)	1B.1 S1?	G1?
<u>Frasera neglecta</u>	pine green- gentian	Gentianaceae	perennial herb	May-Jul	4.3 S4	G4
<u>Galium jepsonii</u>	Jepson's bedstraw	Rubiaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jul-Aug	4.3 S3	G3
<u>Galium johnstonii</u>	Johnston's bedstraw	Rubiaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Jul	4.3 S4	G4
<u>Goodmania luteola</u>	golden goodmania	Polygonaceae	annual herb	Apr-Aug	4.2 S3	G3
<u>Hulsea vestita ssp. gabrielensis</u>	San Gabriel Mountains sunflower	Asteraceae	perennial herb	May-Jul	4.3 S3	G5T3
<u>Lilium parryi</u>	lemon lily	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Jul-Aug	1B.2 S3	G3
<u>Linanthus concinus</u>	San Gabriel linanthus	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2 S2	G2
<u>Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum</u>	sagebrush loeflingia	Caryophyllacea e	annual herb	Apr-May	2B.2 S2	G5T3
<u>Malacothamnus davidsonii</u>	Davidson's bush-mallow	Malvaceae	perennial deciduous shrub	Jun-Jan	1B.2 S2	G2

<u>Opuntia basilaris var. brachyclada</u>	short-joint beavertail	Cactaceae	perennial stem succulent	Apr-Jun(Aug)	1B.2 S3	G5T3
<u>Packera ionophylla</u>	Tehachapi ragwort	Asteraceae	perennial herb	Jun-Jul	4.3 S4	G4
<u>Perideridia pringlei</u>	adobe yampah	Apiaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jun(Jul)	4.3 S4	G4
<u>Phacelia mohavensis</u>	Mojave phacelia	Hydrophyllaceae	annual herb	Apr-Aug	4.3 S4	G4Q
<u>Quercus durata var. gabrielensis</u>	San Gabriel oak	Fagaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Apr-May	4.2 S3	G4T3
<u>Quercus turbinella</u>	shrub live oak	Fagaceae	perennial evergreen shrub	Apr-Jun	4.3 S4	G5
<u>Symphotrichum greatae</u>	Greata's aster	Asteraceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jun-Oct	1B.3 S2	G2
<u>Syntrichopappus lemmonii</u>	Lemmon's syntrichopappus	Asteraceae	annual herb	Apr-May(Jun)	4.3 S4	G4

### Suggested Citation

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