

California Environmental Protection Agency

State Water Resources Control Board

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

P.O. Box 2000, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Info: (916) 341-5300, FAX: (916) 341-5400, Web: http://www.waterrights.ca.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR PETITIONS

Petition for Change

Petition for Extension of Time

Before the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) can approve a petition to change your water right permit or a petition for extension of time to complete use, the SWRCB must consider the information contained in an environmental document prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This form is not a CEQA document. If a CEQA document has not yet been prepared, a determination must be made of who is responsible for its preparation. As the petitioner, you are responsible for all costs associated with the environmental evaluation and preparation of the required CEQA documents. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability and submit any studies that have been conducted regarding the environmental evaluation of your project. If you need more space to completely answer the questions, please number and attach additional sheets.

1. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGES OR WORK REMAINING TO BE COMPLETED

For a petition to change, provide a description of the proposed changes to your project including, but not limited to, type of construction activity, structures existing or to be built, area to be graded or excavated, increase in water diversion and use (up to the amount authorized by the permit), changes in land use, and project operational changes, including changes in how the water will be used. For a petition for extension of time, provide a description of what work has been completed and what remains to be done. Include in your description any of the above elements that will occur during the requested extension period.

Multiple horizontal lines for providing a description of proposed changes or work remaining to be completed.

See Attachment No. 1

2. COUNTY PERMITS

a. Contact your county planning or public works department and provide the following information:

Person contacted: _____ Date of contact: _____

Department: _____ Telephone: (_____) _____

County Zoning Designation: _____

Are any county permits required for your project? YES NO If YES, check appropriate box below:
 Grading permit Use permit Watercourse Obstruction permit Change of zoning
 General plan change Other (explain):

b. Have you obtained any of the required permits described above? YES NO
If YES, provide a complete copy of each permit obtained.
 See Attachment No. 1

3. STATE/FEDERAL PERMITS AND REQUIREMENTS

a. Check any additional state or federal permits required for your project:
 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission U.S. Forest Service Bureau of Land Management
 Soil Conservation Service Dept. of Water Resources (Div. of Safety of Dams) Reclamation Board
 Coastal Commission State Lands Commission Other (specify) _____

b. For each agency from which a permit is required, provide the following information:

AGENCY	PERMIT TYPE	PERSON(S) CONTACTED	CONTACT DATE	TELEPHONE NO.

See Attachment No. 1

c. Does your proposed project involve any construction or grading-related activity that has significantly altered or would significantly alter the bed or bank of any stream or lake? YES NO
If YES, explain: _____

See Attachment No. 1

d. Have you contacted the California Department of Fish and Game concerning your project? YES NO
If YES, name and telephone number of contact: James Navicky, 916-358-2926

4. ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

a. Has any California public agency prepared an environmental document for your project? YES NO
a. If YES, submit a copy of the latest environmental document(s) prepared, including a copy of the notice of determination adopted by the California public agency. Public agency: Department of Fish and Game
b. If NO, check the appropriate box and explain below, if necessary:
 The petitioner is a California public agency and will be preparing the environmental document.*

- I expect that the SWRCB will be preparing the environmental document.**
- I expect that a California public agency other than the State Water Resources Control Board will be preparing the environmental document.* Public agency: _____

See Attachment No. _____

* Note: When completed, submit a copy of the final environmental document (including notice of determination) or notice of exemption to the SWRCB, Division of Water Rights. Processing of your petition cannot proceed until these documents are submitted.

** Note: CEQA requires that the SWRCB, as Lead Agency, prepare the environmental document. The information contained in the environmental document must be developed by the petitioner and at the petitioner's expense under the direction of the SWRCB, Division of Water Rights.

5. WASTE/WASTEWATER

- a. Will your project, during construction or operation, (1) generate waste or wastewater containing such things as sewage, industrial chemicals, metals, or agricultural chemicals, or (2) cause erosion, turbidity or sedimentation?
 YES NO

If YES, or you are unsure of your answer, explain below and contact your local Regional Water Quality Control Board for the following information (See instruction booklet for address and telephone no.):

See Attachment No. 1

- b. Will a waste discharge permit be required for your project? YES NO

Person contacted: _____ Date of contact: _____

- c. What method of treatment and disposal will be used? _____

See Attachment No. 1

6. ARCHEOLOGY

- a. Have any archeological reports been prepared on this project? YES NO
- b. Will you be preparing an archeological report to satisfy another public agency? YES NO
- c. Do you know of any archeological or historic sites located within the general project area? YES NO

If YES, explain: _____

See Attachment No. 1

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Attach three complete sets of color photographs, clearly dated and labeled, showing the vegetation that exists at the below-listed three locations. For time extension petitions, the photographs should document only those areas of the project that will be impacted during the requested extension period.

- Along the stream channel immediately downstream from the proposed point(s) of diversion.
- Along the stream channel immediately upstream from the proposed point(s) of diversion.
- At the place(s) where the water is to be used.

Attachment 1
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR PETITIONS

1. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGES OR WORK REMAINING TO BE COMPLETED

For a petition to change, provide a description of the proposed changes to your project including, but not limited to, type of construction activity, structures existing or to be built, area to be graded or excavated, increase in water diversion and use (up to the amount authorized by the permit), changes in land use, and project operational changes, including changes in how the water will be used.

Water under Natomas Central Mutual Water Company's (NCMWC) Permit 19400 (Application 25727) can be diverted from four permanent points on the Sacramento River, two permanent points on the Natomas Cross Canal, and four variable points located on various drains within NCMWC's service area operated by Reclamation District 1000 (RD1000). Water can be directly diverted up to 168 cfs (not to exceed 10,000 af per year) from October 1 through April 1 of each year for irrigation use within NCMWC's 51,091 acre-foot service area, and municipal and industrial use within the Sacramento Metropolitan Airport and its Special Planning Area only. A map showing the location of the points of diversion and the service area is included as an attachment. All NCMWC facilities are existing and have been in operation for many years. There will be no change in facilities or operations as a result of this petition.

All construction for the Lower Northwest Interceptor (LNWI) project is complete. Existing relevant facilities include the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (SRWTP) and the LNWI. Both facilities are operated by the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD). The LNWI is an approximately 20 mile long, 5 to 10 foot diameter sanitary sewer pipeline which extends from Natomas south through West Sacramento and the trends east across the Sacramento River, terminating at the SRWTP. There would be no change in the facilities as a result of the proposed project.

The proposed place and purpose of use to be added under Permit 19400 would be the LNWI pipeline for testing and flushing flows. The LNWI's intake is located within RD1000's East Drainage Canal, just northwest of the Interstate 5 and Interstate 80 interchange in northern Sacramento County and within NCMWC's service area.

2. COUNTY PERMITS

County permits will not be necessary for this project as all facilities involved are existing and would not change as a result of the proposed project. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was prepared dated May 2003. The EIR

describes the LNWI project and all the permits and approvals required. The following is a list of county agencies and actions described in the EIR which were involved in the LNWI project approval and implementation:

- The EIR was certified by SRCSD in accordance with the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- Authority to construct and permission to operate permits from the Sacramento Metropolitan and Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management Districts for the construction and operation of two pump stations (including construction of emergency generators).
- Encroachment permits from City of Sacramento, City of West Sacramento, and Yolo County.

3. STATE/FEDERAL PERMITS AND REQUIREMENTS

State/Federal permits will also not be necessary. The following is a list of state or federal agencies and actions described in the EIR which were involved in the LNWI project approval and implementation:

- A water quality certification and a permit from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).
- A section 1603 streambed alteration agreement from the Department of Fish and Game (DFG).
- A land lease from the State Lands Commission in order to bore under the Sacramento River and under Babel Slough.
- Encroachment permits from California Reclamation Board and California Department of Transportation.
- A Railroad Property for Utility Survey permit and an encroachment permit from Union Pacific Railroad.
- A right of entry and indemnity agreement and an encroachment permit from Youngstown & Southeastern Railroad.
- A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species consultation.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries division consultation.

- Section 404 (Clean Water Act) permit and a Section 10 permit and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers consultation.
- State Historic Preservation Officer consultation.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

An extensive project-level EIR was prepared for the LNWI project, distributed in draft form in February 2003 and as final in May 2003. The project-level EIR focuses on site-specific environmental impacts that were not considered in detail in the program-level EIR. The project-level EIR is included as an attachment to this Petition.

5. WASTE/WASTEWATER

- a. The operation of NCMWC's closed system normally results in 0% return flow to the Sacramento River. The water proposed to be transferred would result in approximately 100% return flow since the process of testing and flushing the LNWI would not consume any of the water. The point of return flow would be at SRWTP's effluent discharge just below the Freeport Bridge over the Sacramento River. Upstream of this point, the Sacramento River would incur no change in the seasonal streamflow. Downstream of this point, the seasonal streamflow in the river would increase by the amount of the change. The water used in the testing and flushing of the LNWI would be passed through the SRWTP. The effluent discharge is subject to the all the same regulations and water quality testing requirements of the RWQCB. The project would have no meaningful effect on water quality.
- b. The flow used for testing and flushing would be a portion of the SRWTP effluent already regulated by a waste discharge permit.
- c. The water would be treated in the same manner as all flows passing through the SRWTP and disposed of through discharge to the Sacramento River as noted above.

6. ARCHEOLOGY

- a. Archeological studies were conducted and are outlined in the EIR in chapters 10 and 11.
- b. Figure 10-2 in the EIR identifies areas of archeological sensitivity. Only a few areas are identified as significant or potentially significant. See Table 10-1 of the EIR for details on these areas.