

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 02
was approved as Minute Item
by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
to 1 at its 21st
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

002

1/81
W 22633
Reese
PRC 5946

GENERAL PERMIT - PUBLIC AGENCY USE

APPLICANT: City of Sacramento
Division of Water and Sewers
927 - 10th Street, Suite 201
Sacramento, California 95814

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:
0.565± acre parcel of tide and submerged
across the bed of the American River at
the Interstate 5 Highway bridge in the
City of Sacramento, Sacramento County.

LAND USE: Construction and maintenance of a 24-inch
diameter water line.

TERMS OF PROPOSED PERMIT:
Initial period: 49 years from April 1,
1981.

CONSIDERATION: The public use and benefit with the State
reserving the right at any time to set
a monetary rental if the Commission finds
such action to be in the State's best interest.

BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION:
Pursuant to 2 Cal. Adm. Code 2005 & 2006.

PREREQUISITE TERMS, FEES AND EXPENSES:
Applicant is permittee of upland.
Filing fee and processing costs have been
received.

STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:
A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Parts 1 & 2; Div. 13;
Div. 20.
B. Cal. Adm. Code: Title 2, Div. 3; Title 14,
Div. 6.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:
1. The City of Sacramento proposes to
install a 24-inch diameter water line
across the American River. The water

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line crossing is part of the City of Sacramento Water System Expansion and will supply the growing Natomas South area with potable water.

2. The annual rental value of the site is estimated to be \$875.
3. A Final EIR was prepared by the Environmental Assessment and Resource Planning (City of Sacramento), pursuant to CEQA and the State EIR Guidelines.
4. This project is situated on State land identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to P.R.C. 6370.1, and is classified in a use category, Class A, which authorizes Restricted Use.

Staff has coordinated this project with those agencies and organizations which nominated the site as containing significant environmental values. They have found this project to be compatible with their nomination.

- EXHIBITS:
- A. Land Description.
 - B. Location Map.
 - C. E.I.R. Summary.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. DETERMINE THAT AN EIR HAS BEEN PREPARED AND CERTIFIED FOR THIS PROJECT BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND RESOURCE PLANNING (CITY OF SACRAMENTO).
2. CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE EIR HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED BY THE COMMISSION.
3. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
4. FIND THAT GRANTING OF THE PERMIT WILL HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT UPON ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS IDENTIFIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 6370.1, OF THE P.R.C.
5. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO - DIVISION OF WATER AND SEWERS OF A 49-YEAR GENERAL PERMIT - PUBLIC

CALENDAR ITEM NO 300 (CONTD)

AGENCY USE FROM APRIL 1, 1981; IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC USE AND BENEFIT; WITH THE STATE RESERVING THE RIGHT AT ANY TIME TO SET A MONETARY RENTAL IF THE COMMISSION FINDS SUCH ACTION TO BE IN THE STATE'S BEST INTEREST. FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF A 24-INCH DIAMETER WATER LINE ON THE LAND DESCRIBED ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF.

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EXHIBIT "A"

LAND DESCRIPTION

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A strip of tide and submerged land 10 feet wide across the bed of the American River at the Interstate 5 Highway bridge in the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County, California, said strip lying 5 feet on each side of the following described center line:

BEGINNING at a point on a tangent curve, concave to the west having a radius of 3,010.00 feet, said point of beginning having coordinates of X = 2,141,935.01 feet and Y = 140,157.83 feet and to which a radial line bears N 71°21'47"E; thence northerly 187.87 feet along said curve; thence N 22°22'47"W 2273 feet to the end of the herein-described center line.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM any portion lying landward of the ordinary high water mark of the American River.

Bearings and distances in the above description are based on the California Coordinate System, Zone II.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED DECEMBER 9, 1980 BY TECHNICAL SERVICES UNIT, ROY MINNICK, SUPERVISOR

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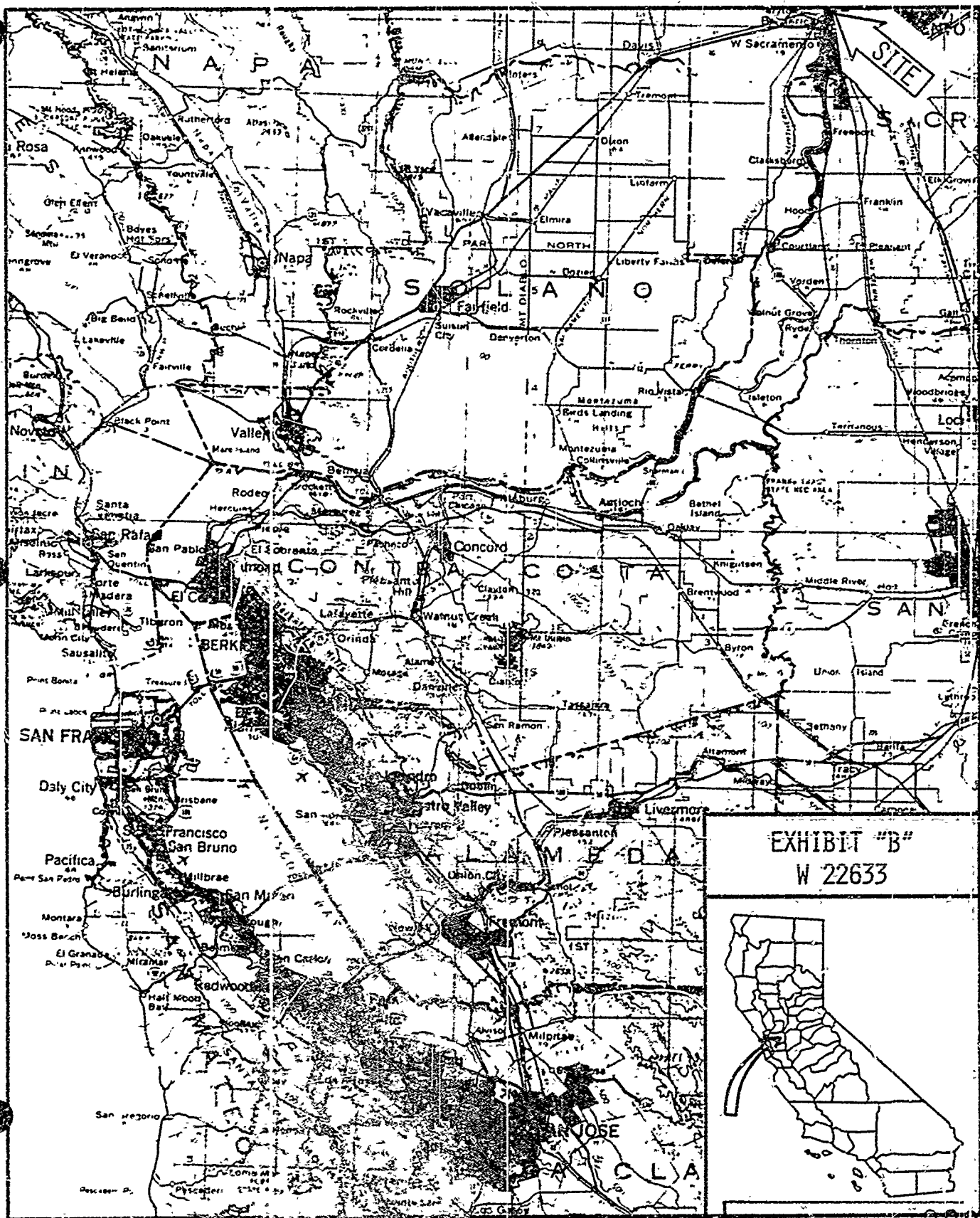


EXHIBIT "B"
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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT SUMMARYI. INTRODUCTION

The following is a summary of an April 1975 EIR on the proposed Water System Expansion in Sacramento, California, prepared by the City of Sacramento, Office of Environmental Assessment and Resource Planning. A study of the Sacramento Water System performed for the City of Sacramento in April 1974 concluded that the City must continue to expand its water system in an orderly manner to meet the growing demands for high quality water. The recommended immediate new developments include additional pumping and treating capacity at the Sacramento River Treatment Plant, a transmission pipeline to a new reservoir and pumping plant in the north area, and a transmission pipeline from the Sacramento River Treatment Plant to the American River throughout most of its length. The new facilities would supply treated water to existing areas northealy of the American River that are presently receiving water from wells having poorer quality than treated surface supplies; and provide additional water for normal system growth. This summary will be limited primarily to the transmission line extending from the Sacramento River Treatment Plant to the American River Treatment Plant.

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In order to supply filtered water to the existing and projected service area, both north and south of the American River, two transmission pipelines are proposed. The subject transmission line will extend from the Sacramento River Treatment Plant to the American River Treatment Plant, with most of its length lying north of the American River. This facility would provide service with treated water from the Sacramento River to areas now served from wells, and would temporarily allow transfer of excess capacity from the Sacramento River Plant to the areas served from the American River Plant. After more treatment capacity has been provided in the southern areas, and demands have grown in the northern areas, the pipeline could be used to move excess capacity from the American River Plant to the northern service area.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

1. Characteristics

There are two types of visual characteristics associated with the Project area. One is strictly an industrial-urban setting characterized by a number of mixed land uses involving industrial buildings and structures of the treatment plant, low density residential areas to the east and north of the plant site, and the Southern Pacific Railroad yard to the south. In addition, high density, commercial-transient residential activity along Jibboom Street, and utility provisions with and bordering the grounds all add to the industrial-urban setting of the Project vicinity.

The other visual characteristic involves areas of interspersed greenery within the treatment plant. These green areas are composed of numerous tree and shrub species along with large cultivated lawns. This vegetation is visible from the I-5 freeway, as well as from those roads within the grounds. The interspersed greenery is further enhanced by the reflective, still waters of the holding and settling basins. This element adds substantially to the visual esthetics of the treatment plant.

2. Soils

Sacramento area soils formed on river deposits are all basically similar due to their lack of significant profile, their homogeneity, great depth, and relative perviousness. They have formed primarily on river floodplain deposits derived from the granitic rocks of the Sierra Nevada. In areas of Project facilities, the soils consist of fine and very fine sandy loam. They are well drained, except where high water table conditions may interfere.

Grassland association. The grassland association is common to the American River floodplain. The uncultivated grassland within the Project area consists almost exclusively of invader forbs and grasses. After years of abuse and disturbance, the perennial grasses once common to the area have been replaced by annuals such as yellow star thistle, wild oats, ripgut grass, rye grass, wild mustard, and tarweed. All of these hearty plants have adapted to the seasonal extremes of temperature and moisture in shadeless regions.

A characteristic shared by these species is the ability to quickly take root on disturbed or freshly cleared ground.

Although not particularly attractive to a wide variety of wildlife, the uncultivated grassland does provide suitable habitat for certain species. The most noteworthy songbirds which forage upon the abundance of star thistle seeds include the lesser goldfinch, common house finch, plain titmouse, and brown towhee.

Riparian association. The riparian association is the most important feature of the floodplain region in terms of both scenic value and wildlife habitat. It is found primarily along the river's edge and adjoining waterways, where seasonal groundwater levels are high. Towering cottonwoods thrive in this type of environment along with a variety of willow species. Shrubs and vines which are adapted to endure the ravages of winter flooding are also present. Dense thickets of wild grape are commonly found climbing into the overstory of larger shrubs and trees.

Other riparian communities within the floodplain are found in low ground depressions. Most dominant vegetation in these isolated areas include black walnut and elderberry. Bordering these pockets are shrubs and weedy species, including cocklebur.

The riparian plant association provides the most significant wildlife habitat found within the floodplain. In these zones hundreds of wildlife species ranging from the smallest insect to the black-tailed deer find food and shelter.

The vegetation of the riparian community also furnishes many wildlife species with necessary shelter and protection for rearing of young. The dense thickets of willows, wild rose, and wild berries provide good escape and shelter cover for smaller wildlife as well as nesting sites for songbirds. The stately cottonwoods, rising far above the shrub cover, also provide roosts for other larger birds found in the floodplain, such as ring-necked pheasant, crow, turkey, vulture, and red-tailed hawk.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The environmental impacts to be considered, in addition to permanent changes, must include the temporary

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impacts that occur during construction, but which do not entail any residual effects. Most of the impacts due to pipeline construction would be a temporary nature, though they may be very serious at the time. With proper design and construction control, most of the pipeline route can be returned to its original state.

Construction of the proposed underground pipelines would create minor traffic inconveniences in some locations and serious disruptions in others.

Pipeline construction across the American River would not adversely affect the aquatic environment if proper safeguards to prevent dropping of construction materials and debris were imposed.

V. MITIGATION MEASURES

1. Limitation of the construction zone width in the American River floodplain would be essential to prevent damage to shrubs and trees and to minimize disturbance of wildlife.
2. Proper restoration of the trenches would mitigate most of the adverse impacts along the pipeline routes, and the planned landscaping would restore equal or superior esthetic values at the plants.

VI. ALTERNATIVES

The possible alternative pipeline routes and plant sites have been carefully examined. If the capacity of the Sacramento water system is to be increased as proposed, there are no reasonable alternatives that do not have equal or greater adverse impacts.

The alternative of no project would imply either that the groundwater overdraft would continue, or that some means to decrease water use was intended. There is no reasonable means at this point in time to enforce such a decrease in water use.

VII. ADVERSE IMPACTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED

The adverse impacts which cannot be avoided if the project is to be built are mostly of a temporary nature entailed with construction. These include traffic disruption where the routes follow streets and roads, and include noise, dust, and fumes from equipment that affects adjacent homes and businesses. There are no serious permanent impacts on vegetation or wildlife, and the permanent scenic changes are

principally at the Sacramento River Treatment Plant and the North Reservoir and Pumping Plant. These locations will be landscaped after completion of construction, and the effects will be considered by many people to be improvements.

There is an undeniable element of growth inducement in the project as proposed, which could only be eliminated by making the project considerably smaller.

VIII. SHORT TERM V. LONG TERM

Short-term uses include construction activities that will temporarily disrupt the natural environment.

The project would provide the facilities to use surface water sources for urban supplies in the Sacramento water system service area. The eventual use of these water supplies for this purpose has been intended for many years.

The project would allow reduction of pumping from groundwater aquifers, which are being overdrafted at present, plus allowing for future population growth in the service area. Allowing for future growth implicitly allows more use of agricultural lands and existing open space for urban development. Population growth also means more pressure on recreation facilities and places more demand on governmental and community services and on other utilities.

The reinforcement of the Sacramento water system capability and the provision for growth in the service are in complete conformity to Sacramento City policy.