

SECTION 10 UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES

This section presents the potential adverse impacts of the Water Authority’s Proposed Project on utilities and public services. This section begins with a description of the regional utilities and public services, followed by a discussion of the relevant Federal, State and local regulations. A programmatic-level analysis of potential utilities and public services-related effects associated with the Proposed Project is provided in Section 10.3. Mitigation measures to avoid, eliminate or reduce effects to a less than significant level are also provided where appropriate. Finally, Section 10.4 identifies effects found not to be significant.

10.1 REGIONAL SETTING

San Diego County is located in the southwest corner of California. The County is approximately 4,261 square miles in size (San Diego County 2003a). The Water Authority and its member agencies comprise a service area of 1,437.5 square miles that covers the western third of the County (SDCWA 2002). The County’s total population is 2,918,254 of which 2,461,883 are within the County’s 18 incorporated cities, all of which are within the service area (San Diego County 2003a). While most of the County’s population is within cities, there are a number of unincorporated communities (e.g., Alpine, Bonsall, and Fallbrook) that have populations of 10,000 or greater that are also within the service area. The eastern portion of San Diego County outside of the service area is sparsely populated with individual home sites and a few small communities (San Diego County 2003b).

10.1.1 Water Service

The member agencies to the Water Authority provide water service to their respective communities. **Table 10-1** shows each of the Water Authority member agencies and the communities that each serves. Water service in eastern San Diego County, outside of the Water Authority’s service area, relies on groundwater either from private wells or small mutual water districts (See Section 4, Water Resources).

| Table 10-1 Water Authority Member Agencies and Areas Served | |
|--|---|
| Member Agency | Community Area Served |
| Carlsbad Municipal Water District | City of Carlsbad |
| City of Del Mar | City of Del Mar |
| City of Escondido | City of Escondido |
| Fallbrook Public Utility District | Fallbrook Public Utility District provides water to residential customers and irrigators in and around the unincorporated community of Fallbrook. |
| Helix Water District | The Helix Water District serves the cities of La Mesa, El Cajon, Lemon Grove, the community of Spring Valley, and various unincorporated areas near El Cajon. |
| National City (member of Sweetwater Authority)* | See Sweetwater Authority* |

| Table 10-1 (continued) | |
|--|---|
| Water Authority Member Agencies and Areas Served | |
| Member Agency | Community Area Served |
| City of Oceanside | City of Oceanside |
| Olivenhain Municipal Water District | The communities of La Costa, portions of Carlsbad, and Encinitas |
| Otay Water District | A small portion of the City of San Diego (near the California -Mexico border) and the unincorporated areas east of San Diego and Chula Vista, along with the western portions of the Jamul/Dulzura planning area. |
| Padre Dam Municipal Water District | Water service is provided to the City of Santee, parts of El Cajon, and the unincorporated areas of Lakeside, Flinn Springs, Harbison Canyon, Blossom Valley, Alpine, Dehesa and Crest. |
| Camp Pendleton Marine Reservation | Camp Pendleton Marine Reservation |
| City of Poway | City of Poway |
| Rainbow Municipal Water District | The District serves the unincorporated communities of Rainbow, Bonsall, and a portion of Fallbrook. |
| Ramona Municipal Water District | The unincorporated community of Ramona |
| Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District | The District covers a total of 26,760 acres with 15,580 acres within the City of Escondido and 39 acres in the City of San Marcos. The District provides wholesale water delivery to portions of Escondido as well as retail domestic and agricultural water service. |
| City of San Diego | The City of San Diego, the City of Del Mar, the Santa Fe and San Dieguito Irrigation Districts, and the California American Water Company (which serves the cities of Coronado and Imperial Beach and portions of south San Diego). |
| San Dieguito Water District | The communities of Leucadia, Old Encinitas, Cardiff and portions of New Encinitas |
| Santa Fe Irrigation District | Rancho Santa Fe |
| South Bay Irrigation District (member of Sweetwater Authority)* | Incorporating 5 districts covering the City of Chula Vista and the unincorporated area of Bonita. |
| Vallecitos Water District | San Marcos, portions of Escondido and Carlsbad, and the surrounding unincorporated areas. |
| Valley Center Municipal Water District | The unincorporated community of Valley Center and individual farms/orchards east of I-15. |
| Vista Irrigation District | City of Vista and adjacent unincorporated areas to the east. |
| Yuima Municipal Water District | Unincorporated areas east of Valley Center within a portion of the Pala -Pauma community planning area. |
| * Sweetwater Authority: Serves National City, the South Bay Irrigation District and the unincorporated areas of Lincoln Acres, and east to the Sweetwater Reservoir. Sources: SDCWA 2002; San Diego County 2003c. | |

10.1.2 Natural Gas

There are 10 natural gas service providers within the San Diego region; however, the majority of residential gas service is provided by SDG&E. The remaining providers serve only individual commercial or industrial clients.

10.1.3 Electricity

While some individual businesses and communities have contracts with independent power generators, generally electrical power within the San Diego region is provided by SDG&E.

10.1.4 Law Enforcement Services

10.1.4.1 San Diego County Sheriff’s Department

The San Diego County Sheriff’s Department is the chief law enforcement agency in the County. The department is comprised of approximately 4,000 employees, both sworn officers and professional support staff. The Department provides general law enforcement and jail functions for the people of San Diego County in a service area of approximately 4,200 square miles. In addition to serving unincorporated areas of the County, the Department provides law enforcement services on a contract basis to the cities of Del Mar, Encinitas, Imperial Beach, Lemon Grove, Poway, Santee, San Marcos, Solana Beach, and Vista (San Diego County 2003b).

10.1.4.2 City Police Departments

The incorporated cities of Carlsbad, Chula Vista, Coronado, El Cajon, Escondido, La Mesa, National City, Oceanside, and San Diego have established police departments. Within their respective cities the police departments provide general law enforcement. Military police units perform law enforcement duties at Camp Pendleton Marine Reservation, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, and other military installations within the San Diego region (San Diego County 2003b).

10.1.5 Fire Protection Services

The San Diego County Office of Disaster Preparedness lists 53 agencies that provide fire protective services. These include local city fire departments (17), volunteer fire departments (10), FPDs (15), Indian reservation fire departments (4), fire rescue and dispatch (2), the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the USFS. The fire departments at Camp Pendleton Marine Reservation, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, and the Federal Fire Department provide fire services to the military installations within the San Diego region. **Table 10-2** lists these agencies and identifies those fire agencies that are within the Water Authority service area (San Diego County 2003c).

| Table 10-2 Fire Protection Agencies Within the Region |
|---|
| Alpine Fire Protection District |
| Barona Fire Department |
| Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District |
| Borrego Springs Fire Protection District |
| Boulevard Fire Rescue |
| California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (San Diego Unit) |

| Table 10-2 (continued) |
|---|
| Fire Protection Agencies Within the Region |
| Camp Pendleton Marine Reservation Fire Department |
| Campo Indian Reservation Fire Department |
| Campo Volunteer Fire Department |
| Carlsbad Fire Department |
| Chula Vista Fire Department |
| Coronado Fire Department |
| Deer Springs Fire Protection District |
| Del Mar Fire Department |
| East County Fire Protection District |
| El Cajon Fire Department |
| Elfin Forest-Harmony Grove Volunteer Fire Department |
| Encinitas Fire Department |
| Escondido Fire Department |
| Federal Fire Department (Department of Defense) |
| Heartland Dispatching |
| Imperial Beach Fire Department |
| Intermountain Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department |
| Julian-Cuyamaca Fire Protection District |
| Lakeside Fire Protection District |
| La Mesa Fire District |
| Lemon Grove Fire Department |
| Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Fire Department |
| Mount Laguna Volunteer Fire Department |
| National City Fire Department |
| North County Fire Protection District |
| North County Reservation Fire District |
| Oceanside Fire Department |
| Octillo Wells Volunteer Fire Department |
| Pala Reservation Fire Department |
| Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department |
| Pine Valley Fire Protection District |
| Poway City Fire Department |
| Ranchita/Mountezuma Valley Volunteer Fire Rescue |
| Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District |
| San Diego Fire Department |
| San Diego Rural Fire Protection District |
| San Marcos Fire Protection District |
| San Miguel Fire Protection District |
| San Pasqual Volunteer Fire Protection District |
| Santee Fire Department |
| Shelter Valley Volunteer Fire Department |
| Solana Beach Fire Department |
| Sunshine Summit Volunteer Fire Department |
| Sycuan Indian Reservation Fire Department |
| United States Forest Service |
| Vista Fire Protection District |
| Warner Springs Fire Department |
| Note: Those fire agencies listed in bold are within the service area. |

10.1.6 Schools

San Diego County is served by 42 public school districts that operate 590 schools with a student enrollment of approximately 470,000 students. In addition to public schools, County residents are served by numerous private schools (San Diego County 2001). There are five community college districts that serve the County (i.e., Grossmont-Cuyamaca, Miracosta, Palomar, San Diego and Southwestern) containing 10 two-year colleges. There are 3 state four-year universities within the County (i.e., University of California, San Diego; San Diego State University; and California State University, San Marcos) and more than 10 private colleges/universities.

10.2 REGULATORY SETTING

10.2.1 Water Service

10.2.1.1 Federal

At the Federal level, the primary regulations relating to water services are associated with water quality. These laws and regulations include the CWA, the goal of which is pollution prevention, and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The latter, enacted by Congress in 1974 and amended in 1986 and 1996, requires protection of drinking water and its source lakes, reservoirs, springs and groundwater wells. The SDWA divides the responsibility of ensuring safe drinking water among the U.S. EPA, states, and local service providers (see Section 4, Water Resources).

10.2.1.2 State and Local

At the State level there are two agencies that oversee water services. The first is the State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards, which are responsible for the enforcement of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7 of the California Water Code). The Porter-Cologne Act deals with the potential discharges into water bodies that could result in a negative impact to water quality.

The second agency is the DWR, whose mission is the overall management of California's water resources. The regulations overseen by DWR regarding water service availability include the Urban Water Management Planning Act, and Senate Bills (SB) 610 and 221. The California Act, adopted in 1983, requires all urban water suppliers within the state to prepare an Urban Water Management Plan and update them every five years. The Water Authority prepared, and adopted the update of its plan for submission to DWR in December 2000. Within the plan the Water Authority described the projected water resources mix necessary to provide water supply reliability for the region through the year 2020 (SDCWA 2000).

SBs 610 and 221 amended state law, effective January 1, 2002, are refinements to the Act intended to improve the link between information on water supply availability and certain land use decisions made by cities and counties. SBs 610 and 221 are companion measures, which seek to promote more collaborative planning between local water suppliers, cities and counties. Both statutes require detailed information regarding water availability to be provided to the city

and county decision-makers prior to approval of specified large development projects. Both statutes also require this detailed information be included in the administrative record that serves as the evidentiary basis for an approval action by the city or county on such projects. Both measures recognize local control and decision-making regarding the availability of water for projects and the approval of projects (DWR 2002).

Under SB 610, water assessments must be furnished to local governments for inclusion in any environmental documentation for certain projects (as defined in Water Code 10912 [a]) subject to CEQA. Under SB 221, approval by a city or county of certain residential subdivisions requires an affirmative written verification of sufficient water supply.

10.2.2 Natural Gas

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulates prices, services, and the construction of the *interstate* natural gas pipelines that serve California.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regulates *intrastate* and local natural gas distribution facilities and services, natural gas procurement, pipelines, and production and gathering. In addition, regulations related to natural gas services at the local level include the California Building Code, the California Health and Safety Code, the California Fire Code and their associated implementing ordinances of San Diego County and the County's incorporated cities.

10.2.3 Electricity

FERC regulates rates for wholesale electric power sales of electricity and transmission in interstate commerce for investor-owned electric utilities, power marketers, power pools, power exchanges and Regional Transmission Operators. FERC does not regulate the physical construction of generation, transmission, or distribution facilities.

Prior to September 2001, direct access to electrical generation was permitted and local municipalities, businesses and institutions established contracts for power directly with the generators. Since September 2001, the CPUC has regulated electrical rates, distribution and services.

10.2.4 Police Services

While both the Federal and state governments gather and publish crime and other law enforcement statistics, there are no Federal or State regulations associated with the provision of police services. However, the local police departments of Carlsbad, Chula Vista, Coronado, Escondido, La Mesa, National City, Oceanside, and San Diego have established goals as to response time, based on the type of call. Because of the large rural area within its service area, the San Diego County Sheriff's Department does not have a countywide response time goal. Within the cities where the Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement services, the department has established response time goals.

10.2.5 Fire Services

There are no Federal regulations associated with the provision of fire services. The California Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM) provides support through a wide variety of fire safety responsibilities including: regulating buildings in which people live, congregate, or are confined; controlling substances and products which may cause injuries, death, and destruction by fire; providing statewide direction for fire prevention within wildland areas; regulating hazardous liquid pipelines; reviewing regulations and building standards; and providing training and education in fire protection methods and responsibilities. Local regulations are related to health, fire and building safety. These include the California Health Code, the California Fire Code, and the Uniform Building Code (UBC), which are implemented at the local level by ordinances passed by San Diego County and the incorporated cities therein.

10.2.6 Schools

There are no specific Federal regulations related to school services. At the State level, the California Department of Education establishes standards for school sites pursuant to Education Code Section 17251 and adopts school site regulations, which are contained in the CCR, Title 5, commencing with Section 14001.

At the local level school services are provided for and administered by the local school district, in compliance with the California Education Code.

10.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

10.3.1 Methodology and Standards of Significance

The analysis was conducted to determine potential increases in demand for specific utility or public services within the project area. In general, the Proposed Project would be considered to have a significant impact to utilities or public services if it would result in:

- Interruption in Service — Interruption or disruption of utility services could occur as a result of physical displacement and subsequent relocation of public utility infrastructure. Such impacts would be considered significant if the result would be a direct long-term service interruption or permanent disruption of essential public utilities;
- Need for Additional Capacity — A significant impact would occur if the Proposed Project results in the need for additional capacity of utility infrastructure or additional services, which could not be supplied by existing utility service providers; or
- Decrease in Level of Service — A significant impact would occur if operation of the Proposed Project components result in a decrease in existing levels of service in the project area.

10.3.2 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

This section identifies the potentially significant adverse program-level impacts and required mitigation measures for implementation of the Proposed Project. **Table 10-3** presented at the

end of this section identifies the potential program-level impacts of each of the Proposed Project facilities. This program-level analysis is not intended to describe or address the impacts in detail; detailed evaluations of the impacts of specific projects will be conducted as part of a site-specific CEQA review.

Unless otherwise noted, all identified impacts are considered to be potentially significant adverse impacts. Corresponding mitigation measures, unless otherwise noted, are expected to be sufficient to reduce impacts to a less than significant level.

Utilities and Public Services Impact 1: *Construction of the Proposed Project facilities could require that existing utility infrastructure be relocated. Such relocations could result in long-term interruptions in service.*

The implementation of the Proposed Project includes the construction of new or expanded pipelines, treatment plants, FRSs, and other structures. Many of these projects would occur within areas used by existing utility infrastructure (i.e., water and gas pipelines and electrical transmission lines) belonging to the Water Authority, its member agencies, SDG&E, or other utility service providers. Although project design criteria and some engineering design has been completed, individual engineering design work for all of the Proposed Project elements has not yet occurred. Without design and engineering review to coordinate the project elements with the existing utilities, it is possible that existing utilities could be damaged or require replacement or relocation. If such a disruption of services were to occur, the impact would be considered significant.

Utilities and Public Services Mitigation Measure 1:

The Water Authority shall ensure that the construction contractor complies with the Water Authority's General Conditions and Standard Specifications, Section 01530 Protection of Existing Facilities. This section describes procedures for locating, protecting, and relocating existing underground utilities so that any service interruptions are temporary.

Utilities and Public Services Impact 2: *Construction of the Proposed Project facilities could impact school service.*

While there are a number of schools that are within a 1-mile radius of Proposed Project facilities, only a few schools would be directly affected by project construction activities. Where construction activities could occur on or immediately adjacent to school grounds, access and egress and school operations, in general, could be disrupted. This would represent a significant public service impact that would be short-term in nature. Following construction, there would be no impacts to school services due to operation of Proposed Project facilities.

The Proposed Project would result in an increase in construction employment in San Diego County. However, given the size/nature of proposed facilities and the implementation timeline, the construction workforce would likely come from the existing labor pool. Accordingly, the Proposed Project is not expected to appreciably increase the local population nor increase school enrollments. While some workers may move within the County and change school districts, these changes would result in a less than significant impact on schools.

Utilities and Public Services Mitigation Measure 2:

Impacts to schools related to construction activity shall be mitigated as follows:

- a) Implement Traffic and Transportation Mitigation Measure 1.
- b) Potentially disruptive construction activities may be scheduled when the schools are not in session.

10.4 EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Implementation of the Proposed Project could result in Impacts to Police Service.

While new construction would increase the number of facilities within a given police patrol area, this would not result in any increase in police or sheriff patrol efforts, or require additional patrol officers. The Proposed Project would not result in an increase in response time. Since the Proposed Project would not result in a change in the level of police service, the impacts from implementation would be less than significant.

Implementation of the Proposed Project could result in Impacts to Fire Protection Services.

While new construction would increase the number of facilities within a given fire protection area/district, this would not result in any increase in fire protection efforts. The Proposed Project will not result in an increase in response time. Since the Proposed Project would not result in a change in the level of fire protection service, the impacts from implementation would be less than significant.

Construction of the Proposed Project facilities could require that additional utility infrastructure be built to accommodate the new facilities and/or could decrease the existing levels of service for utility customers.

The Proposed Project would increase the demand for electric and natural gas utility services. Various Proposed Project facilities would require electric power and modest amounts of natural gas for operation. It is anticipated, however, that utility providers would plan ahead and forecast future utility demands in the region as a whole and expand their capacity to meet future needs and provide adequate levels of service. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

| Table 10-3 Potential Program-Level Utilities and Public Services Impacts of Proposed Project Facilities | | | |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|
| # | Project | Impact | |
| | | 1 ^a | 2 ^b |
| Expand Internal System Capacity | | | |
| <i>Flow Regulatory Storage</i> | | | |
| 1 | Hubbard Hill FRS | | X |
| 2 | Slaughterhouse Terminal Reservoir | | X |
| 3 | North County Distribution Pipeline FRS | | |
| 4 | Mission Trails FRS II | | X |
| | ➤ Mission Trails Tunnel Pipeline and Vent Demolition | | X |
| <i>Projects to Increase Regional Untreated Water Conveyance Capacity</i> | | | |
| 5 | Restore Untreated Water Delivery in La Mesa-Sweetwater Extension | | |
| 6 | Second Crossover Pipeline | X | X |
| 7 | San Diego 24/25/26 FCF | | X |
| 8 | San Diego 12 FCF Expansion | | X |
| 9 | Lower Otay Pump Station | | |
| 10 | Convert Pipeline 3 to Untreated Water from Crossover to Miramar | | |
| Additional Water Treatment Capacity | | | |
| <i>Projects to Supplement Treated-Water Aqueducts</i> | | | |
| 11 | Padre Dam Pump Station Expansion | X | X |
| 12 | Pipeline from Otay FCF 14 to Regulatory Reservoir | X | X |
| 13 | Poway Pump Station and Treated Water Connection | X | X |
| 14 | Escondido-Vista WTP Connection | | |
| | a) Escondido-Vista Pipeline Conversion | | |
| | b) Escondido-Vista Pump Station | | X |
| | c) Escondido-Dixon Pipeline | X | X |
| <i>Projects to Expand Regional Water Treatment Capacity</i> | | | |
| Options for Expanding Regional Treatment Capacity | | | |
| 15a | Olivenhain WTP – 50 mgd Expansion | | |
| 15b | Weese WTP – 50 mgd Expansion | | |
| 15c | Red Mountain WTP – new 50 mgd plant | X | |
| 15d | Diversion Structure WTP – new 100 mgd plant | X | |
| Additional Seasonal/Carryover Storage | | | |
| 16 | Additional San Vicente Dam Raise Beyond ESP | | |
| New Conveyance and Supply | | | |
| 17 | Phase I – Seawater Desalination: Project at Encina (50 mgd) | | |
| | ➤ Desalination Plant | | X |
| | ➤ Desalinated Water Conveyance Facilities | X | X |
| 18 | Expand Existing or Site New Seawater Desalination Plant* | | |
| | Phase II – Seawater Desalination: Expand Capacity up to 100 mgd | | |
| | Phase III – Seawater Desalination: Expand Capacity up to 150 mgd | | |
| Seawater Desalination Site Options for Phases II and III: | | | |
| | a) San Onofre – at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station | X | |
| | b) Carlsbad – at Encina Power Station | X | X |
| | c) South Bay – at South Bay Power Plant | X | |
| | d) Encina Water Pollution Control Facility | X | |
| | e) South Bay Ocean Outfall Site | X | |

Table 10-3 (continued)
Potential Program-Level Utilities and Public Services
Impacts of Proposed Project Facilities

- * The ultimate level of seawater desalination development in the region would depend largely upon actual regional population growth, economics, availability of other high quality water sources, as well as an evaluation of the performance of the Encina seawater desalination facility, should it be approved and constructed.
- ^a Construction of the Proposed Project facilities could require that existing utility infrastructure be relocated. Such relocations could result in long-term interruptions in service.
- ^b Construction of the Proposed Project facilities could impact school service.