

DRAFT
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA
SEPULVEDA DAM FLOOD CONTROL RESERVOIR
DONALD C. TILLMAN WATER RECLAMATION PLANT
LOS ANGELES COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA

I have reviewed the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) that has been prepared in evaluation of the long-term easement of lands to the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) for the purpose of operating the existing Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant (Plant). The Plant is located in the Sepulveda Dam Flood Control Reservoir (Sepulveda Dam Reservoir), in Los Angeles County, California. The Plant facilities have been owned and operated by LASAN on land leased from the Federal government under a 50-year lease (DACW09-1-72-3) enacted in 1979. The current 50-year lease is due to expire in October 2019.

The Plant is an integral component of the City's water treatment program, and was constructed to relieve pressure on the major sewer interceptors in the San Fernando Valley as well as the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant. The Plant treats up to 80 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater, which is of sufficient quality to be used as recycled water for irrigation and source water for several municipal golf courses, ponds, streams, and lakes, and ultimate discharge to the Los Angeles River.

LASAN's stated purpose is to continue operations of the Plant for the next 35 years to efficiently and reliably meet current and projected wastewater management goals including the full range of uses for which the Plant is authorized. The continued operation of the Plant is needed given the Plant's importance in treating and disposing of wastewater from the northern geographic area of the City of Los Angeles.

The No Action Alternative is the non-approval of the long-term easement. The No Action Alternative would not meet the purpose and need of the proposed project, although it was carried forward for comparison purposes.

The Proposed Action includes construction of three primary components; (1) the rehabilitation of the dikes on the south and east sides of the Plant to meet the requirements for the easement renewal agreement, (2) facilities and associated infrastructure for an Advanced Water Purification Facility, and (3) implementation of two minor facility improvement projects including an extension of the Plant's sewer line from Niwa Road to the Japanese Garden, and installation of four new 4-ft. diameter maintenance vaults for flow metering equipment.

I have determined that implementation of the Preferred Alternative identified in this EA, the Requester's proposed project would be in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800), the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and other Federal laws, regulations, and Executive Orders as described in the EA.

I have considered the available information contained in the EA, and it is my determination that there are no significant adverse impacts on the quality of human environment resulting from the approval of the Preferred Alternative. There are no unresolved environmental issues. Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, therefore, is not required.

Date

Aaron C. Barta
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commander and District Engineer