

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

300 CAPITAL MALL, 5<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814



February 3, 2020

Tim O'Halloran  
Project Manager  
California American Water  
511 Forest Lodge Road  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

**RE: Notice to Proceed Request No. 2 (NTPR-2) for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project – (A.12-04-019) – Ryan Ranch-Bishop Interconnection Improvements**

Dear Mr. O'Halloran:

On September 13, 2018, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) certified the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the California American Water (CalAm) Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP) and issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (Decision D.18-09-017). The decision conditionally authorizes construction of the Project with implementation of Applicant Proposed Measures and Mitigation Measures identified in the Final Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance and Reporting Program (MMCRP).

As proposed by CalAm and approved by the CPUC, the MPWSP includes multiple components (source water intake system, desalination plant, desalinated water conveyance facilities, and expanded aquifer storage and recovery system). Separate Notices to Proceed (NTPs) will be issued for the various components or phases of the MPWSP. This is a typical process for projects with multiple components. Given that the MPWSP has been approved by the CPUC, as described above, this phased construction review process allows CalAm to proceed with individual project components where compliance with all applicable mitigation measures and conditions can be documented. NTP-1 (Seaside Transmission Main) was issued by the CPUC on September 13, 2019. Construction of this phase of the MPWSP was completed in fall 2019.

CalAm submitted this NTPR-2 to proceed with the construction of the Ryan Ranch-Bishop Interconnection Improvements, which consists of the construction of approximately 6,300 feet of an 8-inch-diameter water pipeline in the City of Monterey and unincorporated Monterey County, California. The pipeline would be installed within the right-of-way of Ragsdale Drive, Lower Ragsdale Drive, and Wilson Drive. Approximately 0.8-acre would be temporarily disturbed in connection with this NTPR. This interconnection pipeline would allow CalAm to convey water to the Ryan Ranch and Bishop satellite water systems. A Project overview map is provided in **Appendix A**.

All pipeline segments under NTPR-2 would be installed using conventional open-trench technology with approximately 200 feet installed per day. The pipeline installation would occur in 15 separate sections. Excavation activities would include 3-foot-wide trenches. Although vaults, manhole risers, and other pipeline components could require wider excavations, no work would extend outside of paved areas. Work crews would

install trench boxes or shoring or would lay back and bench the slopes to stabilize the pipeline trenches and prevent the walls from collapsing during construction. After excavating the trenches, the contractor would line the trench with pipe bedding (sand or other appropriate material shaped to support the pipeline). Construction workers would then place pipe sections into the trench, weld the sections together as trenching proceeds, and then backfill the trench. Pipeline segments would have about 8 feet of cover and steel plates would be placed over trenches to maintain access to private driveways and the office buildings affected by the construction activity.

The proposed construction would require the following equipment for pipeline installation: flatbed trucks, backhoes, excavators, pipe cutting and welding equipment, haul trucks for spoils transport, trucks for materials delivery, compaction equipment, Baker tanks, pickup trucks, arch welding machines, generators, air compressors, cranes, drill rigs, and skip loaders. Pipeline segments would typically be delivered and installed in 6- to 40-foot-long sections.

Soil removed from the trenches and pits may be temporarily stockpiled within the project footprint during construction prior to off-site disposal. To the extent native soils are suitable for re-use, those soils may be used as backfill. Soils not suitable for re-use would be disposed at an off-site location approximately 12 miles east of the project in Spreckels. The proposed approximately 10-acre site has historically been used for soil deposition purposes. The site has been extensively disturbed in connection with prior use and is surrounded by existing agricultural uses. The proposed soil deposition site is located outside of the original footprint identified in the Final EIR/EIS; however, this minor project refinement would not result in any additional environmental effects beyond those identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

In addition, a new staging is requested as replacement for the original proposed staging area. The proposed minor refinement consists of the use of a staging area located near the intersection of State Route 68 and York Road (see Appendix A). The proposed staging area consists of an approximately 0.21-acre site that has been previously disturbed. The proposed staging area has historically been used for staging of construction equipment, temporary vehicle parking, and other miscellaneous temporary uses.

CalAm's construction contractor proposes to use the alternative staging area as opposed to the area identified in the MPWSP Final EIR/EIS due to the disturbed nature of the site, historical use for construction staging, and site topography (i.e., the site is relatively flat). Unlike the original area identified in the Final EIR/EIS, this staging area would not require site grading, removal of existing vegetation, or the construction of access improvements (i.e., curb removal). As a result, the proposed staging area is preferable to the original area identified in the Final EIR/EIS. In addition, given the historical use of the alternative staging area, this site would likely require minimal post-construction restoration. The proposed new staging area is located outside of the original footprint identified in the Final EIR/EIS; however, use of this area would not result in any additional environmental effects beyond those identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

The construction duration for completion of actions authorized under NTPR-2 is anticipated to take approximately four months, with initial ground-disturbing activities commencing in February 2020. Equipment operation would typically occur for 8 hours a day. However, at times, workers and equipment could be on-site up to 12-hours per day. Additionally, some of the proposed work would require shutoffs of major water lines, so for these activities, nighttime construction would take place to minimize the impacts on the public. Thus, typical hours of operation would be within 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday, with occasional 24-hour construction.

This letter documents the CPUC's thorough evaluation of all activities covered in NTPR-2, including the tables of Mitigation Measure Identified in the FEIR MMRP provided as an appendix to NTPR-2. The evaluation process ensures that all mitigation measures applicable to the location and activities covered in the Notice to Proceed are implemented as required in the CPUC's Decision.

CalAm submitted the following items in accordance with Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) and Mitigation Measures (MMs) described in the MMCPR, for actions proposed under NTPR-2:

Applicant Proposed Measure / Mitigation Measure	Implementing Actions	Status/Determination
MM 4.6-1b: Construction Worker Environmental Awareness Training and Education Program	Provide copy of training program and signed acknowledgement forms of all construction workers that completed training.	Documentation previously provided under NTPR-1.
MM 4.6-1c: General Avoidance and Minimization Measures	Submit applicable general avoidance and minimization measures to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Documentation provided in memorandum to construction contractor and supplemented with CalAm Ryan Ranch Construction Specifications.
MM 4.6-1d: Protective Measures for Western Snowy Plover	N/A	This species does not occur within or immediately surrounding the project.
MM 4.6-1e: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Special-Status Plants	Provide documentation of pre-construction survey.	Pre-construction surveys to be completed prior to construction and submitted to CPUC following completion of survey.
MM 4.6-1f: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Smith's Blue Butterfly	N/A	This species does not occur within or immediately surrounding the project.
MM 4.6-1g: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Black Legless Lizard, Silvery Legless Lizard, and Coast Horned Lizard	N/A	This species does not occur within or immediately surrounding the project.
MM 4.6-1h: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Western Burrowing Owl	N/A	This species does not occur within or immediately surrounding the project.
MM 4.6-1i: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Nesting Birds	Provide documentation of pre-construction survey.	Pre-construction surveys to be completed prior to construction and submitted to CPUC following completion of survey.
MM 4.6-1j: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for American Badger	Provide documentation of pre-construction survey.	Pre-construction surveys to be completed prior to construction and submitted to CPUC following completion of survey.

Applicant Proposed Measure / Mitigation Measure	Implementing Actions	Status/Determination
MM 4.6-1k: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Monterey Dusky-Footed Woodrat	Provide documentation of pre-construction survey.	Pre-construction surveys to be completed prior to construction and submitted to CPUC following completion of survey.
MM 4.6-1l: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Special-Status Bats	Provide documentation of pre-construction survey.	Pre-construction surveys to be completed prior to construction and submitted to CPUC following completion of survey.
MM 4.6-1m: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Native Stand of Monterey Pine	N/A	This species does not occur within or immediately surrounding the project.
MM 4.6-1o: Avoidance and Minimization Measures for California Red-Legged Frog and California Tiger Salamander	N/A	This species does not occur within or immediately surrounding the project.
MM 4.7-2a: Health and Safety Plan	Submit Health and Safety Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Plan submitted and determined to be complete.
MM 4.7-2b: Soil and Groundwater Management Plan	Submit Soil and Groundwater Management Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Plan submitted and determined to be complete.
MM 4.9-1: Traffic Control and Safety Assurance Plan	Submit Traffic Control and Safety Assurance Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Documentation provided in City of Monterey-approved Encroachment Permit/Traffic Control Plan and Caltrans-approved Encroachment Permit/Traffic Control Plan.
MM 4.9-6: Roadway Rehabilitation Program	Provide documentation of agreement regarding roadway rehabilitation program.	Documentation provided in City of Monterey and Caltrans Encroachment Permits.
MM 4.9-C: Construction Traffic Coordination Plan	Submit Construction Traffic Coordination Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Documentation provided in City of Monterey-approved Encroachment Permit/Traffic Control Plan and Caltrans-approved Encroachment Permit/Traffic Control Plan.
MM 4.10-1a: Equipment with High-Tiered Engine Standards	Provide documentation demonstrating procurement of non-diesel-fueled construction equipment or diesel-fueled equipment that meets U.S. EPA Tier 4 emission standards.	Documentation provided in Construction Equipment and Vehicle Efficiency Plan.
MM 4.10-1b: Idling Restrictions	Provide documentation of idling policy.	Construction Equipment and Vehicle Efficiency Plan submitted in conjunction with MM 4.10-1a includes adequate idling restrictions

Applicant Proposed Measure / Mitigation Measure	Implementing Actions	Status/Determination
MM 4.10-1c: Construction Fugitive Dust Control Plan	Submit Construction Fugitive Dust Control Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Plan submitted and determined to be complete.
MM 4.12-1b: General Noise Controls for Construction Equipment and Activities	Provide documentation of required noise controls.	Noise Management Plan submitted that adequately addresses noise emissions control, impact tools, and location of noisy activities.
MM 4.12-1c: Noise Control Plan for Nighttime Pipeline Construction	Submit Noise Control Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of nighttime construction activities.	Plan submitted and determined to be complete (no sensitive receptors are within 900 feet of nighttime construction).
MM 4.13-1a: Locate and Confirm Utility Lines	Submit Underground Service Alert (USA) clearance tickets.	USA notification provided.
MM 4.13-1c: Safeguard Employees from Potential Accidents Related to Underground Utilities	Provide documentation of compliance.	Plan submitted and determined to be complete.
MM 4.13-1d: Emergency Response Plan	Submit Emergency Response Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Plan submitted and determined to be complete.
MM 4.13-1e: Notify Local Fire Departments	Submit verification of consultation with local fire departments.	Notification submitted.
MM 4.13-2: Construction Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan	Submit Construction Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Plan submitted and determined to be complete.
MM 4.18-1: Construction Equipment and Vehicle Efficiency Plan	Submit Construction Equipment and Vehicle Efficiency Plan to CPUC for review prior to commencement of construction activities.	Plan submitted and determined to be complete.

CalAm is authorized to proceed with the proposed construction activities associated with NTPR-2 provided that all proposed actions and construction is carried out in accordance with the methods and conditions described in NTPR-2 and subject to completion of the following implementing actions by CalAm prior to the start of construction:

- CalAm will implement the MMCRP to ensure implementation of all Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs), applicable Project Mitigation Measures (MMs), compliance plans, and permit conditions during construction activities. Some measures are on-going and/or have time-sensitive requirements and shall be implemented prior to and during construction as applicable. A copy of the MMCRP will be kept at the construction site.

- Copies of all permits, compliance plans (e.g., MMCRP), and the NTP shall be maintained on-site for the duration of the construction activities.
- In accordance with MM 4.13-1b, CalAm will provide documentation of notification to residents and businesses concerning any proposed water service or other utility disruptions.
- CalAm will submit documentation of pre-construction species surveys, as identified in the table above, prior to construction.
- Prior to construction activities, CalAm will conduct a Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) for all Project personnel, including construction and monitoring personnel. CalAm will maintain training logs at the construction site and they will be made available upon request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Forsythe". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John Forsythe, AICP  
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: Eric Zigas, ESA  
Cory Barringhaus, ESA

# Appendix A

## Project Maps



Title:  
**Location Map**

Date: 12-30-2019  
 Scale: 1 inch = 5 miles  
 Project: 2016-64

Monterey | San Jose

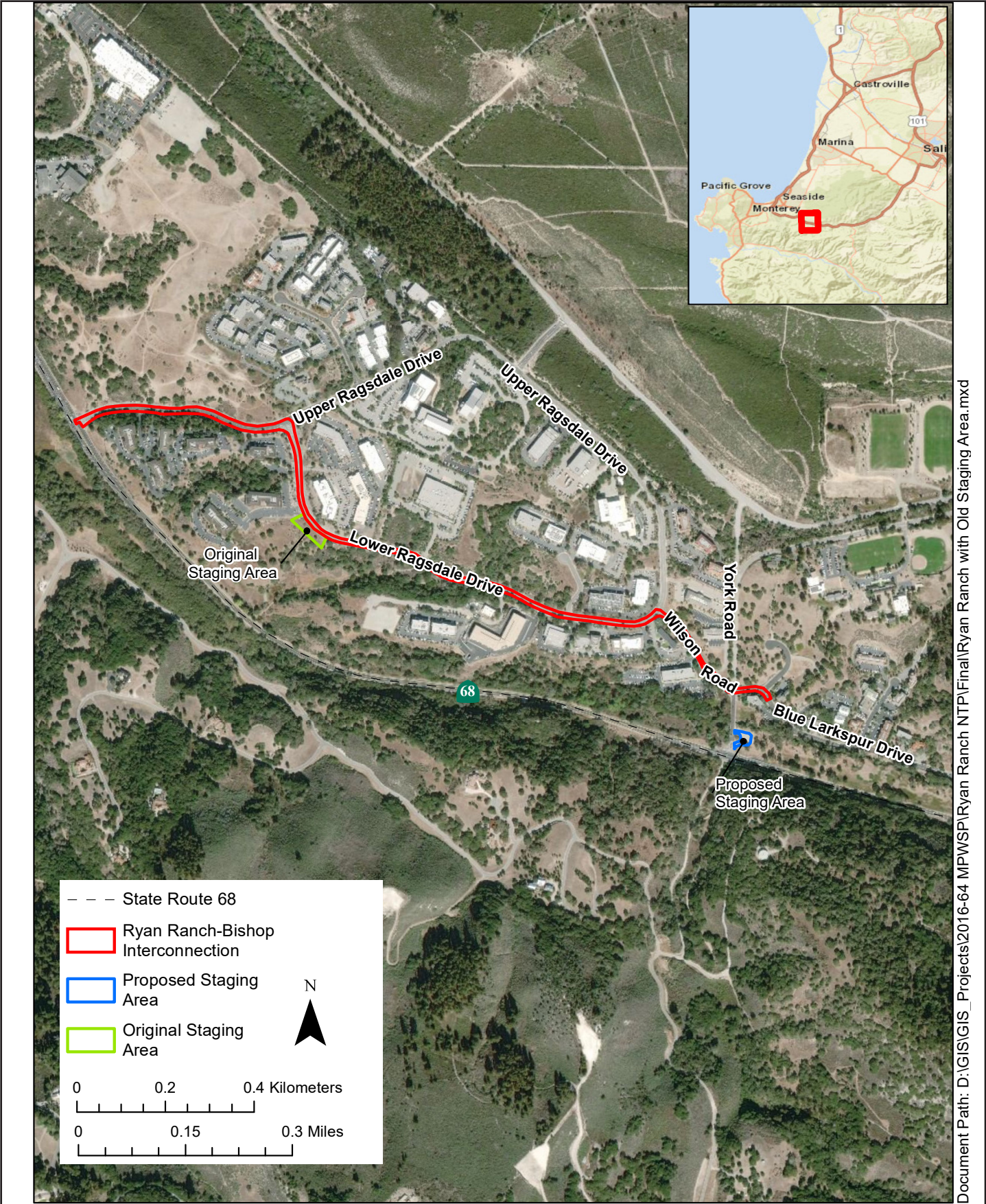
**Denise Duffy and Associates, Inc.**

Environmental Consultants    Resource Planners

947 Cass Street, Suite 5  
 Monterey, CA 93940  
 (831) 373-4341

Exhibit  
**B-1**





Document Path: D:\GIS\GIS\_Projects\2016-64 MPWSP\Ryan Ranch NTP\Final\Ryan Ranch with Old Staging Area.mxd

Title: **Construction Footprint**

Date 12/19/19  
 Scale 1"=0.3 mi  
 Project 2016.64

Monterey | San Jose

**Denise Duffy and Associates, Inc.**  
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Exhibit  
**B.2**