

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 290389

ADOPTED ON JUN 29 1998

WHEREAS, the Council of The City of San Diego considered the issues discussed in Addendum LDR No. 98-0130 to Environmental Impact Report No. 88-0459; NOW, THEREFORE,


BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, that it is hereby certified that LDR No. 98-0130 Addendum to Environmental Impact Report No. 88-0459, on file in the office of the City Clerk, has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (California Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.), as amended, and the State guidelines thereto (California Code of Regulations section 15000 et seq.), that the declaration reflects the independent judgment of The City of San Diego as Lead Agency and that the information contained in the report, together with any comments received during the public review process, has been reviewed and considered by this Council in connection with the approval of Alvarado Filtration Plant Upgrade and Expansion Phase I.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council finds that project revisions now mitigate potentially significant effects on the environment previously identified in the Initial Study and therefore, that said Addendum LDR No. 98-0130, a copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk and incorporated by reference, is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the Council hereby adopts the Mitigation Monitoring and

Reporting Program, or alterations to implement the changes to the project as required by this body in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul G. Edmonson  
Deputy City Attorney

PGE:akw  
6/16/98  
Or.Dept: Water  
Bid No.: K98099C  
R-98-1421  
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City of San Diego  
Development  
Services  
Department



Land Development  
Review Division  
(619) 236-6460

## Addendum to an Environmental Impact Report

LDR No. 98-0130  
Addendum to EIR No. 88-0459  
SCH No. 92121051

**SUBJECT: Alvarado Water Filtration Plant Expansion and Rehabilitation.**

COUNCIL APPROVAL of Capital Improvement Project No. 73-261-0. The project as originally approved involved the expansion of the plant to a maximum capacity of 212.5 million gallons per day (MGD); and modernization of the plant to allow implementation of technology to achieve compliance with the 1986 amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. This Addendum addresses revisions in the physical layout of the project components. The project area is within Mission Trails Regional Park in the Navajo community planning area (a portion of Lot 67 of a partition of a portion of Rancho Mission San Diego, Map 330, SCC 348). Applicant: City of San Diego Water Department.

### I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The subject project consists of the expansion, upgrade, renovation, automation, and modernization of the Alvarado Water Filtration Plant in the Navajo community (see Figures 1 and 2). Affected facilities include reservoirs, pump stations, rapid mixing facility, filtration, flocculation/sedimentation basins, washwater system, residuals facilities, pipelines, chemical feed and storage areas, support facilities and the future addition of ozone disinfection. The San Diego City Council approved the project as described in Environmental Impact Report (EIR) No. 88-0459 on June 27, 1994. After the completion of the first major activities (demolition of the Alvarado Regulating Reservoir and construction of the Trojan Pipeline and two new reservoirs), the design and phasing of the remaining components were revised. The changes were developed by the Water Department with assistance from the Public Advisory Group, and are contained in the 1997 Strategic Plan for Water Supply (on file in the Water Department). The revisions include the deletion, reduction and/or relocation of several of the previously approved project elements. The proposed changes to the approved project design and phasing are listed below. Changes in the plant layout are shown on Figure 3.

R-290389

**A. PLANT LAYOUT**

- The Earl Thomas Reservoir would not be demolished. This reservoir would be used for additional treated water storage.
- The new flocculation basins, sedimentation basins, sludge thickeners, and ozone contactors that were originally planned to be located on the Earl Thomas Reservoir site, and the ozone generation facilities originally planned for the Operations Building would be moved to the Water Production Administration area west of the Training Facility.
- The electrical switchgear and emergency generator building, also planned to be built on the Earl Thomas site, would be moved to the north side of the existing Operations Building.
- The raw water chemical storage area would be moved to the north side of the existing Operations Building, next to the proposed finished water chemical feed/storage area.
- Previously approved plant access roads A and B would be eliminated.

**B. CONSTRUCTION PHASING**

Phase I: To meet the California Department of Health Services (DHS) Compliance Plan, the following activities must begin by November 30, 1998 and be completed by November 30, 2001:

- Construct 8 new filters on the east side of the existing basins (same location as previously approved design).
- Provide piping from the new filters to Earl Thomas Reservoir (modification to the previously approved design).
- Provide piping from the new filters to the new circular 21 mg reservoirs and Trojan Pipeline (minor changes to the approved design).
- Construct the finished water and raw water chemical facilities (change of location for the raw water chemical facilities).
- Replace and rehabilitate the existing Lake Murray and College Ranch Pump Stations (no change from the approved design).
- Construct the electrical switchgear facility and emergency generator building (change of location).
- Construct a 24" overflow pipe from the new reservoir effluent structure to the northwest of the new Lake Murray Pump Station

to replace the existing concrete overflow brow-ditch (modification to previously approved design).

- Remove the excess dirt placed around the Earl Thomas Reservoir during previous construction activities.

Phase II: According to the DHS Compliance Plan, the following activities must begin by November 30, 2001 and be completed by December 1, 2003:-

- Construct the new flocculation and sedimentation basins at the Water Production Administration area (change of location).
- Remodel and rehabilitate the existing Operations Building (scope of work reduced from the previously approved design).

Future Phases: In addition to the above items, if in the future the Environmental Protection Agency or DHS require ozonation for the disinfection process, the following work may be added:

- Rehabilitate the existing flocculation and sedimentation basins.
- Abandon or rehabilitate the existing filters.
- Construct the ozone contactors and ozone generation facilities (change of location).
- Construct 8 additional new filters.
- Construct the sludge thickening facilities (change of location).

Any increase in plant capacity over the originally approved 212.5 mgd would require additional environmental review.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: See EIR Section 2.

III. PROJECT BACKGROUND:

An EIR (No. 88-0459) was completed on May 20, 1994 for the Alvarado Water Filtration Plant and Rehabilitation project. The EIR identified significant unmitigated noise impacts to residents directly adjacent to the Alvarado Regulating Reservoir (now demolished) and to residents east of the Earl Thomas Reservoir. The EIR also identified noise, biological, and paleontological impacts that could be mitigated to below a level of significance, and

cumulative impacts to biological and paleontological resources that could be mitigated to below a level of significance.

Land Use

The northern edge of the Alvarado Filtration Plant is adjacent to a City of San Diego Multiple Habitat Planning Area (MHPA). The City of San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program Subarea Plan contains Land Use Adjacency Guidelines designed to minimize impacts to the MHPA. The Guidelines address drainage, toxics, lighting, noise, barriers, invasive species, brush management, and grading/land development. The Alvarado Water Filtration Plant Expansion and Rehabilitation project would conform to the Land Use Adjacency Guidelines, and would thus be consistent with the MSCP and the Subarea Plan.

Noise

The previous EIR stated that residents east of the Earl Thomas Reservoir would be subject to significant noise impacts from the demolition of the Earl Thomas Reservoir and construction of the new sedimentation/flocculation basins on the Earl Thomas Reservoir site, and that although mitigation measures would be implemented, they would not reduce noise impacts to below a level of significance. The revised project eliminates demolition of the Earl Thomas Reservoir; therefore, demolition noise impacts at this site would be avoided. In addition, the new sedimentation/flocculation basins would be constructed farther away from any residences. Construction noises related to this facility would be reduced but are still considered potentially significant. The noise mitigation measures identified in the EIR would be applied as appropriate during the construction of any new facilities on the eastern side of the plant.

Paleontological Resources

The original EIR stated that development of the project site could disturb fossil-bearing formations. Mitigation measures consisted of paleontological monitoring during excavation into previously undisturbed formations, recovery and curation of discovered fossils, and preparation of a monitoring results report. The mitigation measures identified in the EIR would be applied to the construction activities addressed in this document.

Biological Resources

EIR No. 88-0459 identified impacts to coastal sage scrub and freshwater marsh habitat, as well as noise impacts to the California gnatcatcher, which is known to occupy the coastal sage scrub habitat on the north side of Lake Murray dam and in Chaparral Canyon south and west of the dam. This area is within a City of San Diego MHPA. Portions of the work associated with the noise impacts have already been completed; however, elements of the project (both originally

approved and revised) have yet to be built, and would be subject to the same mitigation measures that were implemented during the construction of the Trojan Pipeline and the two new reservoirs. That is, any construction activities located adjacent to the MHPA would be required to ensure that noise levels at the edge of the gnatcatcher habitat did not exceed 60 dB(A) during the breeding season of the gnatcatcher. This would be accomplished through placement of a noise and line-of-sight barrier and/or the use of noise attenuating devices on construction equipment. An acoustician would be retained to monitor noise levels.

Because any noise impacts on the California gnatcatcher would be considered "take", the following Standard Conditions are incorporated into this document:

1) The approval of this project by the City of San Diego does not authorize the applicant to violate any Federal, State or City laws, ordinances, regulations or policies including, but not limited to, the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 any amendments thereto (16 U.S.C. Section 1531 et seq.).

2) In accordance with authorization granted to the City of San Diego from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) pursuant to Section 10(a) of the ESA and by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2835 as part of the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), the City of San Diego through the approval of this project hereby confers upon the applicant the status of Third Party Beneficiary as provided for in Section 17 of the City of San Diego Implementing Agreement (IA), executed on July 17, 1997 and on File in the Office of the City Clerk as Document No. RR-00-18394. Third Party Beneficiary status is conferred upon the applicant by the City: (1) to grant applicant the legal standing and legal right to utilize the take authorizations granted to the City pursuant to the MSCP within the context of those limitations imposed under this permit and the IA, and (2) to assure applicant that no existing mitigation obligation imposed by the City of San Diego pursuant to this project shall be altered in the future by the City of San Diego, USFWS or CDFG, except in the limited circumstances described in Sections 9.6 and 9.7 of the IA.

The relocated facilities addressed in this addendum would be constructed in an area of the plant property that contains no sensitive plant species and is not within a City of San Diego MHPA. However, several eucalyptus trees, which provide potential nesting opportunities for raptors, would be removed in this area. Impacts to raptors would be avoided through removal of the trees during the non-breeding/nesting season for raptors.

### Cultural Resources

As stated above, the revised project design would locate several of the project components at the existing Water Production Administration area. This change in the placement of the new structures would necessitate demolishing or relocating the existing buildings on the site, including the Lake Murray Dam Keeper's House, which has existed in its present location since at least 1928. A historical assessment of the house was completed in January 1998 by Stephen Van Wormer, and is available for review at the offices of the Land Development Review Division. The evaluation states that the Dam Keeper's House is not a historically significant structure, due to the lack of existing documentation on the house, its lack of architectural distinction, and previous structural modifications to the house, which have compromised its integrity. In addition, the integrity of the original setting has been highly compromised by the construction of the filtration plant in the 1950s. According to the evaluation, the building is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources, and does not constitute a historical resource under the California Environmental Quality Act. Therefore, the revised project would not impact any historical resources and no mitigation is required.

#### IV.

#### **DETERMINATION:**

The City of San Diego previously prepared an Environmental Impact Report for the project described in the subject block of the attached EIR conclusions. Based upon a review of the current project, it has been determined that:

- a. There are no new significant environmental impacts not considered in the previous EIR;
- b. No substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken; and
- c. There is no new information of substantial importance to the project.

Therefore, in accordance with Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines this addendum has been prepared.

#### V.

#### **MITIGATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM INCORPORATED INTO THE PROJECT:**

The following measures comprise the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program and shall be stated in the contract documents and



on the construction plans for the revised Alvarado Water Filtration Plant Expansion and Rehabilitation project.

Noise (Phase I, Phase II, future phases)

1. Prior to the preconstruction meetings for each phase, the Water Department shall provide a letter of verification to the Environmental Review Manager (ERM) of Land Development Review (LDR) stating that a qualified acoustician has been retained to develop and implement a noise attenuation plan for the construction and operation of the new facilities; specifically, the flocculation/sedimentation basins, the new filters, and the ozone contactors. The plan(s) shall identify noise generating equipment and facility operations, and shall include measures designed to ensure that construction and operation noises from the new facilities do not exceed the City of La Mesa's noise thresholds at the property line of residents on the east side of Kiowa Drive. Such measures may include temporary noise attenuation barriers.
2. The materials, height, and specific location(s) of any required temporary noise barrier(s) shall be specified by the noise attenuation plan. Noise levels shall be monitored by a qualified acoustical engineer, and noise barriers shall be adjusted as necessary during construction to ensure that noise levels are reduced as much as possible at the property lines of sensitive receptors.

Paleontological Resources (Phase I, Phase II, future phases)

3. Prior to the preconstruction meetings for all phases, the Water Department shall provide a letter of verification to the ERM of LDR stating that a qualified paleontologist and/or paleontological monitor have been retained to implement the paleontological monitoring program during the excavation for the new facilities. The requirement for monitoring shall be noted on the grading plans.
4. All persons involved in the paleontological monitoring of this project shall be approved by EAS at least 30 days prior to the preconstruction meeting.
4. The qualified paleontologist or paleontological monitor shall attend any preconstruction/pregrading meetings to consult with City staff and the excavation contractor.
6. The paleontologist or paleontological monitor shall be on-site full-time during excavation into previously undisturbed formations. The monitoring time may be decreased at the discretion of the paleontologist in consultation with LDR.

7. If fossils are encountered, the paleontologist shall have the authority to divert or temporarily halt construction activities in the area of discovery to allow recovery of fossil remains.
8. The paleontologist shall contact LDR at the time of discovery. LDR must concur with the salvaging methods before construction activities are allowed to resume.
9. The qualified paleontologist shall be responsible for preparation of fossils to a point of identification as defined in the City of San Diego Paleontological Guidelines, and submittal of a letter of acceptance from a local qualified curation facility. The paleontologist shall record any discovered fossil sites at the San Diego Natural History Museum.
10. The qualified paleontologist shall be responsible for the preparation of a monitoring results report with appropriate Graphics summarizing the results (even if negative), analyses, and conclusions of the above program. The report shall be submitted to LDR within three months following the termination of the paleontological monitoring program.

Biological Resources (Phase I)

11. Removal of eucalyptus trees shall occur only during the non-breeding/nesting season of raptors; that is, removal of the trees shall not be done between mid-February and mid-June.
12. Prior to the preconstruction meeting, the Water Department shall provide a letter of verification to the ERM of LDR stating that a qualified acoustician has been retained to implement the noise monitoring program. This program shall be implemented for construction activities occurring at the northwest portion of the Plant property during the breeding season of the California gnatcatcher (from March 1 through August 15). This area is defined as those portions of the site that are north and west of the existing washwater tank at the south end of the dam.
13. The acoustician shall attend the preconstruction meeting to consult with City staff and the construction contractor.
14. To the extent feasible, all construction activities that take place in the northwestern portion of the property shall occur between August 15 and March 1.
15. If it is determined that construction activities must extend beyond March 1, a noise and line-of-sight barrier shall be placed between the gnatcatcher habitat and the construction activities.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

BARBARA S. MASSEY  
7107 BIRCHCREEK ROAD  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92118-1517

March 24, 1998

Eileen Lower, Environmental Planner  
City of San Diego, Environmental Services  
and Development Review Division  
1222 First Avenue, Mail Station 501  
San Diego, CA 92101

SUBJECT: Alvarado Filtration Plant Addendum

Dear Eileen,

I have read the addendum and think several issues should be included in the discussion. Without having more information it is not possible to address adequacy of the document.

The location of the Water Production and Administration area after demolition of the current site should be addressed. This issue could have impacts not previously discussed.

The location of the new flocculation basins, sedimentation basins, sludge thickeners, ozone contactors, and ozone generation facilities should be discussed with regard to both visual quality and odor. This area is in the viewshed of both homes in Del Cerro and the people using Lake Murray Park. I am sure San Carlos, Del Cerro and La Mesa residents would like these issues addressed. A photograph of the current buildings taken from Lake Murray Park and a drawing of how it will look after the new construction would be useful.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the addendum.

Sincerely,

1. The staff from the Water Production and Administration area would be relocated to offices in the existing Operations building. No additional construction is needed for this move, and no impacts are expected.
2. The referenced structures are components of Phase II and Future Phases. The designs of these facilities are not yet available. However, the majority of the largest structure (the sedimentation/flocculation basins) would be below grade. It is anticipated that the new structures would be no higher than the backdrop buildings. In addition, most of the future structures would be shielded from the view of Lake Murray users by an existing landscaped berm. The facilities would not produce offensive odors.
3. When the Phase II designs are completed, the Water Department will prepare conceptual elevation drawings to show what the facilities will look like. These drawings will be shared and discussed with community groups and interested parties. The drawings will also be reviewed by the Land Development Review Division and, although not expected, if visual quality is determined to be an issue, further environmental documentation may be required. However, with the relocation of Phase II facilities away from the Earl Thomas Reservoir site, the overall visual effect of the project would likely be improved.

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Vonn Marie May  
U.C.S.D. Central Library, Documents Department  
Acquisitions Library, S.D.S.U.  
Navajo Community Planners, Inc.  
San Carlos Advisory Council  
Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee  
Barbara Massey  
Edward O'Neil  
Franklin Dougherty  
Dennis Vanier  
George Morrison  
Jack Mones  
Don Hefner  
Ted Walton  
Malcom Pirnie, Inc.  
Richard Bundy, Architects/Bundy/Thompson  
Allison Whitelaw, Platt/Whitelaw Architects, Inc.

**RESULTS OF PUBLIC REVIEW:**

- ( ) No comments were received during the public input period.
- ( ) Comments were received but they did not address the draft Addendum findings or the accuracy/completeness of the Initial Study. No response is necessary. The letters and responses follow.
- (X) Comments addressing the findings of the draft Addendum and/or accuracy or completeness of the Initial Study were received during the public input period. The letters and responses follow.

Copies of the final Addendum, EIR, the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and any technical appendices may be reviewed in the office of the Land Development Review Division, or purchased for the cost of reproduction.

R-290389



San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc.  
Environmental Review Committee  
P.O. Box 81106 San Diego, CA 92138  
December 26, 1993  
RECEIVED

To: Ms. Eileen Greene  
Development and Environmental Planning Division  
Planning Department  
City of San Diego  
1222 First Avenue, HS 501  
San Diego, California 92101

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Alvarado Filtration Plant Expansion and Rehabilitation  
DEF No. 88-0439

Dear Ms. Greene:

I have reviewed the cultural resources aspects of the subject DEIR on behalf of this committee of the San Diego County Archaeological Society.

Based on the information contained in the DEIR and its Appendix A, we concur in the judgement that the project as presented should have no significant impacts to cultural resources.

Thank you for including SDCAS in the City's environmental review process for this project.

Sincerely,

*James W. Royce, Jr.*  
James W. Royce, Jr., Director  
Environmental Review Committee

cc: Oden Environmental  
SDCAS President  
File

34

San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc. (1222623)

34. Comment noted. On April 27, 1994, portions of the Operations Building were accepted for inclusion in the City's Historic Sites Listing.

R-290389



San Diego County Archaeological Society  
Environmental Review Committee

23 March 1998

To: Ms. Eileen Lower  
Land Development Review Division  
Development Services Business Center  
City of San Diego  
1222 First Avenue, Mail Station 501  
San Diego, California 92101

Subject: Draft Addendum to an Environmental Impact Report  
Alvarado Filtration Plant Expansion and Rehabilitation  
IDR No. 98-0130, Addendum to EIR No. 88-0459

Dear Ms. Lower:

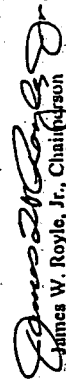
I have reviewed the subject document on behalf of this committee of the San Diego County Archaeological Society.

4. Based on the information contained in the document and the letter report from Walter Enterprises, we concur in the assessment that the changes to the EIR for the project should have no significant impacts to cultural resources.

5. We noted that the copy of the EIR for the original project which was sent to SDCAS is missing the page which contains the City's response to our comments on the DEIR.

SDCAS appreciates being afforded this opportunity to comment upon the proposed modifications to this project.

Sincerely,

  
James W. Royle, Jr., Chairman  
Environmental Review Committee

cc: Walter Enterprises  
SDCAS President

R. 290389

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

4. Comment acknowledged.
5. SDCAS's letter of December 28, 1993 was inadvertently omitted when the original document was reprinted. This letter and the City's response have been included in the final Addendum.

ATTACHMENT A  
MITIGATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM  
ALVARADO WATER FILTRATION PLANT EXPANSION AND REHABILITATION PROJECT  
LDR NO. 98-0130  
(ADDENDUM TO EIR NO. 88-0459)

The following measures comprise the Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program and shall be stated in the contract documents and on the construction plans for the revised Alvarado Water Filtration Plant Expansion and Rehabilitation project.

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Biological Resources (Phase I)

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13. The acoustician shall attend the preconstruction meeting to consult with City staff and the construction contractor.
14. To the extent feasible, all construction activities that take place in the northwestern portion of the property shall occur between August 15 and March 1.



15. If it is determined that construction activities must extend beyond March 1, a noise and line-of-sight barrier shall be placed between the gnatcatcher habitat and the construction activities.
16. The qualified acoustician shall monitor the noise levels at the edge of the occupied habitat. If levels exceed 60 dB(A), additional measures shall be implemented. Such measures may include relocation and enclosure of equipment, and operation restriction on certain types of equipment. The determination of appropriate measures shall be the responsibility of the acoustician in consultation with LDR and the Water Department Resident Engineer or designee.