



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

2010 AUG - 5 P 12: 10

## Notice of Availability of and Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

1650 Mission St.  
Suite 400  
San Francisco,  
CA 94103-2479

Reception:  
**415.558.6378**

Fax:  
**415.558.6409**

Planning  
Information:  
**415.558.6377**

*Date:* August 2, 2010  
*Case No.:* 2007.1129E  
*Project Title:* **Rehabilitation of the Existing San Joaquin Pipelines**  
 Portions of Tuolumne, Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties  
 and the cities of Riverbank and Modesto  
*Zoning:* Various  
*Project Sponsor:* San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
 Robin Breuer (415) 551-2915  
*Staff Contact:* Jamie Dean (415) 575-9028  
 jamie.dean@sfgov.org

### To Whom It May Concern:

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the environmental review document concerning the proposed project as described below. The document is a Preliminary Mitigated Negative Declaration, containing information about the possible environmental effects of the proposed project. The Preliminary Mitigated Negative Declaration documents the determination of the Planning Department that the proposed project could not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Preparation of a Mitigated Negative Declaration does not indicate a decision by the City to carry out or not to carry out the proposed project.

**Project Description:** The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is proposing the Rehabilitation of the Existing San Joaquin Pipelines (project, or proposed project). This project consists of condition assessment, repair, rehabilitation, and maintenance of the existing San Joaquin Pipeline System. The San Joaquin Pipeline System is a part of the SFPUC's regional water system, providing water to the Bay Area from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park. It includes three large-diameter pipelines that carry water nearly 48 miles across the San Joaquin Valley, and connect existing SFPUC facilities: the Oakdale Portal in western Tuolumne County, and the Coast Range Tunnel in western San Joaquin County. The San Joaquin Pipeline System traverses portions of Tuolumne, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin counties, including the cities of Riverbank and Modesto.

The project includes the following components: condition assessment of the existing pipelines; as-needed repair or replacement of segments of the existing pipelines; installation of cathodic protection; and system maintenance. Construction activities and duration would vary along the pipeline alignment depending on the project component being implemented. Construction activities associated with the proposed project would occur within existing SFPUC facility boundaries and would not require the acquisition of new property. Project construction activities would be ongoing and intermittent, beginning in 2011 and extending over approximately 20 years.

Rehabilitation of the Existing San Joaquin Pipelines

If you would like a copy of the Preliminary Mitigated Negative Declaration or have questions concerning environmental review of the proposed project, contact the Planning Department staff contact listed above.

Within 30 calendar days following publication of the Preliminary Mitigated Negative Declaration (i.e., by close of business on September 3, 2010), any person may:

- 1) Review the Preliminary Mitigated Negative Declaration as an informational item and take no action.
- 2) Make recommendations for amending the text of the document. The text of the Preliminary Mitigated Negative Declaration may be amended to clarify or correct statements and/or expanded to include additional relevant issues or cover issues in greater depth. One may recommend amending the text without the appeal described below. -OR-
- 3) Appeal the determination of no significant effect on the environment to the Planning Commission in a letter which specifies the grounds for such appeal, accompanied by a check for \$500 payable to the San Francisco Planning Department.<sup>1</sup> An appeal requires the Planning Commission to determine whether or not an Environmental Impact Report must be prepared based upon whether or not the proposed project could cause a substantial adverse change in the environment. Send the appeal letter to the Planning Department, Attention: Bill Wycko, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. **The letter must be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$500.00 payable to the San Francisco Planning Department, and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on September 3, 2010.** The appeal letter and check may also be presented in person at the Planning Information Counter on the first floor at 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco.

In the absence of an appeal, the Mitigated Negative Declaration shall be made final, subject to necessary modifications, after 30 days from the date of publication of the Preliminary Mitigated Negative Declaration.

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE  
FROM YOUR CLERK

---

<sup>1</sup> Upon review by the Planning Department, the appeal fee may be reimbursed for neighborhood organizations that have been in existence for a minimum of 24 months.