



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lower Colorado Region
Southern California Area Office
27708 Jefferson Avenue, Suite 202
Temecula, CA 92590-2628

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LC-2631
2.1.1.04

NOV 17 2017

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Julianne Polanco
California State Historic Preservation Officer
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

Subject: Van Ness Well Field Project, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Polanco:

The Bureau of Reclamation is providing a Drought Resiliency Project grant for the City of Torrance (City) to install three new groundwater wells and a four-mile municipal water main to pump and convey groundwater from the Torrance Van Ness well field to an existing water treatment and storage reservoir facility. The City is also applying for Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF) from the California State Water Resources Control Board.¹

Pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations at 36 CFR part 800, we are consulting on a finding of “no historic properties affected.”

Description and Location of the Undertaking – The Van Ness Well Field Project will drill, construct, and equip three new groundwater wells. Pilot wells were previously drilled as a non-federal action. Wellhead facilities will include installation of well buildings, pumps and motors, wellhead piping and appurtenances, electrical equipment and conduits, and instrumentation and control equipment. Approximately 4 miles of 24 inch diameter high density polyethylene water main pipe will be installed to connect the wells to the existing Border Avenue water treatment and storage facility.

The area of potential effect (APE) includes 3 parcels totaling 5.96 acres and 4 linear miles of pipeline installation within the existing street right-of way, estimated at 15 acres. The APE is within an un-sectioned portion of the San Pedro (Dominguez) land grant, USGS 7.5-minute Torrance quadrangle. An APE map is enclosed.

Methodology Employed for the Identification of Historic Properties – A record search was conducted on August 10, 2017 by the South Central Coastal Information Center at California

¹ The CWSRF program is partially funded by a capitalization grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Issuance of CWSRF funds is considered equivalent to a Federal action, necessitating compliance with Section 106 under a Nationwide Programmatic Agreement by the EPA, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Council of State Historic Preservation Officers. The EPA has delegated lead agency responsibility to the State Water Resources Control Board for carrying out the requirements of Section 106.

State University, Fullerton. An archaeological survey was performed on September 12, 2017 by Environmental Science Associates (ESA). The archaeological survey report is enclosed. ESA also contacted the Native American Heritage Commission for a Sacred Lands File Search.

Identification of Historic Properties and Evaluation of Historical Significance - The file and records search indicates that no archaeological or architectural properties have been previously recorded in the APE. No Native American sacred sites or cultural resources were identified within the APE. No new cultural resources were identified in the Class III pedestrian survey.

The Historic Properties Directory identified 4 sites adjacent to the APE: Llewellyn Ironworks at 840 Van Ness Avenue, Aureli Flags at 1128 Van Ness Avenue, Rubbercraft Corporation of California at 1800 West 220th Street, and the Pacific Electric Station at 1200 Cabrillo Avenue. These properties are all outside the APE.

The linear APE for the new water main crosses the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe rail line north of Del Amo Boulevard and crosses the former Pacific Electric Red Car rail line in Torrance Boulevard. The crossings will be installed by boring in secure casing 10 feet below the roadbed. The railroad tracks will not be affected.

South of Torrance Boulevard, the water main will be installed within Border Avenue. The former Torrance Loop of the Pacific-Electric Red Car line was located east of the APE. The rail line was abandoned in 1990. No rail features remain.

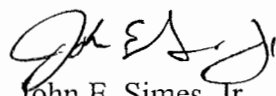
Effects Determination – We have reviewed the undertaking and its potential to affect historic properties. No archaeological or architectural resources were identified within the APE. The BNSF and the former Pacific-Electric Red Car railroad tracks will be avoided by boring. We have made a finding of “*no historic properties affected*” pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1).

Discovery Clause – If during the course of any activities associated with this undertaking, any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects not included in this consultation are discovered, activities will cease in the vicinity of the resource. The stipulations at 36 CFR 800.13(b) will be satisfied before activities in the vicinity of the previously unidentified resource resume.

Amendment Clause - This consultation is only for the undertaking described above. If the APE changes, we will reinitiate consultation under 36 CFR Part 800. No ground-disturbing activities will proceed until our consultation obligations are completed.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact James Kangas, Lower Colorado Regional Archaeologist staff at 702-293-8392 or jkangas@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,



John E. Simes, Jr.
Acting Area Manager

cc: Mr. John Dettle
Engineering Manager
City of Torrance
20500 Madrona Avenue
Torrance, CA 90503-3690

Mr. Andrew Salas
Chairman
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
P.O. Box 393
Covina, CA 91723

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