

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

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February 14, 2012

Ms. Melinda Terry, Manager  
North Delta Water Agency  
910 K Street, Suite 310  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Ms. Terry:

The California Water Commission (Commission) has asked me to respond to your January 18, 2012 correspondence to it regarding the proposed Resolutions of Necessity to be considered for adoption by the Commission at its February 15, 2012 meeting.

It appears there is confusion regarding the staff report. The staff report is designed to provide a general overview of the project and to provide parcel-specific information regarding the rights to be acquired, geotechnical activities to be conducted, status of negotiations, outstanding issues, and property owner concerns. General information about the project can be found in the first four pages of the staff report, including descriptions of the types of geotechnical activities to be performed. Your correspondence mentions the Elliott property and the proposed test pits. The reference to the "30 small test pits" in the staff report represents the total number of test pits proposed for the project, not the number of test pits proposed on the Elliott property. In fact, there are no test pits currently proposed on the Elliott property.

Parcel-specific information can be found under the "Parcel Information" section of the staff report. This section identifies the property rights to be acquired, the type of geotechnical activities to be performed, and the necessity for conducting the proposed geotechnical activities. Along with the staff report, DWR provides the Commission with the Deed and Exhibit A map which identifies the location of the proposed geotechnical activities. Also, the Geotechnical Exploration sheet provides additional site specific information, including the type of data DWR hopes to obtain from the site.

The location of the drill holes vary in density based on the type of facility being considered and whether an analysis during the preliminary engineering or final design phase is being conducted. For example, if performing an analysis for a pipeline, geotechnical sites may be located every one mile during preliminary engineering and every 1,000 feet during final design. These criteria may often be altered based on variations in site conditions and additional requirements needed to satisfy permitting and special design circumstances.

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Working hours for geotechnical exploration are generally in 10-12 hour shifts during daylight hours. Type of equipment and number of personnel can vary depending on site location. Identification of each drill hole and test pit location is performed in accordance with information in the staff report.

For a more detailed description of the project, please refer to the Mitigated Negative Declaration filed by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) with the State Clearinghouse. In addition, further information can be obtained from the Commission website at <http://www.cwc.ca.gov>.

Thank you for your comments and your expressed concern regarding the Resolution of Necessity process. DWR is committed to improving the process and appreciates your observations. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 952-2779.

Sincerely,



Allan Davis  
Supervising Land Agent

cc: Anthony Saracino  
Susan Sims  
Richard Sanchez