

**RESOLUTION NO. 511**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT MAKING FINDINGS REQUIRED BY THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA), INCLUDING A STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS, MITIGATION MEASURES, AND A MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE RIDGEMARK WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND RECYCLED WATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of Sunnyslope County Water District (“SCWD”) finds that resolution is adopted pursuant to the County Water District Law, Sections 30000 and following, of the California Water Code, and pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), codified at Sections 21000 and following of the Public Resources Code, and the CEQA Guidelines codified at Title 14, Sections 15000 and following of the California Code of Regulations;

**WHEREAS**, the Sunnyslope County Water District proposes to implement Phase 1 of the Ridgemark Wastewater Treatment and Recycled Water Improvements project, intended to implement a wastewater system improvement project to meet the long-term treatment and disposal needs of the Sunnyslope County Water District. The wastewater treatment facility upgrades would reduce the levels of ammonia, nitrates, BOD, TSS, and pH in wastewater effluent. Under the project, flows from two existing wastewater treatment plants (RM I and RM II) would be combined and the treatment facilities upgraded to accommodate the combined flow and to meet regulatory wastewater treatment requirements. Most of the work would be within the existing boundaries of the RM I and RM II wastewater treatment facilities (ponds with aerators and various piping and pumps). The project also includes a recycled water distribution system with the associated pipelines installed primarily in streets;

**WHEREAS**, it is the intention of the Sunnyslope County Water District to further study, pursue, and undertake appropriate CEQA review of the implementation of potable water improvements as part of a long term strategy for wastewater disposal as part of Phase 2 improvements at a future time in discussion with members of the Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan Governance Committee;

**WHEREAS**, the Sunnyslope County Water District prepared an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the project under CEQA to evaluate the potential for adverse environmental impact;

**WHEREAS**, the proponent of this project is Sunnyslope County Water District, 3570 Airline Highway, Hollister, California;

**WHEREAS**, the Sunnyslope County Water District circulated for public comment a Notice of Preparation of an EIR from July 8, 2008 to August 6, 2008; held a public scoping meeting for the EIR on July 23, 2008; circulated a Draft EIR from March 5, 2009 to April 20, 2009; published a Notice of Availability for the EIR on and off-site in the area and in a newspaper of general circulation; held public hearings for the Draft EIR before the Board on April 9, 2009 and April 23, 2009; prepared and circulated a Final EIR including responses to written and oral comments from July 2, 2009 to July 13, 2009; held a public hearing on the Final EIR before the Board on July 16, 2009; and gave all public notices in the manner and at the times required by law.

**WHEREAS**, the Final EIR identifies certain significant effects on the environment that would result from the implementation of the proposed project; and the Final EIR identifies mitigation measures, which, when implemented, will substantially lessen or avoid these significant impacts on the environment caused by the proposed project, with the exception of the significant unavoidable growth-inducing impact, for which a Statement of Overriding Considerations has been adopted;

**WHEREAS**, the Board has considered all comments received during the comment period and at the public hearings on the EIR and the approval of the proposed project;

**WHEREAS**, CEQA requires that in connection with the approval of a project for which an EIR has been prepared which identifies one or more significant environmental effects, the decision-making body must make certain findings regarding those significant impacts on the environment as identified in that report; and

**WHEREAS**, the EIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the District;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved:

1. That the Board of Directors does hereby make the findings with respect to significant environmental impacts as set forth in Exhibit "A" entitled "Finding Concerning Significant Environmental Effects, Ridgemark Wastewater Treatment and Recycled Water Improvements Project," which is incorporated herein by reference, and as set forth and identified in the heretofore referenced FEIR, with the stipulation that all information in these findings is intended as a summary of the full administrative record supporting the FEIR, which full administrative record should be consulted for the full and specific details supporting these findings.
2. The Board of Directors does hereby make the findings and adopts the Statement of Overriding Considerations set forth in Exhibit "B" entitled "Statement of Overriding Considerations, Ridgemark Wastewater Treatment and Recycled Water Improvements Project" which is incorporated herein by reference; and
3. The Board of Directors does hereby make the findings set forth in Exhibit "C" entitled "Finding Concerning Alternatives to the Project, Ridgemark Wastewater Treatment and Recycled Water Improvements Project" which is incorporated herein by reference; and
4. The Board of Directors authorizes the implementation of Ridgemark Wastewater Treatment and Recycled Water improvements: Phase 1A and 1B – to advertize and receive construction bids and secure financing opportunities for new wastewater treatment plant and decommission of existing ponds, Phase 1C – begin final design for Title 22 recycled water treatment plant upgrade and consult with Ridgemark Golf and County Club and Homeowners Association Officials regarding final recycled water pipeline alignment, Phase 2 - to continue consultation with Governance Committee regarding CEQA and design of potable groundwater treatment projects; And authorizes the General Manager to take appropriate actions to implement Ridgemark Wastewater Treatment and Recycled Water Project Phase 1;
5. The Board of Directors adopts the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached as Exhibit "D" and incorporated herein by reference; and
6. Designates the District's General Manager as custodian of the documents and other materials which constitute the record of this proceeding, located at the SCWD office at 3570 Airline Highway, Hollister, CA 95023; and
7. Authorizes and directs the Secretary give due notice of determination that this action is taken based on an EIR under the provisions of CEQA, pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15094.


THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sunnyslope County Water District held on July 16, 2009 by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Keck, Hailstone, Anderson, and Meraz

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Director Nelson

SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

By   
Douglas Keck, President

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan M. Yamaoka, Secretary

**CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY**

The undersigned Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Sunnyslope County Water District hereby certifies that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the resolution adopted on July 16, 2009 as Resolution No. 511.

Dated: July 16, 2009

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan M. Yamaoka, Secretary

**RIDGEMARK WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND  
RECYCLED WATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**FINDINGS CONCERNING SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

As described below, the FEIR addressed the significant potential environmental effects of the Project in the areas of: 1) construction water quality; 2) biological resources; 3) construction air quality; 3: objectionable odors; 5) construction noise; 6) archaeological resources; and 7) growth-inducing impacts. After mitigation, the Project has significant unavoidable growth-inducing impacts.

**A. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY**

- 1. Impact:** Implementation of Phase 1 improvements could result in increased sedimentation or other water quality impacts during construction of new project elements.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts to surface water quality during construction to a less than significant level.

**MM HYDRO 2.1:** The following mitigation measures are included in the proposed project to ensure compliance with NPDES permit requirements enforced by the Regional Board to reduce construction water quality impacts:

- The SSCWD and/or its contractors shall prepare and implement an erosion control plan, a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and a stormwater management plan (SWMP) consistent with recommended design criteria, in accordance with the NPDES permitting requirements enforced by the Regional Board.
- The SWPPP shall prescribe construction-period BMPs to adequately contain sediment on-site and prevent construction activities from degrading surface runoff. BMPs shall be implemented in accordance with criteria in the California Stormwater BMP Handbook for Construction or other accepted guidance. The SWPPP shall be reviewed and approved by the County prior to issuance of grading permits.
- Contractors shall be required to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) for construction activities. The BMPs include measures guiding the management and operation of construction sites to control and minimize the potential contribution of pollutants to storm runoff from these areas. These measures address procedures for controlling erosion and sedimentation and managing all aspects of the construction process to ensure control of potential water pollution sources. Erosion and sedimentation control practices typically include:
  - limiting construction to the dry-weather months;
  - installation of silt fencing and/or straw wattle;
  - soils stabilization;
  - revegetation; and
  - runoff control to limit increases in sediment in storm water runoff (e.g., straw bales, silt fences, check dams, geofabrics, drainage swales, and sand bag dikes).
- If it is not possible to limit construction to the dry-weather months, the project shall comply with San Benito County's winter grading measures. These measures shall apply during the rainy season (October 15 to April 15), and include:
  - Sufficient control materials shall be available, such as fiber rolls, straw bale dikes, plastic jute netting, etc.; These materials shall be

- kept on site at all times, to be installed immediately by the contractor upon the advent of any rainfall or wind that may be expected to cause accelerated erosion;
- When rainfall or wind is predicted or occurring, temporary erosion control measures must be applied to all soils bared at the end of each day;
- The SSCWD shall identify the SWPPP Manager who will be the responsible party during the construction phase to ensure proper implementation, maintenance and performance of the BMPs.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

## B. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

1. **Impact:** Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, and western spadefoot during construction.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts to California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, and western spadefoot during construction to a less than significant level.

**MM BIO-3.1: Avoidance:** Impacts to special status aquatic species and their habitat will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. The proposed project will not undertake any construction within approximately 0.25 miles of the California tiger salamander mitigation pond on the Ridgemark golf course near the terminus of Paullus Drive. As such, the presumed breeding habitat for special status aquatic species will be avoided by the project.

**MM BIO-3.2: Minimization:** Implementation of the following measures will be taken during project implementation to avoid potential take of individual special status aquatic species.

- Exclusion fencing (e.g., silt fencing) shall be erected around construction zones to minimize the potential of individual California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, and western Spadefoot to disperse into work areas during construction and maintained and remain in place for the duration of project implementation. Any aquatic species detected during these procedures will be moved to suitable habitat by a biologist possessing USFWS authorization to handle these species, and the agency would be notified.
- A qualified onsite monitor shall be present during the initial site grading within 0.25 miles of the breeding pond near the terminus of Paullus Drive. The monitor would only need to monitor the site during the rough grading activities. Monitoring could cease once the build-out site has been completely denuded of habitats.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

2. **Impact:** Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to western pond turtles during construction.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts to western pond turtles during construction to a less than significant level.

**MM BIO-4.1: Minimization:** The project shall implement the following measures to protect western pond turtles:

- Species-specific pre-construction surveys will be conducted 48-hours prior to initiation of construction activities within the RM II treatment and golf course mixing and irrigation ponds, or any of the manmade water features on site;
- The placement of fine mesh black fencing between the construction area and the edge of the ponds, where possible, to keep turtles away from heavy equipment;
- The training of the construction crew (e.g., tailgate session) by a qualified biologist to ensure that they are not only aware of the protective measures they are to employ in the unlikely event a turtle is found onsite, but also understand the purpose of such measures;
- Should a turtle be found during the pre-construction surveys, a qualified biological monitor will be present during construction when work is conducted within close proximity of the pond(s) to ensure that the project does not inadvertently injure or kill an individual western pond turtle.
- Should a turtle be found by the construction crew at any time during construction activities, a qualified biologist shall be contacted immediately. The biologist will move the turtle to a safe location and submit a sighting occurrence to the CDFG.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

3. **Impact:** Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to individual burrowing owls during construction.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts to burrowing owls during construction to a less than significant level.

**MM BIO-5.1:** A qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys for burrowing owls within 250 feet of work areas within 30 days of the onset of ground disturbance in all areas of the project that have the potential to support suitable habitat for the burrowing owl (e.g., pipeline construction through ruderal grasslands and work around Pond 6). These surveys will be conducted in a manner consistent with accepted burrowing owl survey protocols. If pre-construction surveys determine that burrowing owls occupy the site during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31), then a passive relocation effort (i.e., blocking burrows with one-way doors and leaving them in place for a minimum of three days) may be necessary to ensure that the owls are not harmed or killed during construction. Once it has been determined that owls have vacated the site, the burrows can be collapsed, and ground disturbance can proceed.

**MM BIO-5.2:** If burrowing owls are detected on the site or immediately adjacent lands (i.e., within 250 feet of the site boundary) during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31), a construction-free buffer of 250 feet shall be established around all active owl burrows. The buffer areas will be enclosed with temporary fencing, and construction equipment and workers will not enter the enclosed setback areas. Buffers will remain in place for the duration of the breeding season or until it has been determined by a qualified biologist that chicks have fledged and are independent of their parents. After the breeding season, passive relocation of any remaining owls may take place as described above.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

4. **Impact:** Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to San Joaquin kit foxes during construction.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts to San Joaquin kit foxes during construction to a less than significant level.

In the highly unlikely event a San Joaquin kit fox were to wander onto the site at the time of project construction, the District shall implement the protection measures outlined in the “U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service standardized recommendations for protection of the San Joaquin kit fox prior to or during ground disturbance,” (as detailed in MM BIO-15.7), when work will occur within or adjacent to ruderal grasslands, or other areas that may support suitable denning habitat, such as the areas around RM I and Pond 6. The greater study area and potential impact areas do not currently support such denning habitat. While these recommendations were developed by the USFWS Sacramento office, they would be applicable to this project site as well.

**MM BIO-6.1:** Pre-construction surveys shall be conducted no less than 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to the beginning of ground disturbance, construction activities, and/or any project activity likely to impact the San Joaquin kit fox. The primary objective is to identify kit fox habitat features (e.g., potential dens and refugia) on the project site and evaluate their use by kit foxes. If an active kit fox den is detected within or immediately adjacent to the area of work, the USFWS shall be contacted immediately to determine the best course of action. If no kit fox activity is detected, a written report shall be submitted to the USFWS within five days after completion of the surveys.

**MM BIO-6.2:** Permanent and temporary construction activities and other types of project-related activities should be carried out in a manner that minimizes disturbance to kit foxes, should their presence be detected on the site during pre-construction surveys. Minimization measures include, but are not limited to: restriction of project-related vehicle traffic to established roads, construction areas, and other designated areas; inspection and covering of structures (e.g., pipes), as well as installation of escape structures, to prevent the inadvertent entrapment of kit foxes; restriction of rodenticide and herbicide use; and proper disposal of food items and trash.

**MM BIO-6.3:** The Ventura field office of the USFWS and the Fresno field office of the CDFG will be notified in writing within three working days in case of the accidental death or injury to a San Joaquin kit fox during project-related activities. Notification must include the date, time, location of the incident or of the finding of a dead or injured animal, and any other pertinent information.

**MM BIO-15.7: Construction Impacts to San Joaquin Kit Fox Take Avoidance.** Standard take-avoidance measures listed on the following pages will be implemented to avoid direct take of any individual kit fox that may wander onto the project site. To avoid direct take of any individual kit fox that may be present on a project site, preactivity surveys will be conducted if any habitat feature with the potential to be used by kit foxes (i.e. burrows, irrigation pipes, debris piles) is created or placed on site and is to be subsequently disturbed or moved. If kit foxes are detected, work in that area must cease and consultation with the USFWS is necessary to determine the appropriate course of action.

*STANDARD RECOMMENDATIONS PUT FORTH BY UNITED STATES  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF SAN*

**[Please see Exhibit “D”, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the complete details of this Mitigation Measure.]**

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

5. **Impact:** Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in temporary impacts to American badger during construction.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts to American badger during construction to a less than significant level.

**MM BIO-7.1:** Pre-construction surveys, like those conducted for raptors and specifically for burrowing owls, will also be used to determine the presence or absence of badgers within the area of Pond 6, RM I, and ruderal grasslands located within the potential impact area. In the unlikely event that an active badger den is identified during pre-construction surveys within or immediately adjacent to the construction envelope, a construction-free buffer of up to 300 feet or a suitable distance specified by the resource agencies (i.e., CDFG) will be established around the den.

Because badgers are known to use multiple burrows in a breeding burrow complex, a biological monitor will be present onsite during construction activities to ensure the buffer is adequate to avoid direct impact to individuals or nest abandonment. The onsite monitor will be necessary until it is determined that young are of an independent age and construction activities would not harm individual badgers. Once it has been determined that badgers have vacated the site, the burrows could be collapsed or excavated, and ground disturbance could proceed. Because potential impacts to badger habitat would be temporary in nature, no offsite mitigation is warranted for loss of habitat for the badger.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

6. **Impact:** Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to nesting raptors during construction.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts to nesting raptors during construction to a less than significant level.

**MM BIO-8.1:** A qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for tree- and ground-nesting raptors throughout the site and in all trees within 250 feet of the site no more than 30 days prior to the onset of ground disturbance, if such disturbance will occur during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31). Pre-construction surveys will be used to determine the presence or absence of nesting raptors. If nesting raptors are detected during the survey within 250 feet of proposed project-related development activities, a suitable construction-free buffer should be established around all active nests. The precise dimension of the buffer (up to 250 feet) would be determined at that time and may vary depending on location and species. Buffers will remain in place for the duration of the breeding season or until it has been confirmed by a qualified biologist that all chicks have fledged and are independent of their parents. Pre-construction surveys during the non-breeding season are not necessary for most nesting raptors, including all tree-nesting raptors, as they are expected to abandon their roosts during construction.



**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

7. **Impact:** Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to nesting waterfowl during dewatering and filling ponds at RM II.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts to nesting waterfowl during dewatering and filling ponds at RM II to a less than significant level.

**MM BIO-9.1:** A qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for nesting waterfowl within 100 feet of manmade water features no more than 30 days prior to the onset of ground disturbance, if such disturbance will occur during the breeding season (generally March 1 through June 30). Pre-construction surveys should be used to determine the presence or absence of nesting waterfowl. If nesting of such birds is detected during the survey within 100 feet of proposed project-related activities, a suitable construction-free buffer should be established around all active nests. The precise dimension of the buffer (up to 100 feet) would be determined at that time and may vary depending on location and species. Buffers will remain in place for the duration of the breeding season or until it has been confirmed by a qualified biologist that all chicks have fledged and are independent of their parents. Pre-construction surveys during the non-breeding season are not necessary for waterfowl as they are expected to abandon their roosts during construction.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

## C. AIR QUALITY

1. **Impact:** The operation of solids drying beds at RM I following Phase 1 improvements could result in the exposure of sensitive residential receptors to objectionable odors. With the adoption of an Odor Minimization Plan and other measures, this impact would be less than significant.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce impacts from odors from solids handling to a less than significant level.

**MM AIR-2.1:** An Operations and Maintenance Manual will be prepared as part of the project that will address proper operation and maintenance of all facilities. This manual will include procedures for proper maintenance and operation of the facilities to minimize odor. An Odor Minimization Plan will be prepared and included in this manual. The plan will specify measures that will be taken to avoid the production of odors at the RM I facility and steps that will be taken if odor complaints are received. The purpose of the Odor Minimization Plan would be to avoid objectionable odors reaching off-site receptors. The plan would include both design features and operational measures to control odors at RM I. Both the Operations and Maintenance Manual and the Odor Minimization Plan will be completed prior to the start of operations of the improved wastewater treatment facility.

Design and operational measures included in the Operations and Maintenance Manual will include, at minimum:

- Residence Time. Solids sent to the drying beds will have undergone a 60 to 80 day solids residence time in the SBR and storage tank, resulting in a very stable sludge that will typically have a “musty” odor similar to that of composting organic material.
- Aeration and Turning of Solids in the Drying Beds. As layers of solids build up in the drying beds, District staff will turn and aerate

the piles more frequently to ensure that all of the sludge is aerated and not under anaerobic conditions.

- Protocol for Management of Odors. The Operation and Maintenance Manual will include a set protocol for on-site management of potential odor problems. Odor suppression chemicals will be used, if needed.
- Odor Complaints. The District will designate a contact person who would be responsible for responding to any local complaints about odors from the RM I facility. The contact person will determine the cause of the odor complaint (e.g., anaerobic conditions in solids beds, etc.) and will require that reasonable measures to correct the problem condition be implemented. The telephone number for the contact person at the Sunnyslope County Water District (831-637-4670) will be conspicuously posted at the main pump station and gate of RM I and included in a notice sent to neighbors upon completion of construction of the RM I improvements. In addition, to comply with Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District Rule 402 (Nuisances), the phone number of the MBUAPCD shall be visibly posted to ensure compliance with this rule (831-647-9411).

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a less than significant level.

2. **Impact:** Construction activities and material hauling could temporarily affect local particulate air quality during Phase 1 improvements.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce construction air quality impacts to a less than significant level.

**MM AQ-4.1:** Construction contractors shall implement a dust abatement program. All construction contracts will require the following:

- Watering shall be used to control dust generation during loading materials onto trucks.
- Cover all trucks hauling debris or soils from the site.
- Water all exposed soil surfaces at least twice daily. Frequency should be based on the type of operation, soil, and wind exposure.
- Cover all trucks hauling dirt, sand or loose materials, or maintain at least two feet of freeboard.
- Cover inactive storage piles.
- Sweep streets if visible soil material is carried out from the construction site.
- Post a publicly visible sign which specifies the telephone number and person to contact regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond to complaints and take corrective action within 48 hours. The phone number of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District shall be visible to ensure compliance with Rule 402 (Nuisance).
- Limit grading to 8.1 acres per day, and grading and excavation to 2.2 acres per day.
- Prohibit all grading activities during periods of high wind (over 15 mph)
- Apply chemical soil stabilizers on inactive construction areas (disturbed lands within construction projects that are unused for at least four consecutive days)
- Apply non-toxic binders (e.g., latex acrylic copolymer) to exposed areas after cut and fill operations, and hydro-seed area.
- Plant vegetative ground cover in disturbed areas as soon as possible.
- Install wheel washers at the entrance to construction sites for all exiting trucks.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the

Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

## D. NOISE

1. **Impact:** Construction noise from Phase 1 improvements could have a significant temporary impact on nearby residential and recreational uses.

**Mitigation:** The following measures have been included in the project to reduce construction noise impacts to a less than significant level.

### MM NOISE-2.1:

- Restrict noise-generating activities at the construction site or in areas adjacent to the construction site to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily.
- Equip all internal combustion engine driven equipment with intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and appropriate for the equipment.
- Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines shall be strictly prohibited.
- Locate stationary noise-generating equipment such as air compressors or portable power generators as far as possible from sensitive receptors. Construct temporary noise barriers to screen stationary noise generating equipment when located near adjoining sensitive land uses. Temporary noise barriers could reduce construction noise levels by five (5) dBA.
- Utilize “quiet” air compressors and other stationary noise sources where technology exists.
- Route all construction traffic to and from the project site via designated truck routes where possible. Prohibit construction-related heavy truck traffic in residential areas where feasible.
- Control noise from construction workers’ radio to a point that they are not audible at existing residences bordering the project site.
- Designate a “disturbance coordinator” who would be responsible for responding to any local complaints about construction noise. The disturbance coordinator will determine the cause of the noise complaint (e.g., starting too early, bad muffler, etc.) and will require that reasonable measures warranted to correct the problem be implemented. A telephone number for the disturbance coordinator will be conspicuously posted at the construction site and include it in the notice sent to neighbors regarding the construction schedule.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

## E. CULTURAL RESOURCES

1. **Impact:** With the implementation of mitigation measures to lessen impacts if cultural resources or human skeletal remains are encountered, the proposed Phase 1 improvements would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a prehistoric resource.

**Mitigation:** Post-review discoveries of cultural resources shall be treated in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.13(b). The exposure of any Native American burials shall be handled in accordance with State of California and San Benito County statutes and regulations, including the adopted San Benito County Groundwater Management Plan Update. Compliance with Mitigation Measures CR-1.1 and CR-1.2 from this plan, listed below, would reduce any potentially significant impacts when resources are encountered to a less than significant level.

### MM-CR-1.1: Notification if Significant Cultural Materials are

**Encountered:** In the event any significant cultural materials are encountered,

all construction within a radius of 100 feet of the find would be halted, Sunnyslope County Water District and County of San Benito personnel would be notified, and the archaeologist will examine the find and make appropriate recommendations regarding the significance of the find and the appropriate mitigation. Recommendations could include collection, recordation, and analysis of any significant cultural materials.

**MM-CR-1.2: Notification if Human Skeletal Remains Are Encountered:**

In the event that human skeletal remains are encountered, the San Benito County Coroner will be notified immediately. Upon determination by the County Coroner that the remains are Native American, the coroner shall contact the California Native American Heritage Commission, pursuant to subdivision (c) of section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code and the County Coordinator of Indian Affairs. No further disturbance of the site may be made except as authorized by the County Coordinator of Indian Affairs in accordance with the provisions of State law and the Health and Safety Code. The District Manager of the Sunnyslope County Water District and County of San Benito personnel will also be notified immediately, as appropriate, if human skeletal remains are found during development.

**Finding:** The above feasible mitigation measures, which are incorporated into the Project, will avoid or substantially lessen the environmental impact described above to a **less than significant level**.

**RIDGEMARK WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND  
RECYCLED WATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS**

The District makes the following Statement of Overriding Considerations regarding the significant, unavoidable impact of the Project and the anticipated benefits of the Project.

- A. SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS:** Based on the FEIR and the facts included in the records, the District has determined that the Project will result in the following unavoidable impacts:

**Growth-inducing Impact:**

**Impact:** The project would remove an existing impediment to growth and because of the amount of induced growth that could occur, the project would result in a significant growth-inducing impact.

**Mitigation:** No mitigation is available to reduce this impact to a less than significant level, although implementation of the mitigation measures included in the project could avoid or reduce impacts associated with new growth.

**Finding:** The County of San Benito General Plan and zoning regulations require project-specific environmental review and measures to avoid or reduce significant impacts to the environment. The conformance of future development projects to County General Plan policies could avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts associated with new growth; however, some impacts may not be reduced to a less than significant level. The severity of these impacts will depend on the size and location of the induced growth. Since the project will remove an existing impediment to growth and because of the amount of induced growth that could occur, the project would result in a significant unavoidable growth-inducing impact

- B. BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT.** The District has considered the FEIR and the facts included in the record and has determined that implementation of the Project as specifically provided in the Project documents will result in the following substantial public benefits:

- The proposed project would comply with updated standards for ammonia, nitrates, total suspended solids (TSS), and biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) in wastewater effluent, and would allow the District to comply with the Regional Board’s waste discharge requirements for the Ridgemark facility, thereby improving long-term groundwater quality.
- The project would install infrastructure (including pipelines and treatment at wastewater treatment facilities) to meet California Department of Public Health standards for recycled water production and distribution from the Ridgemark I facility. The provision of recycled water would reduce and minimize effluent disposal by percolation, thereby reducing the addition of TDS and other constituents to underlying groundwater resources.
- The project would provide upgraded wastewater facilities with adequate capacity to serve projected and planned growth through 2025.
- The project would implement wastewater and recycled water improvements that are cost effective and affordable to District customers in terms of water and wastewater service costs.

- C. OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS.** The District finds, for the considerations set forth above, the benefits of the Project outweigh its contribution to the significant and unavoidable growth-inducing impact.

**RIDGEMARK WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND  
RECYCLED WATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**FINDINGS CONCERNING ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT**

CEQA requires that an EIR identify alternatives to a project as proposed. The CEQA Guidelines specify that the EIR describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project which “would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project, but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project”. The purpose of this section is to determine whether there are alternatives of design, scope or location which would substantially lessen the significant impacts, even if those alternatives “impede to some degree the attainment of the project objectives” or are more expensive (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6).

**A. NO PROJECT ALTERNATIVE**

1. **Description.** Under the No Project alternative, the proposed wastewater project improvements (Phase 1) would not be constructed. The current Ridgemark I and II facilities would continue to treat wastewater to the existing effluent levels and to the current maximum future capacity. Continuing waste discharge at the existing contaminant levels would result in non-compliance by the District with the Regional Board’s order to address updated standards for ammonia, nitrates, total suspended solids, and biochemical oxygen demand. Projected and planned growth within the District’s service area would not be served by expanded facilities. The No Project alternative, therefore, would not meet any of the project objectives.
2. **Comparison to the Proposed Project.** The No Project alternative would not result in identified construction impacts under Phase 1 of the project, including impacts to water quality, special-status species, air quality, noise, and buried cultural resources, all of which would be less than significant with mitigation under the project proposed. The No Project alternative would avoid the significant unavoidable growth-inducing impact.
3. **Finding.** The No Project alternative would not result in significant (but mitigated) construction impacts and the significant unavoidable growth-inducing impact. The No Project alternative, however, would result in water quality impacts through continued discharge of wastewater out of compliance with updated RWQCB standards. The No Project alternative would not fulfill any of the project’s objectives regarding improved water and wastewater quality and capacity and provision of recycled water.

**B. PHASE 1 IMPROVEMENTS: NO GROWTH ALTERNATIVE**

1. **Description.** Like the proposed project, the No Growth alternative would improve wastewater effluent contaminant levels to comply with the Regional Board’s Waste Discharge Order. However, with the No Growth alternative, the capacity of the treatment system would not increase over existing levels of wastewater inflow and therefore, would not accommodate the projected growth within the District’s service area south of Airline Highway from 3,000 to 4,929 residents.
2. **Comparison to the Proposed Project.** The No Growth alternative would have similar environmental impacts to the proposed project, including construction impacts. The No Growth alternative would avoid the significant unavoidable growth-inducing impact by maintaining the current wastewater treatment capacity level. Since the expansion of new treatment capacity to serve projected and planned growth is one of the objectives of the project, the No Growth alternative, by definition, would not fulfill one of the basic project goals.

3. **Finding.** The No Growth alternative would complete improvements to the wastewater treatment system, but would not increase capacity. This alternative would result in the same significant (but mitigated) environmental impacts, with the exception of the identified significant unavoidable growth-inducing impact. The No Growth alternative would not fulfill the project's objective of providing upgraded wastewater facilities with adequate capacity to serve projected and planned growth through 2025.

C. **PHASE 1 IMPROVEMENTS: RECYCLED WATER PIPELINE ROUTE ALTERNATIVE**

1. **Description.** This alternative describes recycled water pipeline alignments that would be primarily located within the Ridgemark Golf Course, rather than being located in paved private roads and streets in order to minimize damage to streets. Recycled water lines in the proposed project would be located approximately 80 percent in roads and streets, and this alternative would locate the pipelines approximately 80 percent within the golf course area. As described in the revised EIR Appendix D, *Biological Resources*, this alternative would disturb a greater amount of upland habitat than the proposed project pipeline alignment. During a field survey completed for the revised biological assessment, a number of active pocket-gopher burrows were located within the alternative alignment, which could be used by special-status species during dormancy periods (including California tiger salamander, western spadefoot, and red-legged frog), if these animals were able to reach the area.
2. **Comparison to the Proposed Project.** Based on the presence of the gopher burrows, an additional biological mitigation and avoidance measure would be required if this alternative were implemented (see Appendix D of the EIR). Since the existing burrows could provide habitat for special-status species, pre-construction surveys for these amphibians would be conducted prior to installation of pipelines in the golf course area.  
This modified mitigation and avoidance measure would not be required for pipeline installation in private streets in the Ridgemark area, as proposed by the Project.

Apart from potential impacts to individual special-status species from construction of this alternative pipeline route, this alternative would result in similar impacts to the proposed project, and would not further reduce any of the identified significant impacts. The Recycled Water Pipeline Route Alternative would fulfill the project's objectives in a manner similar to the project.

3. **Finding.** The Recycled Water Pipeline Route Alternative describes recycled water pipeline alignments that would be primarily located within the Ridgemark Golf Course, rather than being located in private roads and streets. Additional biological mitigation measures would be required to avoid possible impacts to special status species during construction (installation of pipelines in golf course areas with burrows). This alternative would fulfill the project's objectives and goals. The Recycled Water Pipeline Route Alternative would have similar impacts to the proposed project, and is not environmentally superior. At this time the District does not have authority to approve an alignment within the Ridgemark Golf Course; however if utility easements through the golf course were acquired for this alternative route the District could consider this route as a feasible alternative.

**RIDGEMARK WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND  
RECYCLED WATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

Attached to and adopted with this Resolution, and incorporated herein by this reference, is the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) for the project. The MMRP identifies impacts of the project, corresponding mitigation, designation of responsibility for mitigation implementation, and the agency responsible for making the monitoring action.



A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p><b>Impact HYDRO-2:</b> Implementation of Phase 1 improvements could result in increased sedimentation or other water quality impacts during construction of new project elements. Implementation of mitigation measures included in the project would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Included in the Project]</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Hydrology and Water Quality</b></p> <p>The following measures would reduce Impact <b>HYDRO-2</b>, <i>Impacts to Surface Water Quality</i> during construction to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>MM HYDRO 2.1:</b> The following mitigation measures are included in the proposed project to ensure compliance with NPDES permit requirements enforced by the Regional Board to reduce construction water quality impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SSCWD and/or its contractors shall prepare and implement an erosion control plan, a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and a stormwater management plan (SWMP) consistent with recommended design criteria, in accordance with the NPDES permitting requirements enforced by the Regional Board.</li> <li>• The SWPPP shall prescribe construction-period BMPs to adequately contain sediment on-site and prevent construction activities from degrading surface runoff. BMPs shall be implemented in accordance with criteria in the California Stormwater BMP Handbook for Construction or other accepted guidance. The SWPPP shall be reviewed and approved by the County prior to issuance of grading permits.</li> <li>• Contractors shall be required to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) for construction activities. The BMPs include measures guiding the management and operation of construction sites to control and minimize the</li> </ul>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented before and during construction, as appropriate.</p>	<p>To be implemented before, during, and after construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
	<p>potential contribution of pollutants to storm runoff from these areas. These measures address procedures for controlling erosion and sedimentation and managing all aspects of the construction process to ensure control of potential water pollution sources. Erosion and sedimentation control practices typically include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- limiting construction to the dry-weather months;</li> <li>- installation of silt fencing and/or straw wattle;</li> <li>- soils stabilization;</li> <li>- revegetation; and</li> <li>- runoff control to limit increases in sediment in storm water runoff (e.g., straw bales, silt fences, check dams, geofabrics, drainage swales, and sand bag dikes).</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If it is not possible to limit construction to the dry-weather months, the project shall comply with San Benito County's winter grading measures. These measures shall apply during the rainy season (October 15 to April 15), and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sufficient control materials shall be available, such as fiber rolls, straw bale dikes, plastic jute netting, etc.; These materials shall be kept on site at all times, to be installed immediately by the contractor upon the advent of any rainfall or wind that may be expected to cause accelerated erosion;</li> <li>- When rainfall or wind is predicted or occurring, temporary erosion control measures must be applied to all soils bared at the end of each day;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The SSCWD shall identify the SWPPP Manager who will be the responsible party during the construction phase to ensure proper implementation, maintenance and performance of the BMPs.</li> </ul>			

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<b>Biological Resources</b>				
<p><b>Impact BIO-3:</b> Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, and western spadefoot during construction. Mitigation and avoidance measures included in the project would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated]</b></p>	<p><b>Mitigation and Avoidance Measures for Impacts to California Tiger Salamander, California Red-legged Frog, and Western Spadefoot</b></p> <p><b>MM BIO-3.1:</b> Avoidance: Impacts to special status aquatic species and their habitat will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. The proposed project will not undertake any construction within approximately 0.25 miles of the California tiger salamander mitigation pond on the Ridgemark golf course near the terminus of Paullus Drive. As such, the presumed breeding habitat for special status aquatic species will be avoided by the project.</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>
<p><b>MM BIO-3.2:</b> Minimization: Implementation of the following measures will be taken during project implementation to avoid potential take of individual special status aquatic species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exclusion fencing (e.g., silt fencing) shall be erected around construction zones to minimize the potential of individual California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, and western Spadefoot to disperse into work areas during construction and maintained and remain in place for the duration of project implementation. Any aquatic species detected during these procedures will be moved to suitable habitat by a biologist possessing USFWS authorization to handle these species, and the agency would be notified.</li> <li>A qualified onsite monitor shall be present during the initial site grading within 0.25 miles of the breeding pond near the terminus of Paullus Drive. The monitor would only need to</li> </ul>	<p><b>MM BIO-3.2:</b> Minimization: Implementation of the following measures will be taken during project implementation to avoid potential take of individual special status aquatic species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exclusion fencing (e.g., silt fencing) shall be erected around construction zones to minimize the potential of individual California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, and western Spadefoot to disperse into work areas during construction and maintained and remain in place for the duration of project implementation. Any aquatic species detected during these procedures will be moved to suitable habitat by a biologist possessing USFWS authorization to handle these species, and the agency would be notified.</li> <li>A qualified onsite monitor shall be present during the initial site grading within 0.25 miles of the breeding pond near the terminus of Paullus Drive. The monitor would only need to</li> </ul>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p><b>Impact BIO-4:</b> Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to western pond turtles during construction. Mitigation and avoidance measures included in the project would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated]</b></p>	<p>monitor the site during the rough grading activities. Monitoring could cease once the build-out site has been completely denuded of habitats.</p> <p><b>Mitigation and Avoidance Measures for Impacts to Western Pond Turtle and Their Habitat</b></p> <p><b>MM BIO-4.1: Minimization:</b> The project shall implement the following measures to protect western pond turtles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Species-specific pre-construction surveys will be conducted 48-hours prior to initiation of construction activities within the RM II treatment and golf course mixing and irrigation ponds, or any of the manmade water features on site;</li> <li>The placement of fine mesh black fencing between the construction area and the edge of the ponds, where possible, to keep turtles away from heavy equipment;</li> <li>The training of the construction crew (e.g., tailgate session) by a qualified biologist to ensure that they are not only aware of the protective measures they are to employ in the unlikely event a turtle is found onsite, but also understand the purpose of such measures;</li> <li>Should a turtle be found during the pre-construction surveys, a qualified biological monitor will be present during construction when work is conducted within close proximity of the pond(s) to ensure that the project does not inadvertently injure or kill an individual western pond turtle.</li> <li>Should a turtle be found by the construction crew at any time</li> </ul>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p><b>Impact BIO-5:</b> Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to individual burrowing owls during construction. Mitigation and avoidance measures included in the project would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated]</b></p>	<p>during construction activities, a qualified biologist shall be contacted immediately. The biologist will move the turtle to a safe location and submit a sighting occurrence to the CDFG.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mitigation and Avoidance Measures for Impacts to Burrowing Owls</b></p> <p><b>MM BIO-5.1:</b> A qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys for burrowing owls within 250 feet of work areas within 30 days of the onset of ground disturbance in all areas of the project that have the potential to support suitable habitat for the burrowing owl (e.g., pipeline construction through ruderal grasslands and work around Pond 6). These surveys will be conducted in a manner consistent with accepted burrowing owl survey protocols. If pre-construction surveys determine that burrowing owls occupy the site during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31), then a passive relocation effort (i.e., blocking burrows with one-way doors and leaving them in place for a minimum of three days) may be necessary to ensure that the owls are not harmed or killed during construction. Once it has been determined that owls have vacated the site, the burrows can be collapsed, and ground disturbance can proceed.</p> <p><b>MM BIO-5.2:</b> If burrowing owls are detected on the site or immediately adjacent lands (i.e., within 250 feet of the site boundary) during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31), a construction-free buffer of 250 feet shall be established around all active owl burrows. The buffer areas will be enclosed with temporary fencing, and construction equipment and workers will not enter the enclosed setback areas. Buffers will remain in place for the duration of the breeding season or</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>
		<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p><b>Impact BIO-6:</b> Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to San Joaquin kit foxes during construction. Mitigation and avoidance measures included in the project would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated]</b></p>	<p>until it has been determined by a qualified biologist that chicks have fledged and are independent of their parents. After the breeding season, passive relocation of any remaining owls may take place as described above.</p> <p><b>Mitigation and Avoidance Measures for Impacts to San Joaquin Kit Fox</b></p> <p>In the highly unlikely event a San Joaquin kit fox were to wander onto the site at the time of project construction, the District shall implement the protection measures outlined in the “U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service standardized recommendations for protection of the San Joaquin kit fox prior to or during ground disturbance,” (as detailed in MM BIO-15.7), when work will occur within or adjacent to ruderal grasslands, or other areas that may support suitable denning habitat, such as the areas around RM I and Pond 6. The greater study area and potential impact areas do not currently support such denning habitat. While these recommendations were developed by the USFWS Sacramento office, they would be applicable to this project site as well.</p> <p><b>MM BIO-6.1:</b> Pre-construction surveys shall be conducted no less than 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to the beginning of ground disturbance, construction activities, and/or any project activity likely to impact the San Joaquin kit fox. The primary objective is to identify kit fox habitat features (e.g., potential dens and refugia) on the project site and evaluate their use by kit foxes. If an active kit fox den is detected within or immediately adjacent to the area of work, the USFWS shall be contacted immediately to determine the best course of action. If no kit fox activity is detected, a written report shall be submitted to the USFWS within five days after completion of the surveys.</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
	<p><b>MM BIO-6.2:</b> Permanent and temporary construction activities and other types of project-related activities should be carried out in a manner that minimizes disturbance to kit foxes, should their presence be detected on the site during pre-construction surveys. Minimization measures include, but are not limited to: restriction of project-related vehicle traffic to established roads, construction areas, and other designated areas; inspection and covering of structures (e.g., pipes), as well as installation of escape structures, to prevent the inadvertent entrapment of kit foxes; restriction of rodenticide and herbicide use; and proper disposal of food items and trash.</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>
	<p><b>MM BIO-6.3:</b> The Ventura field office of the USFWS and the Fresno field office of the CDFG will be notified in writing within three working days in case of the accidental death or injury to a San Joaquin kit fox during project-related activities. Notification must include the date, time, location of the incident or of the finding of a dead or injured animal, and any other pertinent information.</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>
<p>In the highly unlikely event a San Joaquin kit fox were to wander onto the site at the time of project construction, the District shall implement the protection measures outlined in the “U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service standardized recommendations for protection of the San Joaquin kit fox prior to or during ground disturbance,” (as detailed in MM</p>	<p><b>Construction Impacts to San Joaquin Kit Fox</b></p> <p><b>MM BIO-15.7: Take Avoidance Standard</b> take-avoidance measures listed on the following pages will be implemented to avoid direct take of any individual kit fox that may wander onto the project site. To avoid direct take of any individual kit fox that may be present on a project site, preactivity surveys will be conducted if any habitat feature with the potential to be used by kit foxes (i.e. burrows, irrigation pipes, debris piles) is created or placed on site and is to be subsequently disturbed or moved. If kit foxes are detected, work in that area must cease and</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p>BIO-15.7), when work will occur within or adjacent to ruderal grasslands, or other areas that may support suitable denning habitat, such as the areas around RM I and Pond 6. The greater study area and potential impact areas do not currently support such denning habitat. While these recommendations were developed by the USFWS Sacramento office, they would be applicable to this project site as well.</p>	<p>consultation with the USFWS is necessary to determine the appropriate course of action.</p> <p><i>STANDARD RECOMMENDATIONS PUT FORTH BY UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF SAN JOAQUIN KIT FOX PRIOR TO OR DURING GROUND DISTURBANCE. 28 JUNE 1999.</i></p> <p><b><u>Construction and Operational Requirements</u></b></p> <p>Habitat subject to permanent and temporary construction disturbances and other types of project-related disturbances should be minimized. Project designs should limit or cluster permanent project features to the smallest area possible while still permitting project goals to be achieved. To minimize temporary disturbances, all project-related vehicle traffic should be restricted to established roads, construction areas, and other designated areas. These areas should also be included in preconstruction surveys and, to the extent possible, should be established in locations disturbed by previous activities to prevent further impacts.</p>			
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project-related vehicles should observe a 20-mph speed limit in all project areas, except on county roads and State and Federal highways; this is particularly important at night when kit foxes are most active. To the extent possible, nighttime construction should be minimized. Off-road traffic outside of designated project areas should be prohibited.</li> <li>To prevent inadvertent entrapment of kit foxes or other animals during the construction phase of a project, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 2 feet deep should be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more</li> </ol>			



A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
	<p>escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they should be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. If at any time a trapped or injured kit fox is discovered, the procedures under number 13 of this section must be followed.</p> <p>3. Kit foxes are attracted to den-like structures such as pipes and may enter stored pipe becoming trapped or injured. All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of 4-inches or greater that are stored at a construction site for one or more overnight periods should be thoroughly inspected for kit foxes before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If a kit fox is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe should not be moved until the Service has been consulted. If necessary, and under the direct supervision of the biologist, the pipe may be moved once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the fox has escaped.</p> <p>4. All food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps should be disposed of in closed containers and removed at least once a week from a construction or project site.</p> <p>5. No firearms shall be allowed on the project site.</p> <p>6. To prevent harassment, mortality of kit foxes or destruction of dens by dogs or cats, no pets should be permitted on project sites.</p> <p>7. Use of rodenticides and herbicides in project areas should be restricted. This is necessary to prevent primary or secondary poisoning of kit foxes and the depletion of prey populations on which they depend. All uses of such compounds should observe label and other restrictions mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and other State and Federal legislation, as well as additional project-</p>			

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
	<p>related restrictions deemed necessary by the Service. If rodent control must be conducted, zinc phosphate should be used because of proven lower risk to kit fox.</p> <p>8. A representative shall be appointed by the project proponent who will be the contact source for any employee or contractor who might inadvertently kill or injure a kit fox or who finds a dead, injured or entrapped individual. The representative will be identified during the employee education program. The representative's name and telephone number shall be provided to the Service.</p> <p>9. An employee education program should be conducted for any project that has expected impacts to kit fox or other endangered species. The program should consist of a brief presentation by persons knowledgeable in kit fox biology and legislative protection to explain endangered species concerns to contractors, their employees, and military and agency personnel involved in the project. The program should include the following: a description of the San Joaquin kit fox and its habitat needs; a report of the occurrence of kit fox in the project area; and explanation of the status of the species and its protection under the Endangered Species Act; and a list of measures being taken to reduce impacts to the species during project construction and implementation. A fact sheet conveying this information should be prepared for distribution to the above-mentioned people and anyone else who may enter the project site.</p> <p>10. Upon completion of the project, all areas subject to temporary ground disturbances, including storage and staging areas, temporary roads, pipeline corridors, etc. should be re-contoured if necessary, and revegetated to promote restoration of the area to pre-project conditions. An area subject of "temporary" disturbance means any area that is disturbed during the project, but that after project completion</p>			

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p><b>Impact BIO-7: Implementation of the proposed Phase 1</b></p>	<p>will not be subject to further disturbance and has the potential to be revegetated. Appropriate methods and plant species used to revegetate such areas should be determined on a site-specific basis in consultation with the Service, California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and revegetation experts.</p> <p>11. In the case of trapped animals, escape ramps or structures should be installed immediately to allow the animal(s) to escape, or the Service should be contacted for advice.</p> <p>12. Any contractor, employee, or military or agency personnel who inadvertently kills or injures a San Joaquin kit fox shall immediately report the incident to their representative. This representative shall contact the CDFG immediately in case of a dead, injured or entrapped kit fox. The CDFG contact for immediate assistance is State Dispatch at (916) 445-0045. They will contact the local warden or biologist.</p> <p>The Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office and CDFG will be notified in writing within three working days of the accidental death or injury to a San Joaquin kit fox during project related activities. Notification must include the date, time, and location of the incident or of the finding of a dead or injured animal and any other pertinent information. The Service contact is the Chief of the Division of Endangered Species, at the addresses and telephone numbers given below. The CDFG contact is Mr. Ron Schlorff as 1416-9th Street, Sacramento, California, (916) 654-4262.</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents,</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p>improvements could result in temporary impacts to American badger during construction. Mitigation and avoidance measures included in the project would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated]</b></p>	<p><b>MM BIO-7.1:</b> Pre-construction surveys, like those conducted for raptors and specifically for burrowing owls, will also be used to determine the presence or absence of badgers within the area of Pond 6, RM I, and ruderal grasslands located within the potential impact area. In the unlikely event that an active badger den is identified during pre-construction surveys within or immediately adjacent to the construction envelope, a construction-free buffer of up to 300 feet or a suitable distance specified by the resource agencies (i.e., CDFG) will be established around the den.</p> <p>Because badgers are known to use multiple burrows in a breeding burrow complex, a biological monitor will be present onsite during construction activities to ensure the buffer is adequate to avoid direct impact to individuals or nest abandonment. The onsite monitor will be necessary until it is determined that young are of an independent age and construction activities would not harm individual badgers. Once it has been determined that badgers have vacated the site, the burrows could be collapsed or excavated, and ground disturbance could proceed. Because potential impacts to badger habitat would be temporary in nature, no offsite mitigation is warranted for loss of habitat for the badger.</p>	<p>Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>construction of wastewater improvements.</p>
<p><b>Impact BIO-8:</b> Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to nesting raptors during construction. Mitigation and avoidance measures included in the project would reduce these</p>	<p><b>Mitigation and Avoidance Measures for Impacts to Nesting Raptors</b></p> <p><b>MM BIO-8.1:</b> A qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for tree- and ground-nesting raptors throughout the site and in all trees within 250 feet of the site no more than 30 days prior to the onset of ground disturbance, if</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p>impacts to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated]</b></p>	<p>such disturbance will occur during the breeding season (February 1 through August 31). Pre-construction surveys will be used to determine the presence or absence of nesting raptors. If nesting raptors are detected during the survey within 250 feet of proposed project-related development activities, a suitable construction-free buffer should be established around all active nests. The precise dimension of the buffer (up to 250 feet) would be determined at that time and may vary depending on location and species. Buffers will remain in place for the duration of the breeding season or until it has been confirmed by a qualified biologist that all chicks have fledged and are independent of their parents. Pre-construction surveys during the non-breeding season are not necessary for most nesting raptors, including all tree-nesting raptors, as they are expected to abandon their roosts during construction.</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>
<p><b>Impact BIO-9:</b> Implementation of the proposed Phase 1 improvements could result in impacts to nesting waterfowl during dewatering and filling ponds at RM II. Mitigation and avoidance measures included in the project would reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated]</b></p>	<p><b>Mitigation and Avoidance Measures for Impacts to Nesting Waterfowl</b></p> <p><b>MM BIO-9.1:</b> A qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for nesting waterfowl within 100 feet of manmade water features no more than 30 days prior to the onset of ground disturbance, if such disturbance will occur during the breeding season (generally March 1 through June 30). Pre-construction surveys should be used to determine the presence or absence of nesting waterfowl. If nesting of such birds is detected during the survey within 100 feet of proposed project-related activities, a suitable construction-free buffer should be established around all active nests. The precise dimension of the buffer (up to 100 feet) would be determined at that time and may vary depending on location and species. Buffers will remain in place for the duration of the breeding season or until it has been</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
	confirmed by a qualified biologist that all chicks have fledged and are independent of their parents. Pre-construction surveys during the non-breeding season are not necessary for waterfowl as they are expected to abandon their roosts during construction.			
<b>Air Quality</b>				
<p><b>Impact AQ-2:</b> The operation of solids drying beds at RM I following Phase 1 improvements could result in the exposure of sensitive residential receptors to objectionable odors. With the adoption of an Odor Minimization Plan and other measures, this impact would be less than significant.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Included in the Project]</b></p>	<p>Implementation of the following mitigation measures would reduce <b>Impact AQ-2, Odors from Solids Handling</b> to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>MM AIR-2.1:</b> An Operations and Maintenance Manual will be prepared as part of the project that will address proper operation and maintenance of all facilities. This manual will include procedures for proper maintenance and operation of the facilities to minimize odor. An Odor Minimization Plan will be prepared and included in this manual. The plan will specify measures that will be taken to avoid the production of odors at the RM I facility and steps that will be taken if odor complaints are received. The purpose of the Odor Minimization Plan would be to avoid objectionable odors reaching off-site receptors. The plan would include both design features and operational measures to control odors at RM I. Both the Operations and Maintenance Manual and the Odor Minimization Plan will be completed prior to the start of operations of the improved wastewater treatment facility.</p> <p>Design and operational measures included in the Operations and Maintenance Manual will include, at minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Residence Time.</b> Solids sent to the drying beds will have undergone a 60 to 80 day solids residence time in the SBR and storage tank, resulting in a very stable sludge that will</li> </ul>	General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District.	All measures shall be implemented during final design and operation phases.	To be implemented before and during operation of wastewater improvements.

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p><b>Impact AQ-4:</b> With the implementation of construction mitigation measures, material hauling and construction dust impacts during Phase 1 improvements would be less than</p>	<p>typically have a “musty” odor similar to that of composting organic material.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Aeration and Turning of Solids in the Drying Beds.</b> As layers of solids build up in the drying beds, District staff will turn and aerate the piles more frequently to ensure that all of the sludge is aerated and not under anaerobic conditions.</li> <li>• <b>Protocol for Management of Odors.</b> The Operation and Maintenance Manual will include a set protocol for on-site management of potential odor problems. Odor suppression chemicals will be used, if needed.</li> <li>• <b>Odor Complaints.</b> The District will designate a contact person who would be responsible for responding to any local complaints about odors from the RM I facility. The contact person will determine the cause of the odor complaint (e.g., anaerobic conditions in solids beds, etc.) and will require that reasonable measures to correct the problem condition be implemented. The telephone number for the contact person at the Sunnyslope County Water District (831-637-4670) will be conspicuously posted at the main pump station and gate of RM I and included in a notice sent to neighbors upon completion of construction of the RM I improvements. In addition, to comply with Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District Rule 402 (Nuisances), the phone number of the MBUAPCD shall be visibly posted to ensure compliance with this rule (831-647-9411).</li> </ul>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>
<p><b>Impact AQ-4:</b> With the implementation of construction mitigation measures, material hauling and construction dust impacts during Phase 1 improvements would be less than</p>	<p>Implementation of the following mitigation measures would reduce <b>Impact AQ-4, Construction Particulate Emissions</b> to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>MM AQ-4.1:</b> Construction contractors shall implement a dust abatement program. All construction contracts will require the</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p>significant.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Included in the Project]</b></p>	<p>following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watering shall be used to control dust generation during loading materials onto trucks.</li> <li>• Cover all trucks hauling debris or soils from the site.</li> <li>• Water all exposed soil surfaces at least twice daily.</li> <li>• Frequency should be based on the type of operation, soil, and wind exposure.</li> <li>• Cover all trucks hauling dirt, sand or loose materials, or maintain at least two feet of freeboard.</li> <li>• Cover inactive storage piles.</li> <li>• Sweep streets if visible soil material is carried out from the construction site.</li> <li>• Post a publicly visible sign which specifies the telephone number and person to contact regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond to complaints and take corrective action within 48 hours. The phone number of the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District shall be visible to ensure compliance with Rule 402 (Nuisance).</li> <li>• Limit grading to 8.1 acres per day, and grading and excavation to 2.2 acres per day.</li> <li>• Prohibit all grading activities during periods of high wind (over 15 mph)</li> <li>• Apply chemical soil stabilizers on inactive construction areas (disturbed lands within construction projects that are unused for at least four consecutive days)</li> <li>• Apply non-toxic binders (e.g., latex acrylic copolymer) to exposed areas after cut and fill operations, and hydro-seed area.</li> <li>• Plant vegetative ground cover in disturbed areas as soon as possible.</li> <li>• Install wheel washers at the entrance to construction sites for</li> </ul>			



A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<p><b>Impact NOISE-2:</b> Construction noise from Phase 1 improvements could have a significant temporary impact on nearby residential and recreational uses. With the implementation of construction mitigation measures as listed in this EIR, the impact would be reduced to less than significant.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Included in the Project]</b></p>	<p>all exiting trucks.</p> <p><b>Noise</b></p> <p>Implementation of the following mitigation measures would reduce <b>Impact NOISE-2, Construction Noise</b> to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>MM NOISE-2.1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restrict noise-generating activities at the construction site or in areas adjacent to the construction site to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily.</li> <li>Equip all internal combustion engine driven equipment with intake and exhaust mufflers that are in good condition and appropriate for the equipment.</li> <li>Unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines shall be strictly prohibited.</li> <li>Locate stationary noise-generating equipment such as air compressors or portable power generators as far as possible from sensitive receptors. Construct temporary noise barriers to screen stationary noise generating equipment when located near adjoining sensitive land uses. Temporary noise barriers could reduce construction noise levels by five (5) dBA.</li> <li>Utilize “quiet” air compressors and other stationary noise sources where technology exists.</li> <li>Route all construction traffic to and from the project site via designated truck routes where possible. Prohibit construction-related heavy truck traffic in residential areas where feasible.</li> <li>Control noise from construction workers’ radio to a point that they are not audible at existing residences bordering the project site.</li> <li>Designate a “disturbance coordinator” who would be</li> </ul>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
	<p>responsible for responding to any local complaints about construction noise. The disturbance coordinator will determine the cause of the noise complaint (e.g., starting too early, bad muffler, etc.) and will require that reasonable measures warranted to correct the problem be implemented. A telephone number for the disturbance coordinator will be conspicuously posted at the construction site and include it in the notice sent to neighbors regarding the construction schedule.</p>			
<b>Cultural Resources</b>				
<p><b>Impact CR-1:</b> With the implementation of mitigation measures to lessen impacts if cultural resources or human skeletal remains are encountered, the proposed Phase 1 improvements would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a prehistoric resource.</p> <p><b>[Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures Included in the Project]</b></p>	<p>No project-level mitigation measures are required for development of the proposed project. The proposed undertaking will not affect any National Register of Historic Properties or adversely affect any historic resources eligible for or listed on the California Register of Historical Resources.</p> <p>Post-review discoveries of cultural resources shall be treated in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.13(b). The development of a formal Post-Review Discovery Plan is not recommended due to the low potential for exposing archaeological material within the property.</p> <p>The exposure of any Native American burials shall be handled in accordance with State of California and San Benito County statutes and regulations, including the adopted San Benito County Groundwater Management Plan Update. Compliance with Mitigation Measures CR-1.1 and CR-1.2 from this plan, listed below, would reduce any potentially significant impacts when resources are encountered to a less than significant level.</p> <p><b>MM-CR-1.1:</b> Notification if Significant Cultural Materials are</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

A. Impact Area	Mitigation Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
	<p><u>Encountered:</u> In the event any significant cultural materials are encountered, all construction within a radius of 100 feet of the find would be halted, Sunnyslope County Water District and County of San Benito personnel would be notified, and the archaeologist will examine the find and make appropriate recommendations regarding the significance of the find and the appropriate mitigation. Recommendations could include collection, recordation, and analysis of any significant cultural materials.</p>			
	<p><b>MM-CR-1.2:</b> <u>Notification if Human Skeletal Remains Are Encountered:</u> In the event that human skeletal remains are encountered, the San Benito County Coroner will be notified immediately. Upon determination by the County Coroner that the remains are Native American, the coroner shall contact the California Native American Heritage Commission, pursuant to subdivision (c) of section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code and the County Coordinator of Indian Affairs. No further disturbance of the site may be made except as authorized by the County Coordinator of Indian Affairs in accordance with the provisions of State law and the Health and Safety Code. The District Manager of the Sunnyslope County Water District and County of San Benito personnel will also be notified immediately, as appropriate, if human skeletal remains are found during development.</p>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

*The following avoidance measures address less than significant Phase I environmental impacts, and are included in the project.*

B. Impact Area	Avoidance Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<b>Geology and Soils</b>				
<p><b>Impact GEO-2:</b> With the implementation of design recommendations contained in the geotechnical report prepared for the project, as well as compliance with standards and codes adopted by the District and included in the project, adverse impacts from soil conditions or erosion from Phase 1 of the project would be less than significant.</p> <p><b>[Less Than Significant Impact]</b></p>	<p>Although not identified as a significant impact, the project includes the following avoidance measures to reduce the potential for accelerated soil erosion during construction periods.</p> <p><b>AM GEO-2.1:</b> Measures to minimize erosion in construction staging and access areas in the vicinity of RMI include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grading and use of new unpaved construction access roads shall occur only during the dry season (April 15-October 15) each year.</li> <li>• Existing unpaved access roads may be used throughout the year by trucks with a weight of less than one ton, if the following conditions apply:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- slopes on the existing unpaved access roads are less than 10 percent,</li> <li>- it is not raining,</li> <li>- there is no standing water or mud on the existing unpaved access road, and</li> <li>- the continued use of the existing unpaved road does not result in excessive erosion as determined by the project geotechnical or civil engineer.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recontouring and reseeded unpaved, temporary construction access routes prior to October 15 of each year, and</li> <li>• Installation of stormwater and erosion control measures, such as straw rolls or water bars, on steep slopes under supervision of the project geotechnical or civil engineer.</li> </ul>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>

*The following avoidance measures address less than significant Phase I environmental impacts, and are included in the project.*

B. Impact Area	Avoidance Measure	Responsibility for Compliance	Method of Compliance and Oversight of Implementation	Timing of Compliance
<b>Utilities and Service Systems</b>				
<p><b>Impact UTIL-1:</b> A cross-connection control program would avoid or reduce the potential for recycled water to impact potable water supplies in the water supply distribution system.</p> <p><b>[Less Than Significant Impact]</b></p>	<p>Although not a significant impact, the following mitigation measure is included in the project and shall be printed on all project plans.</p> <p><b>MM UTIL 1-1:</b> <u>Cross-Connection of Recycled Water and Potable Water Lines</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There shall be no cross-connections between the potable water supply and pipes containing recycled water.</li> <li>• The permit holder and users shall provide employee training to assure proper operation of reclamation facilities, worker protection, and compliance with the RWQCB status.</li> <li>• Piping, valves, and outlets shall be color-coded and marked to differentiate recycled water from domestic or other water, and all recycled water controllers and valves shall be affixed with recycled water notification signs.</li> <li>• The permit holder and users shall make necessary provisions to inform the public that the liquid being distributed is recycled water and is unfit for human consumption.</li> <li>• Recycled water lines shall be separated from potable water lines by ten (10) feet in a horizontal direction and one (1) foot in a vertical direction, with the potable line at the higher elevation.</li> <li>• Specific pressure or dye tests shall be performed to verify that no cross-connections exist between the recycled water and potable water systems.</li> </ul>	<p>General Manager, Sunnyslope County Water District and District contractors.</p>	<p>All measures will be printed on all construction documents, contracts, and project plans; and implemented during the design and construction phases.</p>	<p>To be implemented before and during construction of wastewater improvements.</p>