Finding of No Significant Impact ("FONSI")
For the
City of Lathrop Project to Construct Water Well #10

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is authorizing the expenditure of Water Infrastructure Grant funds awarded in December 2004 to the City of Lathrop. These funds ($523,800) were provided by the U. S. Congress to help the City construct a reserve municipal supply water well for public safety in an emergency situation.

The proposed project includes development of a new well (Well #10) on an approximately 0.9-acre site that is entirely within the site for the approved Lathrop Industrial Park. The well site development would include a 50-foot (ft) by 75-ft paved area with a 9-ft high split-face, masonry block building to house the pump and equipment.

EPA has completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) dated March 27, 2006 to evaluate the environmental consequences of the proposed action, along with the no action alternative. As a result of the EA, as well as public discussion of the proposed project and alternative, the EPA has determined the action will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. An Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCE AND CONDITIONS SUPPORTING THE FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The EA concluded that due to the nature of the project and the proposed well location, there will be no effect to any federally recognized endangered or threatened species.

The study also concluded that there was no evidence of any known cultural or archeological resources within the study area. Archaeological monitoring will be used for all excavations in this area to mitigate the potential of affecting unknown cultural resources as well as to address tribal representative's expressed concerns.

Alternatives to the proposed project such as adding larger pumps on existing wells, selecting other well locations, or implementing water conservation methods were rejected for hydro-geologic reasons and because they would not ensure the public a reliable and safe water source. As the project is located in an existing industrial park, it will have no effect on aesthetics, agricultural resources, land use, or population centers.

PUBLIC REVIEW

EPA made the EA available for public inspection at the EPA Region 9 office in San Francisco, California, as well as at the City of Lathrop's Public Works Department on 390 Towne Centre Drive. In addition, we posted the EA on EPA Region 9's website.

EPA received two sets of comments for consideration on the FONSI within 30 calendar days from the date of publication of the Legal Notice of Decision. These comments, both supporting the project, are addressed in the EPA Response to Comments document. Therefore, EPA is taking administrative action on the above-described project to finalize the FONSI and the associated EA. This FONSI is final upon signature by the Regional Administrator. It will not be re-circulated for review, but will be available to any individual upon request.

FINDING

After reviewing the EA and comments received, EPA has determined that the proposed project will not have a significant impact on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared for this project.

for Wayne Nastri
Regional Administrator

28 July 2006
Date