UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1460
Los Angeles, CA 90017

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FoNSI)

For the
County of Kern – Rexland Acres Community Wastewater System

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is considering an award to the County of Kern to fund construction of a wastewater force main and pumping stations in County streets in the unincorporated area know as Rexland Acres in the County of Kern.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The project is the construction of sewer lines within the rural community of Rexland Acres and connecting to the Kern Sanitary Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant located approximately four miles northeasterly of Rexland Acres on Kimber Avenue, near Oswell Street, South of State Highway 58. The force main alignment includes the construction of approximately 26,200 lineal feet of eight – inch-diameter force main line between the Rexland Acres community to the Kern Sanitation District Wastewater Treatment Plant. Two lift stations operation in series are included one at Fairview Road immediately west of Kern Island Canal (lift station no.1) and a second lift station in the vicinity of Bakersfield Wastewater Treatment Plant no.2 (Lift Station No.2), the approximate halfway point. The system will provide sewer service to 688 developed lots serving 746 dwelling units that are included in the service area. Identified residential dwellings will then be connected to the newly installed sewer systems and individual septic systems will be abandoned. The system is being proposed to remedy a high rate of septic system failures and to prevent potential degradation of ground water in the Rexland Acres Community.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES AND CONDITIONS

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), EPA is adopting the Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in 2004. The EA examined the potential environmental impacts and alternative to the proposed project. The EA considered a wide range of regulatory, environmental and socio-economic factors, including Land Use, Hydrology and Water Quality, Air Quality, Historic and Cultural Resources, Biological Resources, Environmental Justice, Noise and Aesthetics. Based on information from the EA, EPA has determined that the proposed project, the County of Kern, Rexland Acres Wastewater Community System, will not pose significant impacts to the environment and an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

PUBLIC REVIEW

The EA is on file, along with other project materials, and is available for public inspection at the EPA Southern California Field Office in Los Angeles, CA. In addition, the EA will be posted on the EPA website at http://www.epa.gov/region09/nepa/epa-generated.html .

To obtain additional information about the project, please contact Howard Kahan by email at: kahan.howard@epa.gov or by calling (213)244-1819.

All interested persons may submit comments to EPA Region 9 by July 31, 2007. No administrative action will be taken on this proposed project prior to the expiration of the comment period. Comments, via letter, fax or email, should be sent to Howard Kahan at the address listed below.

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FINDING

After EPA assesses any comments received, those comments, EPA's responses and this FONSI will be forwarded to the EPA Region 9 Regional Administrator for review and signature. If this FONSI is signed by the Regional Administrator, it will not be re-circulated for review, but will be available to any individual upon request.

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Wayne Nastri — Date
Regional Administrator