NEGATIVE DECLARATION/NEPA Supplement

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA),* the State CEQA Guidelines,** and the Kern County CEQA Implementation Document and State CEQA Guidelines,*** the Kern County Planning Department has made an Initial Study of possible environmental impacts of the following-described project:

APPLICANT: Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department (PP02218)

APPLICATION: EA MWH 1-01; Rexland Acres Wastewater System

LOCATION: The community of Rexland Acres located at the intersection of South Union Avenue and East Pacheco Road, south of Bakersfield, approximately bordered by Gary Place and Brenda Place on the west, Rexland Avenue and Garden Drive on the north, Kern Island Canal on the east, and Buckley Avenue on the south; being a portion of Section 20, T30S, R28E, MDB&M, County of Kern, State of California. A sewer force main line will connect this area to the Kern Sanitation Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant in Section 3, via Sections 20, 21, 22, 15, 10, and 3, all in T30S, R38E, MDB&M.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT: 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 operating 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 half-way point. System requirements call for an average daily flow of 180 gallons per minute (gpm), with a peak flow of 360 gpm. After construction of the force main system, all aboveground facilities and disturbances will be restored to their previously existing condition or better. The system will be sized to 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 the individual septic systems abandoned. The system is being proposed to remedy a high rate of septic system failures and to prevent potential degradation of groundwater in the Rexland Acres community. The project is proposed for funding by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service Financing Program and other sources. United States Department of Housing and Community Development Block Grant Funds may also be provided for the project. The formation of an assessment district and County Service Area Zone of Benefit will also be required.

MITIGATION MEASURES Included in the Proposed Project to Avoid Potentially Significant Effects (if required):

(1) Construction activities within, or within 1/4 mile of, the existing residential neighborhood shall be limited to normal working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

(2) During construction activities, all requirements of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District's Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust Rules (in particular Rule 8020 - Construction, Demolition, Excavation, Extraction) shall be implemented. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

(3) Should any cultural materials be discovered during grading or development, all work shall be halted and a qualified archaeologist/historian contacted to assess the finds and impose mitigation measures, if necessary, prior to resumption of construction. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

(4) If, during grading or construction activities, any plugged or abandoned or unrecorded wells are uncovered or damaged, the Department of Conservation/Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources shall be contacted to inspect and approve any remediation required.

INCLUSION OF MITIGATION MEASURES AS PART OF PROJECT:

I, as applicant/authorized agent, have reviewed the mitigation measures noted above and agree to include said measures as part of this project.

Signed: —S— Dated: _____

FINDINGS: It has been found that this project, as described and proposed to be mitigated herein, will not have a significant effect on the environment and that an environmental impact report (EIR) is, therefore, not required. A brief statement of reasons supporting such findings is as follows:

(1) Proposed project does not appear to have a substantial demonstrable negative aesthetic effect.

(2) There does not appear to be a substantial body of opinion that considers or will consider the various anticipated environmental effects resulting from the proposed action to be adverse.

(3) Proposed project would not appear to cause substantial flooding, erosion, or siltation.

(4) Proposed project would not appear to substantially affect a rare or endangered species of animal or plant or habitat of such species. Proposal would not diminish habitat for fish, wildlife, or plants.

(5) Proposed project would not appear to have any potential for disruption or alteration of (1) an archaeological site over 200 years old, (2) a historic site of record, or (3) a paleontological site.

PUBLIC INQUIRY: Any person may object to dispensing with such EIR or respond to the findings herein. Information relating to the proposed project is on file in the office of the Planning Department at the address shown below. Any person wishing to examine or obtain a copy of that information or this document, or seeking information as to the time and manner to so object or respond, may do so by inquiring at said office during regular business hours.

A copy of the Initial Study is attached hereto.

PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION DATE: August 25, 2004
NEGATIVE DECLARATION REVIEW PERIOD ENDS: September 24, 2004

TED JAMES, AICP, Director
Planning Department

Kern County Planning Department
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 862-8600

By David B. Rickels, AICP
Planning Division Chief

AGENCY CONSULTATION REQUIRED: X Yes ___ No

AGENCIES CONSULTED: Kern County Planning Department/Planning Operations; County Clerk; Bakersfield; EPA; Fish & Wildlife/Ventura; Soil Conservation/Bak; KC Agriculture; KCAPCD; Community Development; ESS/Floodplain; ESS/Survey; KC Environmental Health; KC Fire; KC Roads; KC Waste Management; Kern County Water Agency; Pacific Bell/Fresno; PG&E/Bak; So. Cal Edison/Bak; So. San Joaquin Arch Info. Center; State Clearinghouse; Division of Oil & Gas/Bak; Fish & Game/Fresno; Health Services/Fresno; Historical Preservation; CRWQCB/Central; State Water Resources/Fresno; USDA-RD

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if required):

INITIAL STUDY PREPARED BY: Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Supervising Planner/Planning Department

DATE POSTED: _____ **DATE OF NOTICE TO PUBLIC:** August 25, 2004

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* Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq.
** Title 14, Division 6, California Administrative Code, as amended
*** Resolution No. 2004-163, adopted June 1, 2004

LHO:paw:ma (8/24/04 - 5190BB.ND)

Attachment

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

This is to advise that the Kern County Planning Department has prepared a Negative Declaration for the project identified below. As mandated by State law, the minimum public review period for this document is 30 days. The document and documents referenced in the draft Negative Declaration are available for review at the Planning Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department has scheduled a public hearing with the Kern County Board of Supervisors to receive comments on the document on: **September 28, 2004**, at 2:00 p.m. or soon thereafter, Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, First Floor, Kern County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California

The comment period for this document closes on **September 24, 2004**. Testimony at future public hearings may be limited to those issues raised during the public review period either orally or submitted in writing by 5:00 p.m. the day the comment period closes.

Project Title: EA MWH 1-01; Rexland Acres Wastewater System (Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department (PP02218))

Project Location: The community of Rexland Acres located at the intersection of South Union Avenue and East Pacheco Road, south of Bakersfield, approximately bordered by Gary Place and Brenda Place on the west, Rexland Avenue and Garden Drive on the north, Kern Island Canal on the east, and Buckley Avenue on the south; being a portion of Section 20, T30S, R28E, MDB&M, County of Kern, State of California. A sewer force main line will connect this area to the Kern Sanitation Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant in Section 3, via Sections 20, 21, 22, 15, 10, and 3, all in T30S, R38E, MDB&M.

Project Description: 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 operating 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 half-way point. System requirements call for an average daily flow of 180 gallons per minute (gpm), with a peak flow of 360 gpm. After construction of the force main system, all aboveground facilities and disturbances will be restored to their previously existing condition or better. The system will be sized to 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 the individual septic systems abandoned. The system is being proposed to remedy a high rate of septic system failures and to prevent potential degradation of groundwater in the Rexland Acres community. The project is proposed for funding by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service Financing Program and other sources. United States Department of Housing and Community Development Block Grant Funds may also be provided for the project. The formation of an assessment district and County Service Area Zone of Benefit will also be required.

For further information, please contact Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Supervising Planner ((661) 862-8866).

TED JAMES, AICP, Director
Planning Department

LHO:paw:ma (8/24/04)

cc: County Clerk (2) (with fee)
Environmental Status Board
Sierra Club/Kern Kaweah Chapter
Communities for a Better Environment
California Native Plant Society/Kern Chapter
Kern County Archaeological Society
Native American Heritage Pres. Council/Kern County
Supervisorial District No. 5 - Parra

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture Resources	☐ Air Quality
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Geology and Soils
☐ Hazards and Hazardous Materials	☐ Hydrology and Water Quality	☐ Land Use and Planning
☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Noise	☐ Population and Housing
☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation and Traffic
☐ Utilities and Service Systems	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance	

DETERMINATION. (To be completed by the Lead Agency.)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

■ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (a) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (b) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENT IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature: [signature], AICP — Date: 8-26-04

Printed Name: Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP — For: Kern County Planning Department

KERN COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

INITIAL STUDY REVIEW

SECTION I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

PROPOSED PROJECT: EA MWH 1-01; Rexland Acres Wastewater System (Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department (PP02218))

LOCATION: The community of Rexland Acres located at the intersection of South Union Avenue and East Pacheco Road, south of Bakersfield, approximately bordered by Gary Place and Brenda Place on the west, Rexland Avenue and Garden Drive on the north, Kern Island Canal on the east, and Buckley Avenue on the south; being a portion of Section 20, T30S, R28E, MDB&M, County of Kern, State of California. A sewer force main line will connect this area to the Kern Sanitation Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant in Section 3, via Sections 20, 21, 22, 15, 10, and 3, all in T30S, R38E, MDB&M.

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ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: The project site is a rural community located in an unincorporated County area on the outskirts of Bakersfield. The community consists of 886 lots, 840 of which are developed with single-family dwellings. The remaining lots are developed with multiple family dwellings (67 units), commercial, and institutional uses. Residential lots range in size from under 6,000 square feet to 2 1/2 acres, with an average lot ranging in size between 6,000 square feet and 15,000 square feet. Water to the community is provided by the California Water Service Company served by two groundwater wells. Existing well water quality meets State standards although increased levels of nitrates in recent years have been detected. The community of Rexland Acres has experienced an increasing failure rate on septic tank uses. In 2001, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board/Central Valley Region adopted

Resolution 5-01-073 approving and accepting the Kern County Health Officer's Declaration of Potential Water Pollution and urged the State Water Resources Control Board to place the "Discharger" (Rexland Acres) in Priority Class B for Small Community Grant program funding. The area is not subject to flooding according to the published Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM). The collection system, lift station, and force main will all be constructed in existing rights-of-way, on existing roads (paved and unpaved), or on previously disturbed areas. No undisturbed native habitat exists within the scope of the project. The areas where the sewer force main will be constructed consist either of County road right-of-way or land that is in agricultural production. Construction of the force main will not require the removal or relocation of existing buildings.

LHO:paw:ma (8/21/04 – 5190BB.122)

Evaluation of Environmental Impacts:

(1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

(2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

(3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

(4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measure and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).

(5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

(a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.

(b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist where within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

(c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less Than Significant With Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

(6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

(7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

(8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

(9) The explanation of each issue should identify:

(a) The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question.

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

(b) The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista.	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	■
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act Contract?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	■
III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?)	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☐	☐	■

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? (Minor amounts of dust may be generated during construction)	☐	☐	■	☐
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☐	■
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a)Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans. policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	■
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	■

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☐	■
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42. (No map is issued for the area. No active fault in the immediate vicinity)	☐	☐	☐	■
ii. Strong seismic groundshaking?	☐	☐	☐	■
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	■
iv. Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	■
VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL. Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	■

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Create a significant hazard to the pubic or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 1/4 mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	■
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	■
g) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☐	■
VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on site or off site?	☐	☐	☐	■

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on site or off site?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☐	■
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☐	■
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	■
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	■
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	■
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	■
IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
X. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a know mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	■
XI. NOISE. Would the project result in:				

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies? (Temporary noise during trenching and construction)	☐	☐	■	☐
b) Exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? (Temporary noise during trenching and construction)	☐	☐	■	☐
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	■
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	■
XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	■

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES.

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or to other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire Protection?	☐	☐	☐	■
Police Protection?	☐	☐	☐	■
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	■
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	■
Other Public Facilities?	☐	☐	☐	■
XIV. RECREATION.				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	■
XV. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC. Would the project:				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	■
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	☐	☐	☐	■

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	☐	☐	☐	■
XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	■
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? (No significant impacts have been identified)	☐	☐	■	☐
c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	■
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	■
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? (Adequate capacity exists)	☐	☐	■	☐
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☐	■
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	■
XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☐	■

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	☐	☐	☐	■
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	■

IDENTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS
(Additional Remarks to Matrix)

I. **AESTHETICS.** Refer to Matrix.

II. **AGRICULTURE RESOURCES.** The project will involve trenching within existing road right-of-way and approximately 5 1/4 miles of undeveloped property currently devoted to agricultural crop production. Sewer lines will follow section and midsection lines. Much of the proposed alignment lies within, or adjacent to, farm roads. Some construction will occur within areas devoted to crop production. No farmland will be converted as the ground surface will be restored to its original grade and condition immediately following the laying of sewer lines. Minor disruptions of agricultural production may occur during construction. Force main lines will be constructed along the boundaries of existing farm roads where feasible. The County will coordinate with farm owners to ensure any disruption to farming operations will be minimized. No significant disruptions to agricultural operations are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required to reduce impacts to farmland as they are minimal and, therefore, less than significant.

III. **AIR QUALITY.** The proposed project is located within the administrative boundaries of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District). The District's attainment status is shown below:

Air Quality Requirement Attainment Status by Pollutant							
State Ozone	Federal Ozone	State PM_{10}	Federal PM_{10}	State CO	Federal CO	State $N0_2$	Federal $N0_2$
N	N	N	A	U	U	A	A
A=Attainment N=Nonattainment U=Unclassified							

The pollutants that could be generated from implementation of the project include temporary increases in emissions of PM_{10}, ozone, CO, and NO_2 from construction equipment and grading activities. Compliance with existing Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust Rules (in particular Rule 8020 – Construction, Demolition, Excavation, Extraction) will ensure that air quality impacts are less than significant.

IV. **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.** Refer to Matrix.

V. **CULTURAL RESOURCES.** The construction of sewer line will take place in existing road rights-of-way and on property under active agricultural production. The project does not require the removal any building. The project does involve removing dwellings from septic systems and connecting them to the wastewater treatment systems line. Connection to the wastewater treatment system will be through the lines to existing septic systems or through new lines. All conversion will take place at or below the foundation line and will not involve alteration of the architectural design of any building. Although the project area is not included within an archaeological sensitive area, if any historic or archaeological artifacts are uncovered during trenching, all work will be stopped at the affected location, and a qualified archaeologist will be called in to evaluate the find before work resumes. No significant impacts are anticipated.

VI. **GEOLOGY AND SOILS.** Refer to Matrix.

VII. **HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.** Potential unknown oil wells could be uncovered during excavation activities. A mitigation measures has been imposed to assure consultation and direction from the Department of Conservation/Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources.

VIII. **HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.** Refer to Matrix.

IX. **LAND USE AND PLANNING.** Refer to Matrix.

X. **MINERAL RESOURCES.** Refer to Matrix.

XI. **NOISE.** Temporary noise from construction activities will occur. Construction hours near existing dwellings will be limited to normal working hours between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. No significant impacts are anticipated.

XII. **POPULATION AND HOUSING.** Refer to Matrix.

XIII. **PUBLIC SERVICES.** Refer to Matrix.

XIV. **RECREATION.** Refer to Matrix.

XV. **TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC.** Construction activities could temporarily impact normal traffic movements. Construction within existing County rights-of-way will be coordinated with the Kern County Roads Department to ensure that significant disruptions to vehicular movements do not occur.

XVI. **UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.** The Kern Waste Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant is currently operating well below design capacity and can accommodate the increased volume of waste flows anticipated without requiring any expansion of existing treatment facilities.

XVII. **MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.**

(a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

No. Based on the foregoing evaluation, the proposed project is not expected to significantly impact biological or cultural resources in a manner which cannot be reduced to a level of insignificance through implementation of regulatory requirements.

(b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)

No. Cumulative impacts as a result of the project have not been identified. Implementation of adopted ordinances and compliance with existing rules and regulations will ensure that no-term impacts accrue from the project.

(c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

No. Implementation of adopted ordinances and compliance with existing rules and regulations will ensure that the project has no adverse consequences for human health, safety, or welfare.

MITIGATION MEASURES

(1) Construction activities within, or within 1/4 mile of, the existing residential neighborhood shall be limited to normal working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

(2) During construction activities, all requirements of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District's Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust Rules (in particular Rule 8020 - Construction, Demolition, Excavation, Extraction) shall be implemented. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

(3) Should any cultural materials be discovered during grading or development, all work shall be halted and a qualified archaeologist/historian contacted to assess the finds and impose mitigation measures, if necessary, prior to resumption of construction. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

(4) If, during grading or construction activities, any plugged or abandoned or unrecorded wells are uncovered or damaged, the Department of Conservation/Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources shall be contacted to inspect and approve any remediation required.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

(1) Kern County Planning Department and City of Bakersfield Planning Department, "Metropolitan Bakersfield General Plan" (2002)

(2) Kern County Planning Department, "Year 2000 General Plan Master Environmental Impact Report/Master Environmental Assessment" (1982)

(3) Kern County Planning Department, "Zoning Ordinance" (2003)

(4) Kern County Planning Department, "Zoning Maps 124-17" (1967)

(5) Kern County Planning Department/Kern County Council of Governments, "Seismic Hazard Atlas - Lamont Quad" (1975)

(6) Kern County Planning Department, "Floodplain Map 124" (1986)

(7) California Environmental Agency/Department of Toxic Substances Control, "Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List" (2002)

(8) Boyle Engineering Consultants, "Rexland Acres Committee Wastewater System Preliminary Engineering Report of January 2000" (updated August 2001)

(9) Quad Knopf, Inc., "Rexland Acres Committee Wastewater System Preliminary Engineering Report Supplement of June 2003"

(10) Kern County Planning Department, "Negative Declaration for Pipeline Franchise Application for Naftex Holding, LTD" (November 17, 1997)

(11) Kern County Planning Department, "Negative Declaration for Rexland Acres Committee Wastewater System" (October 8, 2001)

(12) U. S. Department of Agriculture/Soil Conservation Service, "General Soils Map and Report" (September 1967)"

(13) U. S. Department of Agriculture/Soil Conservation Service, "Soil Survey of Kern County, Southeastern Part" (1982)

(14) Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department, "Randy Smith, Project Coordinator – Information Relating to Capacity of the Kern Sanitation Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant"

(15) Munger Map Book, 38th "Mountain View Oil Field" (1994)

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Supplement

Rexland Acres Wastewater System

1.0 PROJECT'S PURPOSE AND NEED:

This project consists of construction new sewer lines from an existing wastewater treatment facility to serve the rural community of Rexland Acres, which has a documented problem with a high incidence of septic system failures. A more complete project description is contained in the Negative Declaration (copy attached).

2.0 ALTERNATIVES:

The preliminary engineering study, prepared for the County by Boyle Engineering Corporation, analyzed various options to provide sewer service to Rexland Acres. The alternative collection alternatives evaluated included: 1) the continued operation of individual septic systems (i.e. no project), 2) a complete sewer system installation, and 3) a partial sewer system installation. Alternative force main connections to the City of Bakersfield, the Lamont Public Utility District and to the Kern Sanitation Authority were also evaluated by the preliminary engineering study and a supplemental engineering report (June 3, 2003). The chosen alternative, a partial sewer system installation serving the majority of the Rexland Acres community connecting to the existing Kern Sanitation Authority wastewater treatment plant, was the alternative recommended by the consultant. This project will not create impacts to any environmental resource requiring public notice.

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES:

3.1 USDA Important Farmlands

The project will involve trenching within existing road right-of-way and approximately 5½ miles of undeveloped property currently devoted to agricultural crop production. Sewer lines will follow section and mid-section lines. Much of the proposed alignment lies within or adjacent to existing farm roads. Some construction will occur within areas devoted to crop production. No farmland will be converted as the ground surface will be restored to its original grade and condition immediately following the laying of sewer lines. No significant disruptions to agricultural operations are anticipated and no mitigation measures are required to reduce impacts to farmland, as those impacts will be minimal.

3.2 Floodplains

Neither the community of Rexland Acres nor most of the sewer line route are located within flood hazard areas. One alternative for a main route line identifies a possible route along the East Panama Lane alignment to the SE corner of Section 22, T.30S. R.28E That portion of Section 22 lying southeasterly of the Arvin-Edison Canal is located in a

Zone "A" area. Although underground facilities will not impact ground surface hydrology, above ground appurtenances within this area, if any, would be required to be reviewed for flood protection purposes by the Floodplain Management Section of the Engineering and Survey Services Department. Although four lift stations will be required, two of which lie in close proximity to the Arvin-Edison Canal, none of the lift stations is proposed within the designated Zone "A" area and any lines through the affected area will result in only temporary surface disturbance. Any disturbed area within the floodplain will be restored to its pre-disturbance grade and condition immediately upon completion of construction activities. No mitigation measures have been identified as being necessary.

3.3 Wetlands

Based upon Kern County Water Agency shallow groundwater maps, aerial photographs, and field observations, there are no wetlands present within the project area. The US Fish and Wildlife Service and State Department of Fish and Game were sent copies of the "early consultation package" and the draft Negative Declaration and neither agency provided any comments. No wetlands will be affected by this project.

3.4 Historic and Cultural Resources

This area is not considered to be sensitive to possible historic and cultural resources. Very limited amounts of surface disturbance will be required and those areas consist of County road rights-of-was, farm roads, or planted crop land. The "early consultation package" and draft Negative Declaration were sent to both the State Office of Historic Preservation and the Southern San Joaquin Archaeological Information Center. Neither agency provided any comments. The project area is not located near any property listed by the National Register of Historic Places or any State Historical Monument. The USDA-Rural Development has requested that the County furnish that agency with necessary documentation to request comments from the State Office of Historic Preservation.

At the request of the USDA-Office of Rural Development, an evaluation of the buildings in the project area was performed to consider whether or not the project would have any potential impact on historical buildings. A review of building permit history of all buildings within the project area was performed in January of 2002. The result of that research indicated that 49 dwellings (and one church) were constructed prior to January of 1952. Digitized photos of the 49 buildings have been taken. The vast majority of these 49 buildings were built between 1949 and 1951, when the Rexland Acres first began developing. A second building phase took place in the mid to late 1950's. The last phase of building took place in the mid-1970's, although there has been sporadic development of a few vacant lots in more recent years. The exact date of the church could not be ascertained through building records, but is estimated to have been constructed between 1945 and 1949. None of the structures surveyed is a local or State recognized historical landmark and none of the buildings appear to have significant historical value. Additionally, the construction of sewer lines and laterals is unlikely to have any impact on the physical appearance or integrity of any the buildings included in the project area.

3.5 Biological Resources

The project will not affect any listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat. The sewer lines will be constructed entirely on disturbed ground surfaces, either within existing road rights-of-way, on existing farm roads or on property planted with agricultural crops. The entire project lies within the boundaries of an approved Habitat Conservation Plan. No portion of the site lies within a designated "critical habitat area", as defined by the Federal Endangered Species Act, for any protected species. No comments were received from the State Department of Fish and Game or the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Kern County Board of Supervisors adopted a finding, in adopted the Negative Declaration, that the project is "de minimus" in it's impact on biological resources.

3.6 Water Quality Issues

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board has indicated that implementation of this project will enhance water quality efforts by reducing the threat to groundwater arising from failed septic tank systems. The site is not located in an USEPA "sole source' aquifer. The site lies within the Buena Vista Lake watershed area of the Southern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin.

3.7 Coastal Resources

Not applicable

3.8 Socio-Economic and Environmental Justice Issues

No adverse impacts to minority and low-income populations will result from the proposed sewer lines. No potential adverse effects to human health have been identified. Once connections to sewer lines have been provided, existing septic systems will be properly abandoned under permit from the Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department-Building Inspection Division.

3.9 Air Quality

Minor amounts of dust could be created during excavation. The San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District reviewed this project and had no comments. Compliance with Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust Rules will ensure that air quality impacts from PM-10 will be less than significant.

3.10 Classified Lands

The project does not lie with a Coastal Zone Management Area or a Wild and Scenic River (or watershed) area. The site is not located within or proximate to National Forest Land or National Parks. The site is not proximate to any Designated National Monument.

3.11 Miscellaneous Issues.

No significant miscellaneous impacts have been identified in the adopted Negative Declaration. Because some of the sewer line construction will take place within an

established rural residential neighborhood, trenching and other construction activities will be limited to normal working hours, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. The Department of Conservation indicated that there are four abandoned oil wells in close proximity to the construction project. The location of these wells has been provided and the County will plot their location on construction plans.

3.12 Housing and Urban Development Requirements

No funds from the California Department of Housing and Community Development have been identified for project construction. The project will not involve explosive or flammable substances nor involve the use of toxic chemical or radioactive materials.

4.0 SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES

(1) Construction activities within, or within 1/4 mile of, the existing residential neighborhood shall be limited to normal working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

(2) During construction activities, all requirements of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District's Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust Rules (in particular Rule 8020 - Construction, Demolition, Excavation, Extraction) shall be implemented. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

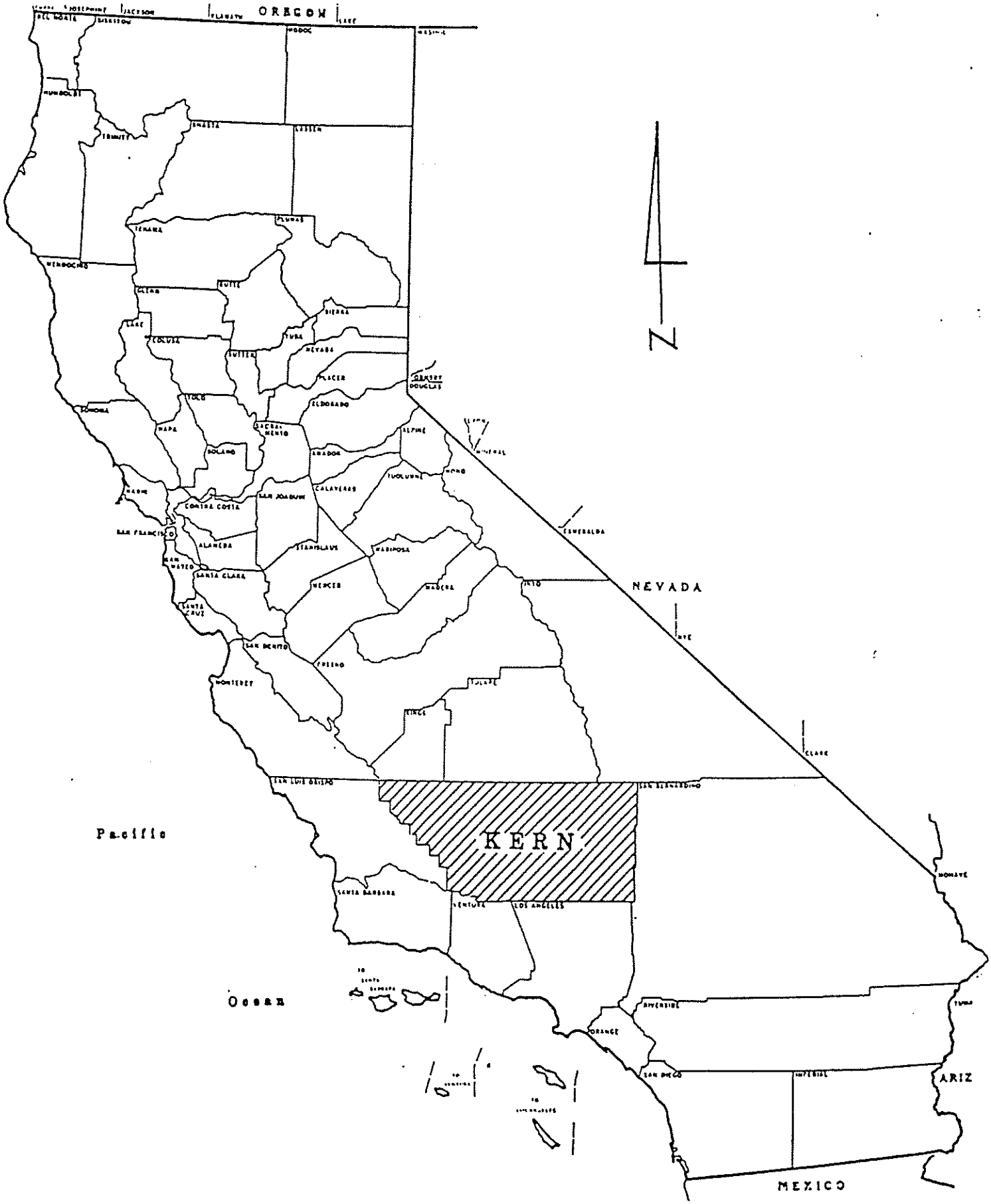
(3) Should any cultural materials be discovered during grading or development, all work shall be halted and a qualified archaeologist/historian contacted to assess the finds and impose mitigation measures, if necessary, prior to resumption of construction. The Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department will include this requirement in any contracts entered into with the County for performing any of the required work associated with this project.

(4) If, during grading or construction activities, any plugged or abandoned or unrecorded wells are uncovered or damaged, the Department of Conservation/Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources shall be contacted to inspect and approve any remediation required.

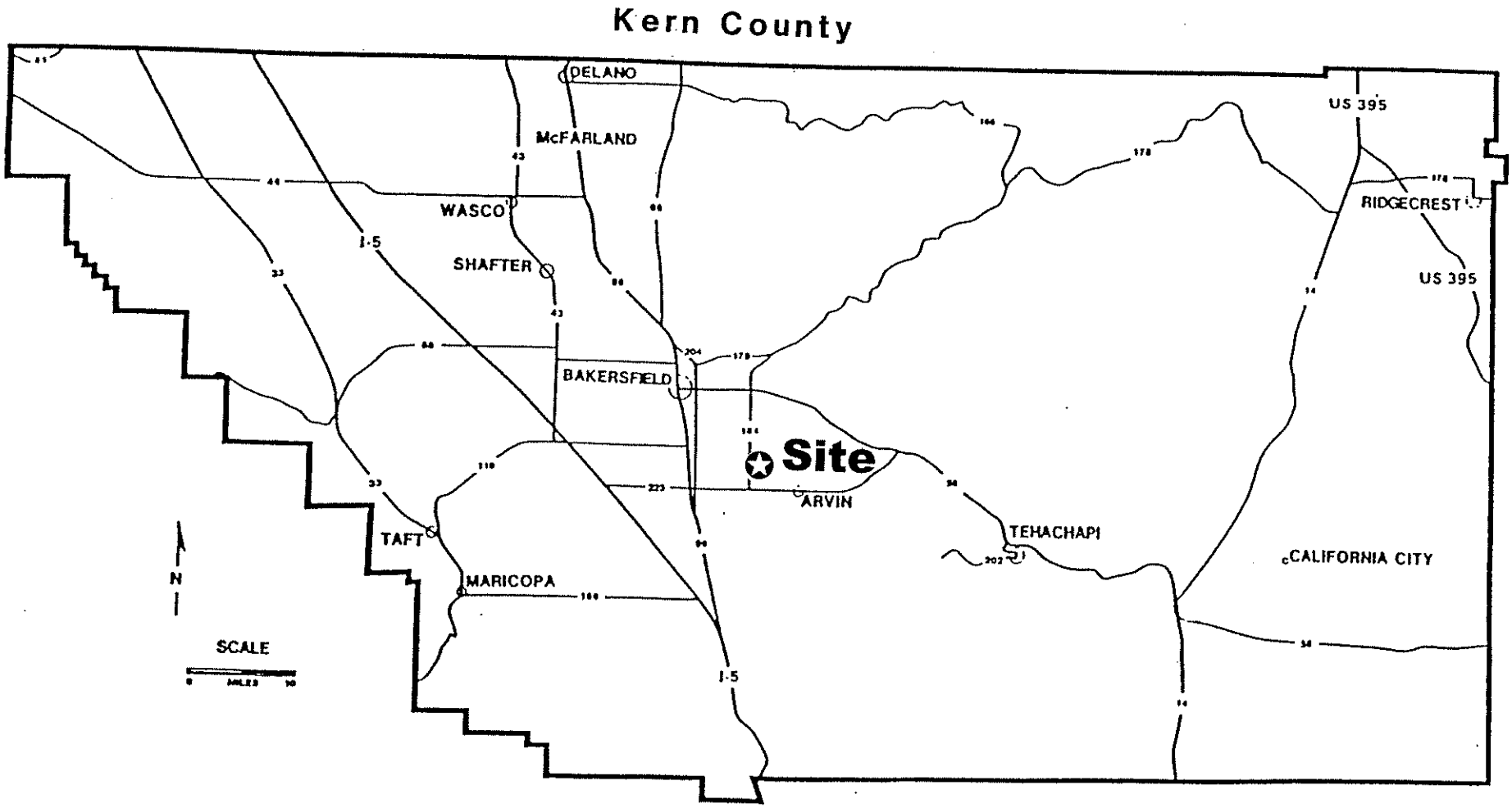
5.0 SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE

Pertinent correspondence has been referenced in this assessment and has been included in the Final Negative Declaration.

6.0 EXHIBITS



Rexland Acres Wastewater System
Kern County Engineering and Survey Services
Sections 3, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 20, and 21, T 30S, R 28E, MDB&M



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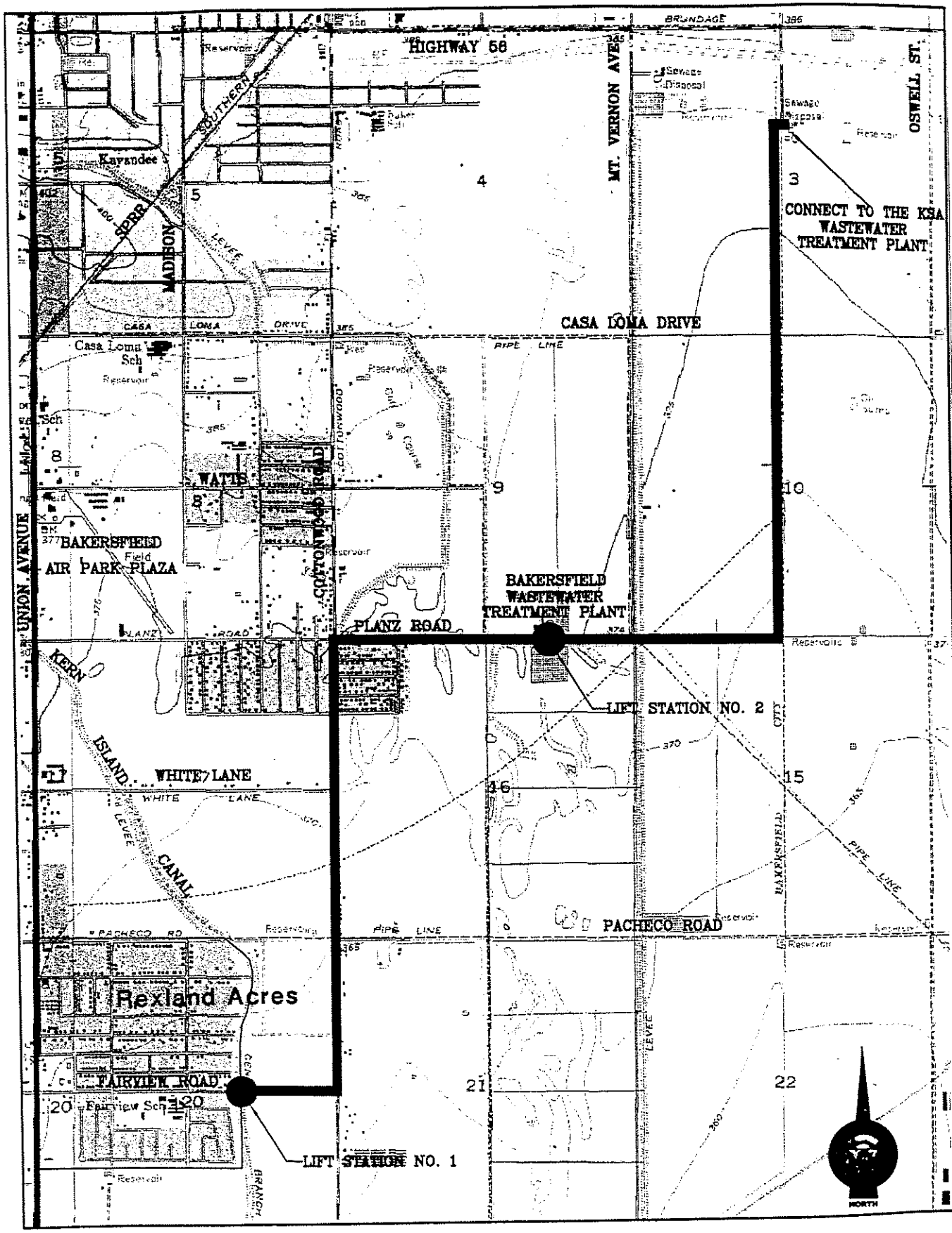

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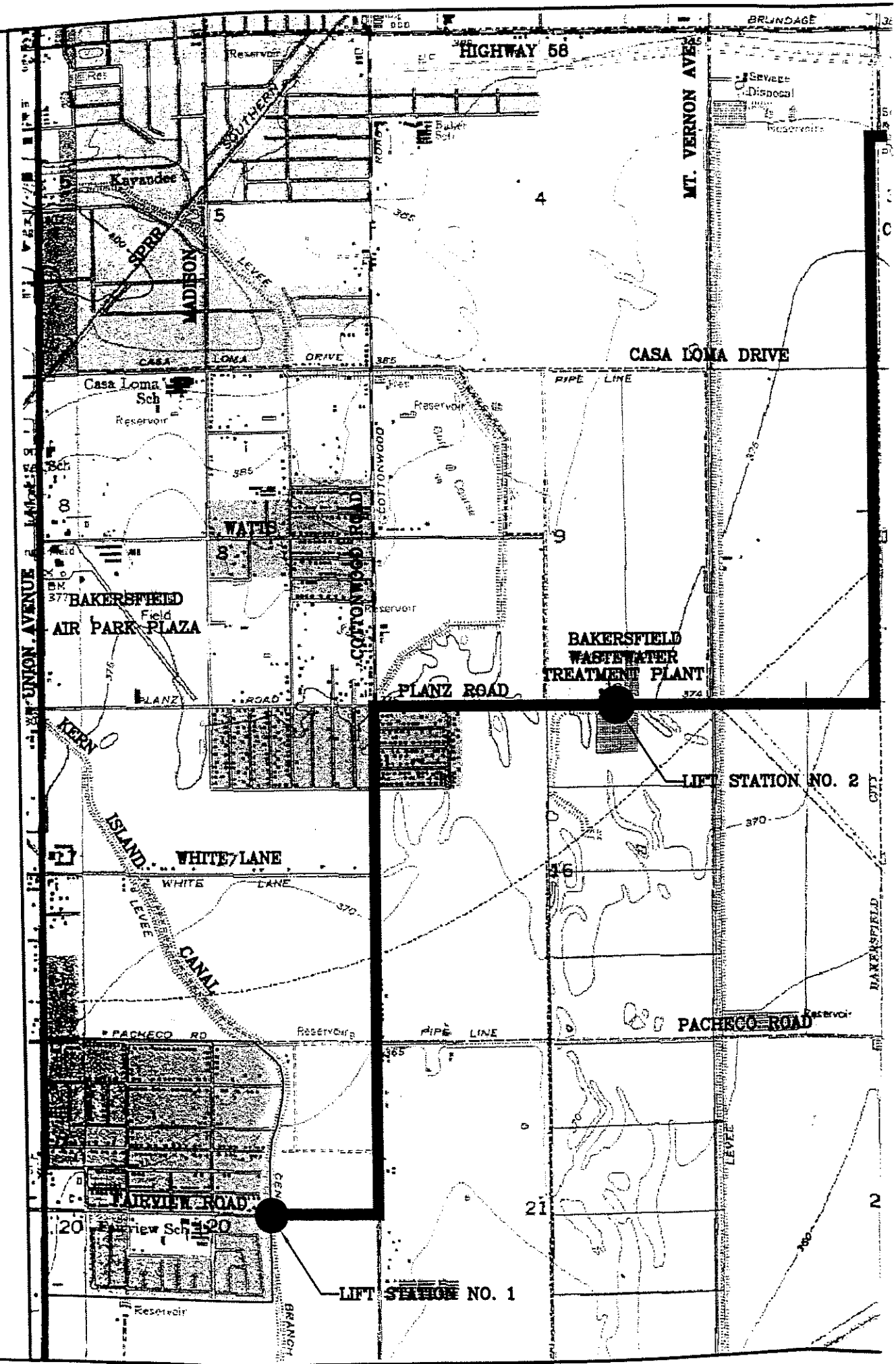
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LEVEE
CASA LOMA DRIVE
Casa Loma Sch
PIPE LINE
WATTS
COTTONWOOD
BAKERSFIELD
AIR PARK PLAZA
Field
UNION AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
PLANZ ROAD
LIFT STATION NO. 2
KERN ISLAND CANAL
WHITE LANE
PACHECO ROAD
FAIRVIEW ROAD
Fairview Sch
LIFT STATION NO. 1
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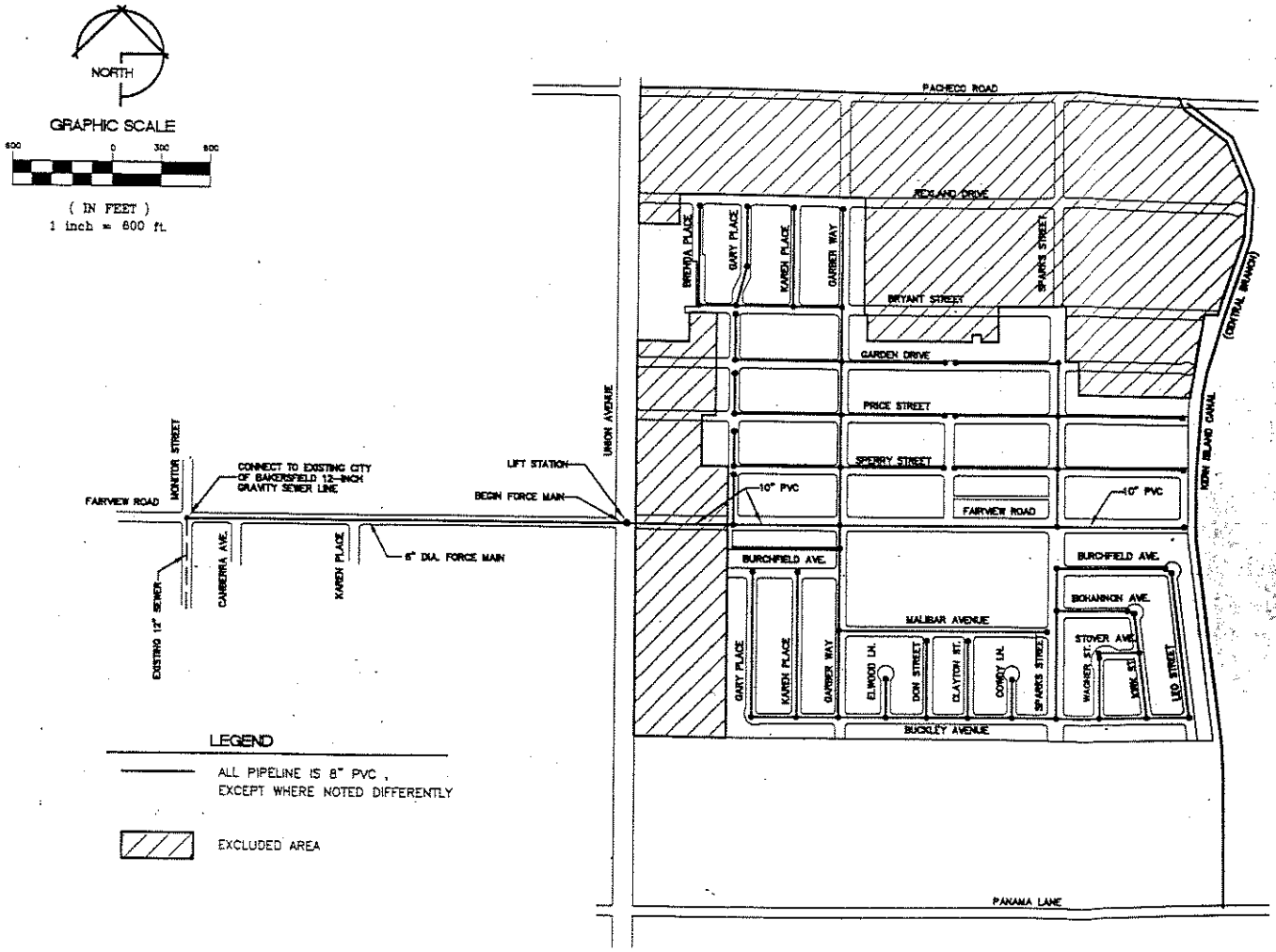
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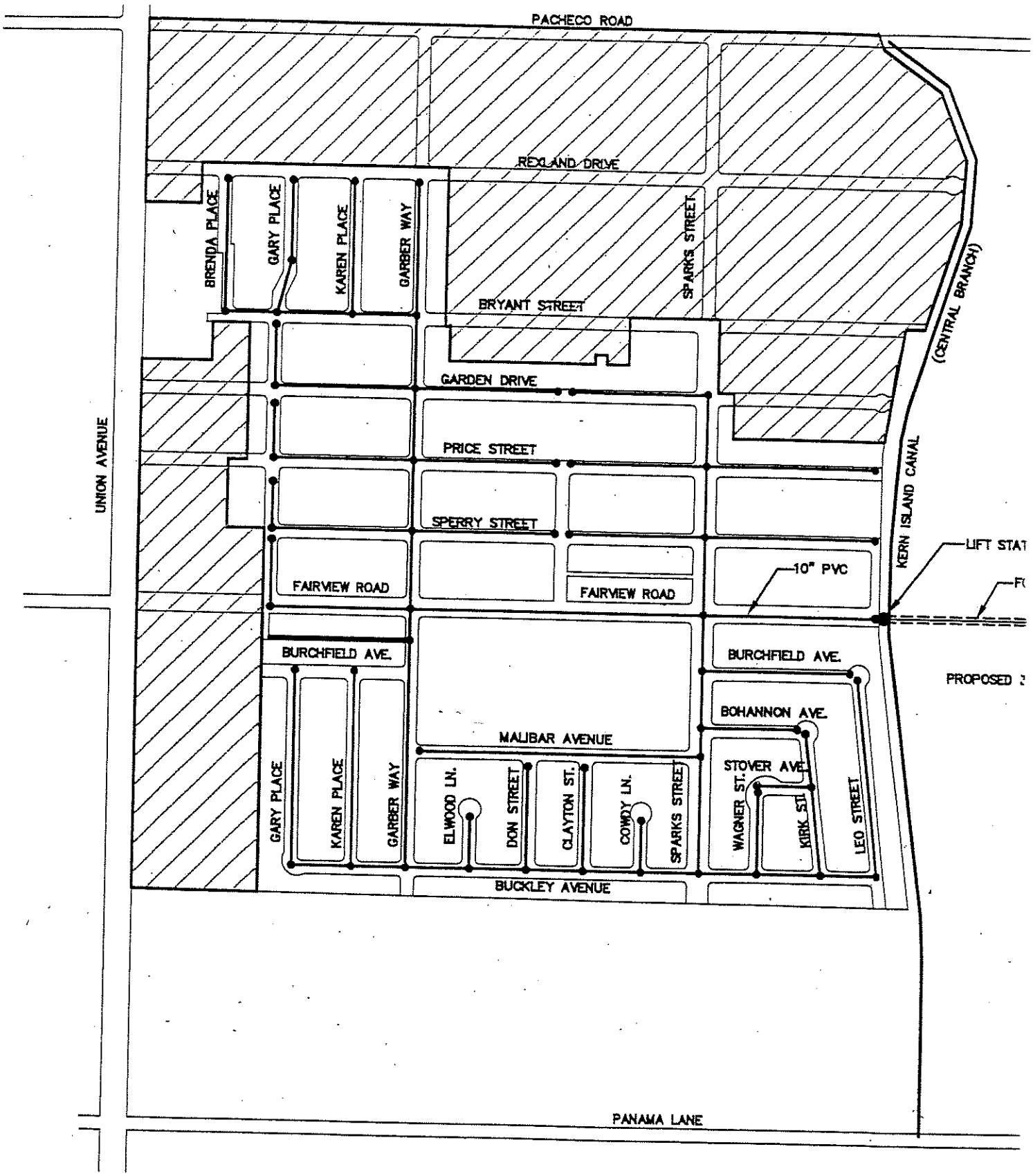
EXCLUDED AREA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LEO STREET
BUCKLEY AVENUE
UNION AVENUE
KERN ISLAND CANAL
(CENTRAL BRANCH)
LIFT STAT
PROPOSED
PANAMA LANE

EXCERPT – Full text available during normal business hours at the Kern County Engineering and Survey Service Department 2700 M Street Suite 500, Bakersfield, Cal 93301

Rexland Acres Community Wastewater System

Preliminary Engineering Report Supplement

Submitted to:
Charles Lackey, Director
Engineering and Survey Services
County of Kern

Submitted by:

Quad Knopf
5500 Ming Avenue
Suite 410
Bakersfield, CA 93309
(661) 835-8300

June 3, 2003

02072

3. Crossing private property from the east end of Planz Road and ending at City of Bakersfield Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 property.

4. Crossing City of Bakersfield Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 property from the east edge of said private property to KSA property.

Cottonwood Road and Planz Road are both County right-of-way. It is assumed that an easement will not be required for the portion of force main located within the KSA sewage farm.

Construction Problems

Potential construction problems could occur during the construction of onsite sewer mains in Rexland Acres due to potential high ground water, particularly where the mains are deep. High ground water may also be encountered as well at Lift Station No. 1 due to its proximity to the Kern Island Canal.

At the canal crossing, there may be an issue with the canal authority in terms of timing and construction methods. Generally in earthen canals, utility crossings are installed in open cut ditches and backfilled to the canal authority's requirements. The option to open cut usually occurs during a specific tight time frame. Coordinating with the canal authority will be an important aspect of this project. If construction occurs when the canal is in use, a bore and jack crossing will be required.

All of the collection sewers and nearly half of the offsite force main will be within frequently traveled streets. Traffic control, existing utility avoidance and restoration of pavement and other above ground facilities will be part of the project.

Lift Station Design for the City of Bakersfield Force Main Route

The Bakersfield disposal alternative is depicted on Figure 3. Based on our review of the PER, we concur that a triplex lift station and 6-inch diameter force main to Monitor Street would work. Based on our hydraulic analysis, however, the use of a duplex VSD system would merit further consideration. For purposes of this study, we will use the duplex lift pump station cost data for comparison.

The long force main will cause significant transient surges (water hammer) during pump starts and stops. A detailed analysis of pressure transients will be completed during the design phase of the project. Control of transient pressures is one reason for recommending VSD pumps. The pump(s) will operate continuously, with small incremental velocity changes, thereby mitigating transient pressure waves. VSD pumps will not mitigate for pressure transients resulting from a power failure and sudden stopping of the pump(s). In the event of a power outage or some other condition that causes surge, a surge arresting system may be necessary and will be investigated as part of the design.

Since the force mains are so long, and will need to be carefully maintained to reduce blockage, the lift stations will be equipped with pig launchers and pressure cleanouts. A pig launcher will be provided at each lift station.

The long force main (26,200 lf) and resulting long detention time will create anaerobic conditions in the sewage leading to potential odor emissions. Fortunately, Lift Station No. 2 will be located in an area where odor impacts are minimal. However, final design of the lift station will incorporate measures to prevent the release of odors through turbulence. If necessary, odor scrubbers will be included in the design.

Environmental Impacts

The collection system, lift station and force main will all be constructed in existing rights-of-way, on existing roads (paved an unpaved) or on previously disturbed areas. No undisturbed native habitat exists within the scope of the project.

Odor: Odor control will be included in the design of each lift station. If odor is determined to be a problem, the station(s) odor mitigation will be included in the design.

Restoration of existing features: Disturbance of surface features including paved roadways, unpaved roadways and fields will result in the construction of the force main, cleanouts, manholes and lift stations. After construction of the force main system, all above ground facilities will be restored to their previously existing condition or better.

Land Requirements

The following easements for construction and permanent utility access and service will be needed. For clarity, the list of requirements begins at Lift Station No. 1 and ends at the connection to KSA Wastewater Treatment Plant. Please refer to Figure 1:

1. Crossing of the Kern Island Canal.

2. Crossing of private property beginning at the Kern Island Canal and ending at Cottonwood Road. (Fairview Road alignment.)

The location of the proposed lift stations also minimizes the cost of connecting utility power service. They are both located adjacent to overhead power. With lack of overhead power along the entire route, adding further lift stations would result in additional cost to extend utility power. The two lift stations are conveniently located on all-weather paved access roads for service by KSA personnel. With more than two thirds of the force main route located on dirt roads (not all-weather access), this is a major benefit. Finally, Lift Station No. 2's location allows for a possible emergency connection to Bakersfield Plant No. 2, thus removing the need for emergency standby power at that location.

Lift Station Conceptual Design along the KSA Route

Conceptually, both lift stations along the KSA route will be designed as duplex submersible variable speed drive (VSD) pumps, each rated at the peak design flow of 400 gpm. With the duplex station design, each pump will be rated at 15 to 20 horsepower, depending on final pump selection. VSD's are recommended to reduce the impact of on/off peak flow at the treatment plant, to lower transient pressure forces (water hammer surge) on the stations and piping system and to reduce energy costs. The lift stations will be programmed to run at full speed (400 gpm) periodically to produce velocities high enough to efficiently move solids.

Triplex pumps, each rated at 50 percent of station capacity (i.e. 200 gpm each) were initially considered. However, because of the long force main and resulting high friction head loss, there was not a significant benefit in using three pumps. Two pumps together would need to pump 400 gpm at a total dynamic head of 71 feet. A single pump, operating at 200 gpm would have a total dynamic head of approximately 44 feet. Because each pump would need to meet eh operating point for a combined 400 gpm flow, when operating individually, they would pump approximately 350 gpm.

Each duplex pump system will operate in an alternating lead lag operation for even pump wear. A pre-determined depth (set point) in each wet-well will control the operation of the pumps. The VSD pumps will maintain that set level as incoming flows vary. In rare instances, when the depth increases to a level above the normal operating level, the second pump will come on and operate until the liquid reaches the set point. If both pumps are unable to keep up with incoming flow, as may be the case during a utility power outage, an alarm will activate. The alarm activation may include any combination of the following:

1. An auto dial feature that calls KSA.

2. A flashing beacon.

3. An annunciator.

no more than two lift stations (vs. four in the PER) and has one canal crossing vs. three. The revised alignment requires minor modifications to the sewer collection system because of the revised location of the Rexland Acres lift station, at the east end of Fairview Road (See Figure 2).

The PER proposed a force main to the KSA WWTP that followed an alignment with 36,300 feet of 6-inch diameter force-main with three canal crossings and four lift stations. Four lift stations were required because of the high friction head losses occurring in the 6-inch force main over its nearly seven-mile length. Multiple lift stations were required to keep the friction head losses within the range of available head for sewage pumps.

The proposed new force main alignment, shown on Figure 1, requires 26,200 feet of 8-inch diameter force-main with one canal crossing and two lift stations. The lift station design is also modified. A description of the new force main (treatment) Alternative 3 follows.

Description of Force Main (Treatment) Alternative No. 3 – Connection to KSA WWTP

The new force main alignment includes the construction of 26,200 lineal feet of 8-inch diameter force main between Rexland Acres and the KSA WWTP (See Figures 1 and 2) The alignment is shown in Photo Plates in Appendix 1. Two lift stations operating 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 half-way point. The surface elevation difference between Lift Station No. 1 and the connection to KSA is approximately eighteen (18) feet. The total static lift in Lift Station No. 1 is approximately 30 feet. The total static lift at Lift Station No. 2 is assumed at approximately 20 feet.

An 8-inch diameter force main was selected to keep friction head loss at a minimum so that fewer lift stations would be required. The total dynamic head for Lift Station No. 1, at a pumping rate of 400 gpm, is approximately 71 feet with a 13,100 lf 8-inch force main vs. 168 feet for a 6-inch force main. (See Appendix 2 for hydraulic calculations.) A 30-hp sewage pump is required for the 6-inch force main vs. an 18-hp pump for an 8-inch force main. Sewage pumps are generally not available for high head applications such as would be required for the 6-inch diameter force main. The 8-inch force main will reduce energy costs and will reduce capital costs if fewer lift stations are required.

It may be possible to use a single lift station if an 8-inch diameter force main is utilized. The total dynamic head for an 8-inch diameter, 26,200 lf force main is approximately 105 feet. (Appendix 2). A preliminary pump selection indicates that it may be possible to find a sewage pump with these characteristics. However, additional detailed analysis during final design is required to evaluate other design factors such as surge suppression and odor control.

Rexland Acres Community Wastewater System

Supplemental Engineering Report

Purpose of Supplemental Report

This report is a supplement to the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) prepared by Boyle Engineering titled, Rexland Acres Committee Wastewater System, dated August 2001 (See Appendix 3). This supplement updates the PER with a new force main alignment to the Kern Sanitation Agency (KSA) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and updates costs for the alternatives presented.

Background

In the referenced PER, there were three collection system alternatives and three force main, "treatment" alternatives considered. The three collection system alternatives included:

1. Status Quo. Continued operation of individual septic systems with on-site leachfield disposal (no project).

2. Installation of a complete sewage collection system in Rexland Acres.

3. Installation of partial sewage collection system in Rexland Acres. The partial collection system included only the higher density (small lot) areas.

The force main ("treatment") alternatives included:

1. Connection to City of Bakersfield sewer system at Fairview Road and Monitor Street.

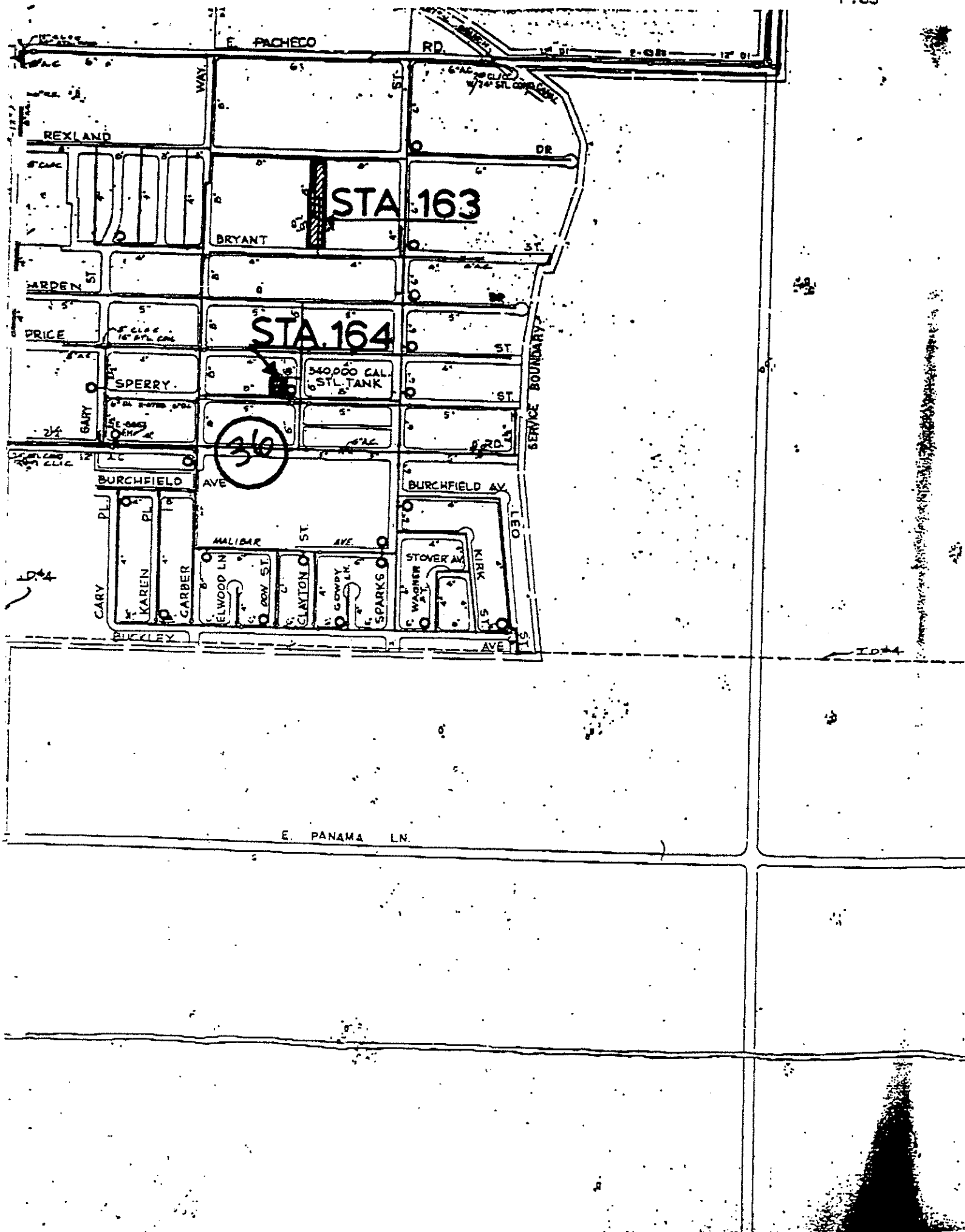
2. Connection to Lamont Public Utility District WWTP.

3. Connection to Kern Sanitation Authority (KSA) WWTP.

Descriptions of the above stated alternatives and associated costs are provided in the referenced PER. Alternatives remaining under consideration include the partial sewer system (collection system Alternative 3 above) in combination with connection to City of Bakersfield (force main Alternative 1) or connection to KSA (force main Alternative 3) through one of two force main alignments.

Revised KSA Force Main Alternative

A revised force main alignment to the KSA WWTP ("treatment" Alternative 3) is under consideration in this report. The revised alignment is shorter and more direct, requires


E. PACHECO RD.
WAY
ST.
REXLAND
DR
STA 163
BRYANT
ST.
GARDEN ST.
PRICE
STA 164
ST.
SPERRY
540,000 GAL. STL. TANK
ST.
GARY
SERVICE BOUNDARY
RD.
36
BURCHFIELD AVE
BURCHFIELD AV.
PL.
PL.
MALIBAR ST. AVE.
STOVER AV.
LEO
KIRK
CARY
KAREN
GARBER
ELWOOD LN
DON ST.
CLAYTON
COWDY LN.
SPARKS
WAGNER ST.
ST.
BUCKLEY AVE
ST.
E. PANAMA LN.

DATE: 06/30/98
REPORT: R0050/2-3

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

DRINKING WATER NEIGHBORS SOURCE REPORT
ALL SAMPLES FOR SELECTED MONITORED CONSTITUENTS - ALL RESULTS
FOR PERIOD OF 19840101 THRU 19980630
TARGET SYSTEM: 1510003 NAME: CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE - BAK COUNTY: KERN
TARGET SOURCE: 130 NAME: WELL 161-01 PSCODE: 30S/28E-20C01 M LAT: 2119 LNG: 7140
BOUNDARIES IN MINUTES - S: 2117, N: 2121, E: 7135, W: 7141 BOUNDARIES IN MILES - S: 02, N: 02, E: 03, W: 01

GROUP IDENTIFICATION / CONSTITUANT IDENTIFICATION	SAMPLE DATE	RESULT	MCL	DLR	UNIT
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	03/16/1995	27.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/08/1995	23.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/08/1995	23.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	09/18/1995	22.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	12/13/1995	21.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/03/1996	21.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	11/19/1997	17.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L

---------- TARGET SOURCE ----------

SYSTEM: 1510003 NAME: CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE - BAKERSFIELD COUNTY: KERN
SOURCE: 130 NAME: WELL 163-01 PSCODE: 30S/28E-20C01 M LAT: 2119 LNG: 7140
NI NITRATE/NITRITE

00620 NITRITE (AS N)	06/05/1995		1,000.0000	400.0000	UG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	01/23/1989	31.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	01/29/1992	38.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	04/13/1993	42.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/11/1993	45.0000 *	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	09/21/1993	41.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	12/07/1993	40.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	02/24/1994	37.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	09/21/1994	40.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	12/13/1994	38.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	03/13/1995	43.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/03/1995	34.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/05/1995	36.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/05/1995	37.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	09/14/1995	35.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	12/13/1995	34.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L

TOTAL P.02

DRINKING WATER NEIGHBORS SOURCE REPORT
ALL SAMPLES FOR SELECTED MONITORED CONSTITUENTS - ALL RESULTS
FOR PERIOD OF 19840101 THRU 19980630

TARGET SYSTEM: 1510003 NAME: CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE - BAK COUNTY: KERN
TARGET SOURCE: 130 NAME: WELL 163-01 PSCODE: 30S/28E-20C01 M LAT: 2119 LNG: 7140
BOUNDARIES IN MINUTES - S: 2117, N: 2121, E: 7135, W: 7141 BOUNDARIES IN MILES - S: 02, N: 02, E: 03, W: 01

GROUP IDENTIFICATION / CONSTITUANT IDENTIFICATION	SAMPLE DATE	RESULT	MCL	DLR	UNIT
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/03/1996	34.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	11/20/1996	31.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	12/08/1996	25.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	03/31/1997	32.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/23/1997	30.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	09/09/1997	32.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	11/18/1997	23.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L

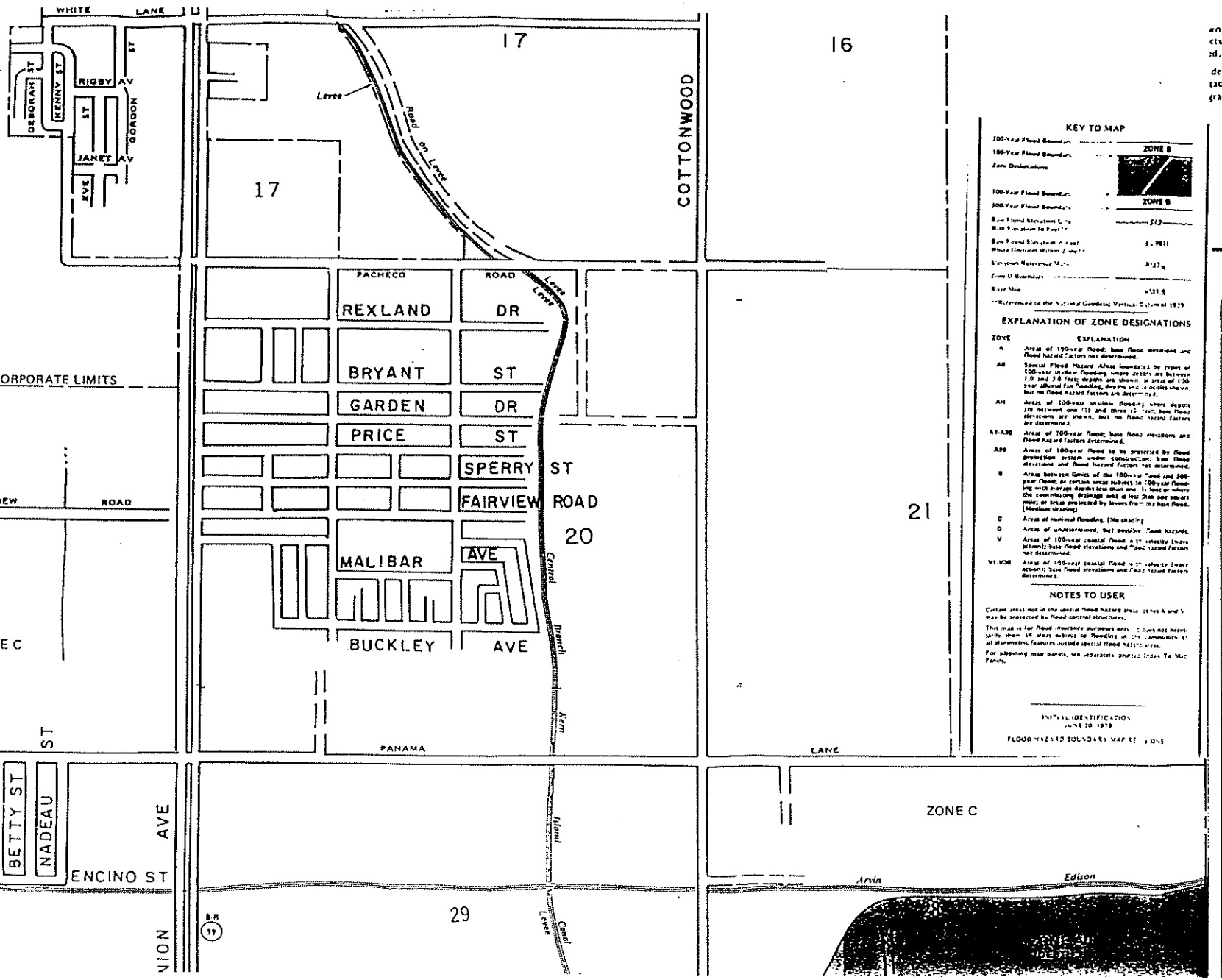
STEM: 1510003 NAME: CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE - BAKERSFIELD COUNTY: KERN
URCE: 131 NAME: WELL 164-01 PSCODE: 30S/28E-20F01 M LAT: 2118 LNG: 7140

NITRATE/NITRITE					
00620 NITRITE (AS N)	06/05/1995		1,000.0000	400.0000	UG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	01/23/1989	18.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	01/30/1992	20.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/10/1993	22.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	02/24/1994	24.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	09/20/1994	24.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	12/13/1994	24.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	03/14/1995	25.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/05/1995	24.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	06/05/1995	24.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	09/21/1995	29.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	12/14/1995	24.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L
71850 NITRATE (AS NO3)	10/28/1997	26.0000	45.0000	2.0000	MG/L

TEM: 1510003 NAME: CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE - BAKERSFIELD COUNTY: KERN
RCE: 143 NAME: WELL 177-01 PSCODE: 30S/28E-18N01 M LAT: 2119 LNG: 7141

Rexland Acres Wells

statewellno	txtwellname	dtmsamplingdate	NO3	Cl	Na	TDS	Ca	SEC	SO4
Between Rexland & Bryant Streets									
30S/28E-20C01	163-01	17-Jul-74	10.5	23	29	217	33	370	
30S/28E-20C01	163-01	24-Jun-76	13	33	32	250	39	430	
30S/28E-20C01	163-01	22-Oct-79	20	35	34	290	46	490	
30S/28E-20C01	163-01	21-Jun-83	18	30	34	264	37	433	47
30S/28E-20C01	163-01	29-Jan-92	38	38	44	314	46	510	39
30S/28E-20C01	163-01	05-Jun-95	74	84	98	684	92	1074	94
NW Corner of Sperry & Don Streets									
30S/28E-20F01	164-01	17-Jul-74	10.5	23	29	217	33	370	
30S/28E-20F01	164-01	27-Jul-77	10	29	30	234	38	419	
30S/28E-20F01	164-01	06-Sep-83	11	26	34	265	35	422	48
30S/28E-20F01	164-01	30-Jan-92	20	31	35	274	40	425	45
30S/28E-20F01	164-01	05-Jun-95	48	70	82	590	80	924	92
SW Corner of Burchfield & Garber Streets									
30S/28E-20M01		17-Jul-74	8.7	25	32	204	24	350	
30S/28E-20M01		06-Oct-76	8	28	29	217	33	359	
30S/28E-20M01		28-Jan-77	5	22	30	210	33	371	
30S/28E-20M01		06-Jul-78	11	26	30	242	37	388	
30S/28E-20M01		04-Sep-80	10	24	30	245	38	410	
30S/28E-20M01		02-Nov-82	13	27	33	252	38	457	40
30S/28E-20M01		09-May-84	11	29	36	265	38	420	49



...en on this map to determine when actuarial rates apply to ...ctures in the zones where elevations or depths have been estab...ed.

...determine if flood insurance is available in this community, ...tact your insurance agent, or call the National Flood Insurance ...gram, at (800) 638-6620.

KEY TO MAP

500-Year Flood Boundary	ZONE B
100-Year Flood Boundary	
Zone Designations	
100-Year Flood Boundary	ZONE B
500-Year Flood Boundary	
Base Flood Elevation Line With Elevation In Feet**	513
Base Flood Elevation in Feet Where Uniform Within Zone**	5,981
Elevation Reference Mark	A137X
Zone D Boundary	
River Mile	131.5

**Referenced to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929

EXPLANATION OF ZONE DESIGNATIONS

ZONE	EXPLANATION
A	Areas of 100-year flood; base flood elevations and flood hazard factors not determined.
AB	Special Flood Hazard Areas inundated by types of 100-year shallow flooding where depths are between 1.0 and 3.0 feet; depths are shown, or areas of 100-year alluvial fan flooding, depths and velocities shown, but no flood hazard factors are determined.
AH	Areas of 100-year shallow flooding where depths are between one (1) and three (3) feet; base flood elevations are shown, but no flood hazard factors are determined.
A1-A30	Areas of 100-year flood; base flood elevations and flood hazard factors determined.
A99	Areas of 100-year flood to be protected by flood protection system under construction; base flood elevations and flood hazard factors not determined.
B	Areas between limits of the 100-year flood and 500-year flood; or certain areas subject to 100-year flooding with average depths less than one (1) foot or where the contributing drainage area is less than one square mile; or areas protected by levees from the base flood. (Medium shading)
C	Areas of minimal flooding. (No shading)
D	Areas of undetermined, but possible, flood hazards.
V	Areas of 100-year coastal flood with velocity (wave action); base flood elevations and flood hazard factors not determined.
V1-V30	Areas of 100-year coastal flood with velocity (wave action); base flood elevations and flood hazard factors determined.

NOTES TO USER

Certain areas not in the special flood hazard areas (zones A and V) may be protected by flood control structures.

This map is for flood insurance purposes only; it does not necessarily show all areas subject to flooding in the community or all planimetric features outside special flood hazard areas.

For adjoining map panels, see separately printed Index To Map Panels.

INITIAL IDENTIFICATION
JUNE 20, 1979

FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP REVISIONS

APPROXIMATE SCALE IN FEET

1000 0 1000

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

FIRM
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
(UNINCORPORATED AREAS)

PANEL 1020 OF 2075
(SEE MAP INDEX FOR PANELS NOT PRINTED)

COMMUNITY-PANEL NUMBER
060075 1020 B

EFFECTIVE DATE:
SEPTEMBER 29, 1986

COMMENTS FROM EARLY CONSULTATION

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair

Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for Environmental Protection

Gray Davis
Governor

Fresno Branch Office
Internet Address: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb5
3614 East Ashlan Avenue, Fresno, California 93726
Phone (559) 445-5116 • FAX (559) 445-5910

9 November 2001

Mr. James E. Ellis, AICP
Planning Operations Division Chief
Kern County Planning Department
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2323

PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR EA JE 1-01, REXLAND ACRES WASTEWATER SYSTEM (SCH # 2001102078), KERN COUNTY

The above project is the construction of sewer lines that will connect the community of Rexland Acres to the Kern Sanitation Authority's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The system will be sized to provide sewer service to 688 existing lots serving 746 dwelling units, currently served by individual septic tank systems. Over half of these septic systems have failed or in threat of failure and need frequent pumping to minimize surface ponding of sewage. The Kern County Public Health Officer, through its deputy, the Kern County Health Services Director, declared on 6 December 2000 that these conditions pose a public health and safety hazard. Kern County has proposed to remedy the situation and developed an action plan and schedule. On 15 March 2001, the Central Valley Regional Water Resources Control Board adopted a resolution approving and accepting the Kern County Health Officer's declaration of public health concern and a time schedule for compliance.

We reviewed the proposed negative declaration and concur with its findings. The project, once completed, will result in a net improvement in groundwater quality in the Rexland Acres area.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me at (559) 445-5035

Jo Anne Kipps

JO ANNE KIPPS
Senior Engineer
RCE No. 49278

cc: State Clearinghouse, Sacramento

OFFICE MEMORANDUM ** COUNTY OF KERN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM DEPARTMENT

DATE: August 30, 2001

TO: Jim Ellis, Planning Operations

CC: Bill Mungary, Director
Barry Jung, Senior Planner

FROM: Grace Coan, Associate Planner

SUBJECT: Rexland Acres Wastewater System; EAJEI-01

The following comments are provided in response to the Responsible Agency Review request submitted by your department for the above-referenced project:

In the event that U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Funds are requested and approved for the above-referenced project, it is recommended that the following language be added to the project description and the public notice:

"U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Funds may also be provided for the project. "

With this additional language, the CEQA/NEPA document being prepared for the project may be used for HUD Environmental Clearance if that becomes necessary. Thank you.

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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

VIA FACSIMILE

801 K STREET
SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA
95814

PHONE
916/322-1080

FAX
916/445-0732

TDD
916/324-2555

INTERNET
consrv.ca.gov

GRAY DAVIS
GOVERNOR

September 17, 2001

Mr. Jim Ellis
Kern County Planning Department
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Mr. Ellis:

Subject: EA JE 1-01 - Rexland Acres Wastewater System (Kern County Engineering and Survey Services [PP02218])

The Department of Conservation's Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources (Division) has reviewed the early assessment notice for the referenced project. The Division supervises the drilling, maintenance, and plugging and abandonment of oil, gas and geothermal wells in California. We offer the following comments for your consideration.

The southwestern portion of the Rexland Acres neighborhood lies within the administrative boundaries of the abandoned Kernsumner oil field. In fact, there are three plugged and abandoned wells in the proximity of the project site. Also, a portion of the 6-inch sewer line near "Lift Station #3" is within the administrative boundaries of the Mountain View oil field. As proposed, the 6-inch sewer line will pass near the "Tenneco-Mountain View" 1-15 abandoned well. The four subject wells are as follows:

Operator	Lease/Well	Location
ARCO Western Energy	"KCY-Signal 2" 16X-20	1,850' N & 478' E fr. SW cor. sec. 20
Occidental Petroleum Corp.	"Fairview Unit A" 1	2,135' N & 1,482' E fr. SW cor. sec. 20
Petroleum Investment Co.	"P. I. Unit" 1-16X	1,750' N & 330' E fr. SW cor. sec. 20
Channel Exploration Co.	"Tenneco-Mountain View" 1-15	2,100' N & 2,500' E fr. SW cor. sec. 15

The Division recommends that all wells within or in close proximity to project boundaries be accurately plotted on detailed development maps. If site development will result in the construction of a structure within the proximity of a well, the district office in Bakersfield must be contacted to determine the well's mechanical integrity. Depending on the well's condition, remedial operations may be required

The Division recommends against building over or in the proximity of a plugged and abandoned well. If avoidance is not possible, it may be necessary to plug or re-plug the well to current Division specifications. Also, please note that the State Oil and Gas Supervisor is authorized to order the reabandonment of a previously plugged and abandoned well when construction over or in the proximity of the well could result in a hazard (Section 3208.1 of the Public Resources Code). If reabandonment becomes necessary, the cost of operations will be the responsibility of the owner of the property upon which the structure will be located. Finally, if construction over a plugged and abandoned well is unavoidable, an adequate gas venting system should be installed over the well.

If excavation or grading operations uncover a previously unrecorded well, the Division district office in Bakersfield must be notified; such wells may require remedial operations

Thank you for the opportunity to comment during the early consultation period for this project. If you have questions, please contact Joseph A. Austin at the Bakersfield district office: 4800 Stockdale Highway, Suite 417, Bakersfield, California (93309); or, phone (661) 322-4031. You may also call me at (916) 445-8733.

Sincerely,

Kenneth E. Trott

Kenneth E. Trott
Environmental Coordinator

cc: Joseph A. Austin
Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources, Bakersfield

Linda Campion
Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources, Sacramento

Kern County Planning Department
Attn: Jim Ellis
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301

August 24, 2001

Telephone: (661) 862-8620
FAX: (661) 862-8601

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY REVIEW

PURPOSE: The purpose of this form is to aid responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and agencies or individuals with a particular expertise in reviewing the described project. This preliminary analysis will aid us in determining whether the effects of the project will require preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR) or a Negative Declaration. If any of the effects of a project may have a substantial adverse effect on the environment, then an EIR must be prepared, unless mitigation measures to modify the project are proposed and agreed to by the applicant (Section 21080, Public Resources Code). **Pursuant to Section 21081.6, Public Resources Code, any mitigation measure shall be monitored by a program to ensure compliance. Should your agency recommend a mitigation measure, this Department requests you include a monitoring program to ensure implementation.**

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Check One

☐ **EIR**

☒ **Negative Declaration**

☐ **Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Date: August 30, 2001

Reviewing Agency:

Contact: Grace Coan, Associate Planner
Kern County Community Development Program Department

SEE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM FOR COMMENTS

TECHNICAL REPORTS WILL NOT BE REDISTRIBUTED **Please Reply by** September14, 2001

PROPOSED PROJECT: Rexland Acres Wastewater System; EA JE1-01; Kern County Engineering and Survey Services-Applicant (pp02218)

LOCATION: The community of Rexland Acres located at the intersection of South Union Avenue and E. Pacheco Road, in South Bakersfield, approximately bordered by Gary Place and Brenda Place on the west, Rexland Avenue and Garden Drive on the north, Kern Island Canal on the east and Buckly Avenue on the south; Section 20, T. 30 S. R. 28 E. MDB&M in Kern County, California

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project is the construction of sewer lines within the community of Rexland Acres and connecting to the Kern Sanitary Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant located on Kimber Avenue near Oswell Street, south of State Highway 58. Approximately 50,000 feet of 8"PVC trunk line and 25,000 feet of 6" [illegible]

Kern County Planning Department
Attn: Jim Ellis
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301

August 24, 2001

Telephone: (661) 862-8620
FAX: (661) 862-8601

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY REVIEW

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Check One

☐ **EIR**

☒ **Negative Declaration**

☐ **Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Date: 8-29-01

Reviewing Agency: Roads

Contact: Don Turkal

TECHNICAL REPORTS WILL NOT BE REDISTRIBUTED

Please Reply by September14, 2001

PROPOSED PROJECT: Rexland Acres Wastewater System; EA JE1-01; Kern County Engineering and Survey Services-Applicant (pp02218)

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Attn: Jim Ellis
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Check One

☐ **EIR**

☒ **Negative Declaration**

☐ **Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Date: 8-28-01

Reviewing Agency: DHS - DWFOB

Contact: Jim Ellis

TECHNICAL REPORTS WILL NOT BE REDISTRIBUTED

Please Reply by September14, 2001

PROPOSED PROJECT: Rexland Acres Wastewater System; EA JE1-01; Kern County Engineering and Survey Services-Applicant (pp02218)

LOCATION: The community of Rexland Acres located at the intersection of South Union Avenue and E. Pacheco Road, in South Bakersfield, approximately bordered by Gary Place and Brenda Place on the west, Rexland Avenue and Garden Drive on the north, Kern Island Canal on the east and Buckly Avenue on the south; Section 20, T. 30 S. R. 28 E. MDB&M in Kern County, California

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

KERN COUNTY

Office Memorandum

Date: August 31, 2001

To: Ted James, Director
Planning Department
Attention: Jim Ellis

From: Steve McCalley, Director
Environmental Health Services Department
By: Thomas Hardy, Environmental Health Specialist III

Re: Environmental Consultation for Rexland Acres Wastewater System

The Environmental Health Services Department submits the following comment for your consideration:

- Once connected to the Kern Sanitary Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant, each septic tank should be properly abandoned under permit with the Kern County Building Inspection Division.

TH:dt

Hardy\Land\RexlandAcres-l8

Kern County Planning Department
Attn: Jim Ellis
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301

August 24, 2001

Telephone: (661) 862-8620
FAX: (661) 862-8601

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY REVIEW

01 . 23 P3: 36

PURPOSE: The purpose of this form is to aid responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and agencies or individuals with a particular expertise in reviewing the described project. This preliminary analysis will aid us in determining whether the effects of the project will require preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR) or a Negative Declaration. If any of the effects of a project may have a substantial adverse effect on the environment, then an EIR must be prepared, unless mitigation measures to modify the project are proposed and agreed to by the applicant (Section 21080, Public Resources Code). **Pursuant to Section 21081.6, Public Resources Code, any mitigation measure shall be monitored by a program to ensure compliance. Should your agency recommend a mitigation measure, this Department requests you include a monitoring program to ensure implementation.**

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Check One

☐ **EIR**

☐ **Negative Declaration**

☐ **Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Date: 08/28/01

Reviewing Agency: Kern County Fire Dept

Contact: (661) 862-5007

This office has no comments/requirements

TECHNICAL REPORTS WILL NOT BE REDISTRIBUTED

Please Reply by September14, 2001

PROPOSED PROJECT: Rexland Acres Wastewater System; EA JE1-01; Kern County Engineering and Survey Services-Applicant (pp02218)

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Check One

Date: 8-28-01

☐ **EIR**

Reviewing Agency:

☒ **Negative Declaration**

DHS - DWFOB

Contact:

☐ **Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Jim Stier

TECHNICAL REPORTS WILL NOT BE REDISTRIBUTED

Please Reply by September 14, 2001

PROPOSED PROJECT: Rexland Acres Wastewater System; EA JE1-01; Kern County Engineering and Survey Services-Applicant (pp02218)

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

STEVE McCALLEY, R.E.H.S., Director
2700 "M" STREET, SUITE 300
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301-2370
Voice: (661) 862-8700
Fax: (661) 862-8701
TTY Relay: (800) 735-2929
e-mail: *eh@co.kern.ca.us*

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DAVID PRICE III, RMA DIRECTOR
Community Development Program Department
Engineering & Survey Services Department
Environmental Health Services Department
Planning Department
Roads Department

April 15, 1999

Mr. Dan Johnson
Community Development Manager
USDA/Rural Development - Bakersfield
1601 New Stine Road, Suite 280
Bakersfield CA 93309-3698

SUBJECT: Rexland Acres Septic System Problems

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This Department has reviewed the results of the Septic Tank Performance survey conducted by the Rexland Acres Committee and Self-Help Enterprises. This community has over 900 properties with septic systems and responses were received from 84% of the occupied properties. Survey results show that 228 (32%) of the systems had their septic tanks pumped two or more times in the last three years and 150 (22%) of the systems had their septic tanks pumped at least yearly or oftener. These pumping rates are higher than the normal pumping frequency of once every three to five years.

Forty percent of those surveyed indicated that they are surreptitiously running laundry grey-water onto the surface of the ground in their yards to keep from overloading their septic systems. Above ground disposal of grey-water is a violation of public health regulations.

Failing septic systems create public health problems and the potential for groundwater pollution in the area. Nitrate levels in the two community wells have doubled in the last twenty years.

In the southern half of Rexland Acres, most of the lots are too small to allow for leach field replacement. **The failing septic systems, above ground grey-water disposal, and increasing contamination of groundwater supplies pose a public health and safety hazard.** A community sewer system would remedy these public health problems.

Sincerely,

Steve McCalley, Director

SMc:jg

cc: Pete Parra, Member, Kern County Board of Supervisors
Rosa Martinez & San Juana Hernandez, Members, Rexland Acres Committee
Dave Warner, Self-Help Enterprises
Guy Shaw, EHS IV, Environmental Health Services

COMMENTS RECEIVED REGARDING PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Form A

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, PO Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 916/445-0613

SCH # 2001102078

Project Title: EA MWH 1-01 Rexland Acres Wastewater System (Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Dept)

Lead Agency: Kern County Planning Department
Contact Person: Lorelei H Oviatt, AICP
Mailing Address: 2700 M Street Suite 100
Phone: (661) 862-8866
City: Bakersfield, Ca
Zip: 93301
County: Kern

Project Location:

County: Kern
City/Nearest Community: Bakersfield
Cross Streets: South Union Avenue and East Pacheco Road
Zip Code:
Total Acres:
Assessor's Parcel No.
Section:
Twp.
Range:
Base:
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: 58
Waterways:
Airports:
Railways:
Schools:

Document Type:

CEQA:
- ☐ NOP
- ☐ Early Cons
- ☒ Neg Dec
- ☐ Draft EIR
- ☐ Supplement/Subsequent EIR (Prior SCH No.)
- ☐ Other

NEPA:
- ☐ NOI
- ☐ EA
- ☐ Draft EIS
- ☐ FONSI

Other:
- ☐ Joint Document
- ☐ Final Document
- ☐ Other

Local Action Type:

- ☐ General Plan Update
- ☐ General Plan Amendment
- ☐ General Plan Element
- ☐ Community Plan
- ☐ Specific Plan
- ☐ Master Plan
- ☐ Planned Unit Development
- ☐ Site Plan
- ☐ Rezone
- ☐ Prezone
- ☐ Use Permit
- ☐ Land Division (Subdivision, etc.)
- ☐ Annexation
- ☐ Redevelopment
- ☐ Coastal Permit
- ☒ Other Sewer Main

Development Type:

- ☐ Residential: *Units* ____ *Acres* ____
- ☐ Office: *Sq.ft.* ____ *Acres* ____ *Employees* ____
- ☐ Commercial: *Sq.ft.* ____ *Acres* ____ *Employees* ____
- ☐ Industrial: *Sq.ft.* ____ *Acres* ____ *Employees* ____
- ☐ Educational
- ☐ Recreational
- ☐ Water Facilities: *Type* ____ *MGD* ____
- ☐ Transportation: *Type* ____
- ☐ Mining: *Mineral* ____
- ☐ Power: *Type* ____ *Watts* ____
- ☒ Waste Treatment: *Type* Main line sewer and conncetions
- ☐ Hazardous Waste: *Type* ____
- ☐ Other: ____

Funding (approx.): Federal $____ State $____ Total $____

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- ☐ Aesthetic/Visual
- ☒ Agricultural Land
- ☒ Air Quality
- ☒ Archeological/Historical
- ☐ Coastal Zone
- ☐ Drainage/Absorption
- ☐ Economic/Jobs
- ☐ Fiscal
- ☐ Flood Plain/Flooding
- ☐ Forest Land/Fire Hazard
- ☐ Geologic/Seismic
- ☐ Minerals
- ☒ Noise
- ☐ Population/Housing Balance
- ☒ Public Services/Facilities
- ☒ Recreation/Parks
- ☐ Schools/Universities
- ☒ Septic Systems
- ☒ Sewer Capacity
- ☐ Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading
- ☐ Solid Waste
- ☐ Toxic/Hazardous
- ☒ Traffic/Circulation
- ☐ Vegetation
- ☒ Water Quality
- ☐ Water Supply/Groundwater
- ☐ Wetland/Riparian
- ☐ Wildlife
- ☐ Growth Inducing
- ☒ Landuse
- ☐ Cumulative Effects
- ☐ Other

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Exisitng Road right of way/ Agricultural Land

Project Description:

Construction of sewer lines in the rural community of Rexland Acres ,connecting to the Kern Sanitation Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant . Approx. 26,200 feet of the eight-inch force-main line to connect community to the wastewater treatment plant proposed to remedy a high rate of septic system failures to prevent potential degradation of groundwater in the Rexland Acres community

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Form A, continued

KEY
S = Document sent by lead agency
X = Document sent by SCH
✓ = Suggested distribution

_____**Resources Agency**
_____Boating & Waterways
_____Coastal Commission
_____Coastal Conservancy
_____Colorado River Board
_____Conservation
_____Fish & Game
_____Forestry & Fire Protection
S✓ Office of Historic Preservation
_____Parks & Recreation
_____Reclamation Board
_____S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission
_____Water Resources (DWR)

Business, Transportation & Housing
_____Aeronautics
_____California Highway Patrol
_____CALTRANS District #_____
_____Department of Transportation Planning (headquarters)
_____Housing & Community Development

_____**Food & Agriculture**

Health & Welfare
_____Health Services _____

State & Consumer Services
_____General Services
_____OLA (Schools)

Environmental Protection Agency
_____Air Resources Board
_____California Waste Management Board
_____SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
_____SWRCB: Delta Unit
_____SWRCB: Water Quality
_____SWRCB: Water Rights
_____Regional WQCB #_____ (_____)

Youth & Adult Corrections
_____Corrections

Independent Commissions & Offices
_____Energy Commission
_____Native American Heritage Commission
_____Public Utilities Commission
_____Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
_____State Lands Commission
_____Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

_____Other _____

Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date August 26, 2004 Ending Date September 24, 2004

Signature _____ Date 8-25-04

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):
Consulting Firm: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Contact: _____
Phone: (_____) _____

Applicant: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: (_____) _____

For SCH Use Only:
Date Received at SCH _____
Date Review Starts _____
Date to Agencies _____
Date to SCH _____
Clearance Date _____
Notes:

CITIES

1_____Arvin
2__X Bakersfield
3_____California City
4_____Delano
5_____Maricopa
6_____McFarland
7_____Ridgecrest
8_____Shafter
9_____Taft
10____Tehachapi
11_____Wasco

COUNTIES

12_____Inyo
13_____Kings
14_____Los Angeles
15_____San Bernardino
16_____San Luis Obispo
17_____Santa Barbara
18_____Tulare
19_____Ventura

FEDERAL AGENCIES

20____BLM - Ridgecrest/Bakersfield
21_____China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station
22____Edwards AFB
23__ X ___U.S. EPA
24__X___Fish & Wildlife Sacramento (HCP Area)
25__ ___ Forest Service - Sequoia/Los Padres
26__X___Soil Conservation Service (Bak Office Only)
27___U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
28____RCD_____
29__X___Other__USDA_____

COUNTY OF KERN

30___X__Agriculture
31_____Airports
32__ X __Air Pollution Control
33___ X __Community Development
34_____County Clerk
35_____C.A.O.
36___X__Engineering Services - FloodPlain
37___X__Engineering Services - Survey
38___X__Environmental Health
39___X__Fire
40_____Library - _____
41_____Museum
42____Parks and Recreation
43_____RMA-Special Projects/Fiscal Analysis
44____Sheriff
45___X__Roads (__1_____ copies)
46___X__Waste Management
47_____Other_____

LOCAL AGENCIES

48____Rosedale Union School District
49_____Kern High School District
50____Superintendent of Schools
51_____Kern COG
52_____LAFCO
53_____CSD_North of the River San Dst
54__ ___Water District Rosedale Rio Bravo
55__X__Kern County Water Agency
56_ _____Parks & Rec_North Bakersfield _____
57__X__San Joaquin APCD
58____Golden Empire Transit
59_____Kern Mosquito Abatement
60_____ **Other**

OTHER

61_____Audubon Society - Sacramento
62_____Construction Material Assoc.of California
63_____GTE (Contel) - Victorville (Bak)/Taft
64_____Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee
65_____Native Amer Heritage Council of KC
66___X__Pacific Bell (Fresno Office Only)
67___X__PG&E - Bakersfield
68__ _ _PG&E - Fresno
69____Sierra Club
70___ X __So. Cal Edison - Bak/Ridg/A-V/Woff/SF
71___X__So. Cal Gas (**NOTE**: must have 2 copies)
72_____Smart Growth Coalition
73_____Mountain Communities Town Council (2)
74_____Farm Bureau Federation
75_____Other_Oxy Resources, Attn Michael Gooding

STATE AGENCIES

76_____Air Resources Board
77__X___So. San Joaquin Arch Info. Center
78____CalTrans /Distr 6
79_ _X__Clearinghouse (__15___ copies)*
80_____Conservation - Office Mine & Rec*
81_____CSU Bakersfield – Library
82__X _Division of Oil & Gas - Bakersfield
83____Energy Commission
84__X__Fish and Game - Fresno
85_____Food and Agriculture - Sacramento
86__ X __Health Services - Fresno/Sacramento
87_____Highway Patrol_Sacramento
88___ X __Historical Preservation
89_____Integrated Waste Management
90_____Parks and Recreation
91_____Public Utilities Commission
92__X___Reg Water Quality - Central
93_____States Lands Commission
94__X___Water Resources - Fresno (Dont send to Sacramento)
95_ ___Other

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

TED JAMES, AICP, Director
2700 "M" STREET, SUITE 100
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301-2323
Phone: (661) 862-8600
FAX: (661) 862-8601 TTY Relay 1-800-735-2929
E-Mail: planning@co.kern.ca.us
Web Address: www.co.kern.ca.us/planning

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DAVID PRICE III, RMA DIRECTOR
Community & Economic Development Department
Engineering & Survey Services Department
Environmental Health Services Department
Planning Department
Roads Department

August 25, 2004

FILE: Rexland Acres Wastewater System

ADDRESSEES (see Distribution List)

In Response Please Reference: Consultation Process on Proposed Negative Declaration for EA MWH 1-01; Rexland Acres Wastewater System (Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Department (PP02218))

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This Department, as Lead Agency, has determined that preparation of a Negative Declaration would be appropriate for the referenced project. As required by Section 15073 of the State CEQA Guidelines, we are submitting the proposed Negative Declaration to all responsible agencies for consultation. This consultation is requested to ensure that the environmental decision by our Department will reflect the concerns of responsible agencies involved with the project.

If a response is not received from your agency by **September 24, 2004**, this Department will assume that your agency has no comment. **Should you have any questions, please contact Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Supervising Planner ((661) 862-8866) of this Department.**

Very truly yours,

TED JAMES, AICP, Director
Planning Department

By Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP
Supervising Planner

paw

Enclosure

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair

Terry Tamminen
Secretary for Environmental Protection

Fresno Branch Office
www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb5
1685 E Street, Fresno, California 93706
(559) 445-5116 • FAX (559) 445-5910

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

9 September 2004

Ms. Lorelei H. Oviatt, Supervising Planner
Kern County Planning Department
2700 M Street
Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, REXLAND ACRES WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM, KERN COUNTY, SCH NO. 2001102078

Regional Board staff has reviewed the draft negative declaration in support of sanitary sewer lines within the rural community of Rexland Acres and connecting to the Kern Sanitary Authority wastewater treatment plant. Rexland Acres is in a portion of Section 20, T30S, R28E, MDB&M; generally bound by South Union Avenue, East Panama Lane, Kern Island Canal, and Rexland Avenue, southeast of Bakersfield.

The proposed project is for 26,200 linear feet of eight-inch diameter force main and two lift stations to provide wastewater services for 746 dwelling units in Rexland Acres. The project is to remedy the high failure rate of individual disposal systems that are currently used by the dwellings. At full capacity, the project would contribute an average of 0.26 million gallons per day (mgd) of additional wastewater to the treatment plant. Peak flows would contribute up to 0.51 mgd of additional wastewater.

The proposed project, once completed, will result in a net improvement in groundwater quality in the Rexland Acres area. Therefore, the Regional Board supports the project.

Since construction associated with the project will disturb one acre or more, compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit No. CAS000002 for Discharges of Storm Water Associated With Construction Activity is required. Before construction begins, the proponent must submit a Notice of Intent to comply with the permit, a site map, and an appropriate fee to the State Water Resources Control Board and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be prepared.

If the project will result in the discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters or wetlands (jurisdictional waters), the proponent must obtain a permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act from the US Army Corps of Engineers and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from this office. The Regional Board will review the Section 401 certification application to ensure that discharges will not violate water quality standards. If the project will result in the discharge of dredged or fill material into wetlands that are determined by the Corps to be non-jurisdictional, the proponent will not be required to obtain a Section 401 Water Quality Certification, but may be required to submit a report of waste

discharge (RWD) if the wetlands are waters of the State. For more information regarding Section 404 permitting, contact the Sacramento District of the Corps of Engineers at (916) 557-5250.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this negative declaration. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please call Jarrod Ramsey-Lewis at (559) 445-5569.

DOUGLAS K. PATTESON
Senior Engineer
RCE No. 55985

cc: State Clearinghouse, Sacramento

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Planning and Research

State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Jan Boel
Acting Director

September 27, 2004

Lorelei H. Oviatt
Kern County Planning Department
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Subject: EA MWH 1-01 Rexland Acres Wastewater System (Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Dept.)
SCH#: 2001102078

Dear Lorelei H. Oviatt:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on September 24, 2004, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

> "A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts

Terry Roberts
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency

1400 TENTH STREET P.O. BOX 3044 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812-3044
TEL (916) 445-0613 FAX (916) 323-3018 www.opr.ca.gov

Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base

SCH# 2001102078
Project Title EA MWH 1-01 Rexland Acres Wastewater System (Kern County Engineering and Survey Services Dept.)
Lead Agency Kern County Planning Department

Type Neg Negative Declaration

Description Construction of sewer lines in the rural community of Rexland Acres, connecting to the Kern Sanitation Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant. Approximately 26,200 feet of the eight-inch force-main line to connect community to the wastewater treatment plant proposed to remedy a high rate of septic system failures to prevent potential degradation of groundwater in the Rexland Acres community.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Lorelei H. Oviatt
Agency Kern County Planning Department
Phone (661) 862-8866 **Fax**
email
Address 2700 M Street, Suite 100
City Bakersfield **State** CA **Zip** 93301

Project Location

County Kern
City Bakersfield
Region
Cross Streets South Union Avenue / East Pacheco Road
Parcel No.
Township **Range** **Section** **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways 58
Airports
Railways
Waterways
Schools
Land Use Existing Road Right-of-Way / Agricultural Land

Project Issues Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Landuse; Noise; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Septic System; Sewer Capacity; Traffic/Circulation; Water Quality

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Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5 (Fresno); Department of Parks and Recreation; Native American Heritage Commission; Department of Health Services; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Fish and Game, Region 4; Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 6; State Water Resources Control Board, Clean Water Program; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality

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Date Received 08/26/2004 **Start of Review** 08/26/2004 **End of Review** 09/24/2004

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair

Terry Tamminen
Secretary for Environmental Protection

Fresno Branch Office
www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb5
1685 E Street, Fresno, California 93706
(559) 445-5116 • FAX (559) 445-5910

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

9 September 2004

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STATE CLEARING HOUSE

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Ms. Lorelei H. Oviatt, Supervising Planner
Kern County Planning Department
2700 M Street
Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, REXLAND ACRES WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM, KERN COUNTY, SCH NO. 2001102078

Regional Board staff has reviewed the draft negative declaration in support of sanitary sewer lines within the rural community of Rexland Acres and connecting to the Kern Sanitary Authority wastewater treatment plant. Rexland Acres is in a portion of Section 20, T30S, R28E, MDB&M; generally bound by South Union Avenue, East Panama Lane, Kern Island Canal, and Rexland Avenue, southeast of Bakersfield.

The proposed project is for 26,200 linear feet of eight-inch diameter force main and two lift stations to provide wastewater services for 746 dwelling units in Rexland Acres. The project is to remedy the high failure rate of individual disposal systems that are currently used by the dwellings. At full capacity, the project would contribute an average of 0.26 million gallons per day (mgd) of additional wastewater to the treatment plant. Peak flows would contribute up to 0.51 mgd of additional wastewater.

The proposed project, once completed, will result in a net improvement in groundwater quality in the Rexland Acres area. Therefore, the Regional Board supports the project.

Since construction associated with the project will disturb one acre or more, compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit No. CAS000002 for Discharges of Storm Water Associated With Construction Activity is required. Before construction begins, the proponent must submit a Notice of Intent to comply with the permit, a site map, and an appropriate fee to the State Water Resources Control Board and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be prepared.

If the project will result in the discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters or wetlands (jurisdictional waters), the proponent must obtain a permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act from the US Army Corps of Engineers and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from this office. The Regional Board will review the Section 401 certification application to ensure that discharges will not violate water quality standards. If the project will result in the discharge of dredged or fill material into wetlands that are determined by the Corps to be non-jurisdictional, the proponent will not be required to obtain a Section 401 Water Quality Certification, but may be required to submit a report of waste

COUNTY OF KERN

Waste Management

MEMO

To: Jim Ellis, Planning Department

From: DAPHNE H. WASHINGTON, DIRECTOR
By: Tom McCutcheon, Special Projects Manager

Subject: Proposed Negative Declaration for Rexland Acres Wastewater System

Date: September 17, 2004

Kern Sanitation Authority's staff has completed a review of the Negative Declaration for the Rexland Acres Wastewater System. The document indicates that the Rexland Acres Wastewater System's flow will go to the Kern Sanitation Authority (KSA) Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is also illustrated on the document's attached maps.

The amount of future wastewater flow to the KSA Wastewater Treatment Plant is contingent on the available facility treatment capacity at the time sewer service is requested. KSA is willing to reserve capacity for the flow from Rexland Acres Wastewater System for five years.

We request the following text be incorporated into the proposed Negative Declaration:

> *"The applicant recognizes that the proposed Kern Sanitation Authority (KSA) accommodation of future wastewater flow from the Rexland Acres project is contingent upon the existence of available process treatment capacity at the time service is needed. Residential development currently underway around the KSA Plant may utilize a substantial amount of available treatment capacity before the Rexland Acres Wastewater System is ready to come online. However, KSA will reserve treatment capacity until January 1, 2010, for the sewer flow from the Rexland Acres Wastewater System. If the Rexland Acres Wastewater System has not connected to KSA by January 1, 2010, a new 'Will Serve' letter would need to be obtained from KSA to connect after that date."*

In addition, the section entitled, "Identification of Environmental Effects (Additional Remarks to Matrix), XVL, Utilities and Service Systems", should incorporate similar text as that provided above.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

I:\CLERICAL\Memos\2004\04-15 TFM_rsl.doc
cc: Bakari Sanyu, Russ Rink, Dan Chetelat, Rob Ellery
KSA-COR

2700 "M" Street, Suite 500, Bakersfield, CA 93301-2372 (661) 862-8998 FAX: (661) 862-8905

San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution Control District

Reference: S20040286

September 22, 2004

Attn: Ms. Lorelei Oviatt
Kern County Planning Department
2700 "M" Street Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301

RE: Rexland Acres Wastewater System

Dear Ms. Oviatt:

The San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (District) has reviewed the documents provided and has the following comments:

The entire San Joaquin Valley is non-attainment for ozone and fine particulate matter (PM-10). The Federal Clean Air Act (CAA) and the California Clean Air Act require areas that are designated non-attainment to reduce emissions until standards are met. Based upon review of the information provided, it does not appear that this project would result in any significant adverse air quality impacts.

A current list of District rules can be found at www.valleyair.org/rules/1ruleslist.htm. The following rule that has been adopted by the District to reduce emissions throughout the San Joaquin Valley, and is required:

District Regulation VIII - Fugitive Dust Rules is a series of rules designed to reduce PM-10 emissions generated by human activity, including construction, road building, bulk materials storage, landfill operations, etc. Please be advised that on August 19, 2004, the District's Governing Board adopted amendments to Regulation VIII (specifically, Rules 8011 through 8061), which become effective on October 1, 2004. If construction were to commence after October 1, 2004, the applicant should contact the District to determine where requirements have changed and how rule changes may affect the project. Applicants can find the most current version on the District's web page at www.valleyair.org. A synopsis highlighting many of the current requirements of this regulation has been enclosed. The Compliance Assistance Bulletin is not meant to be all-inclusive, but it can be a useful compliance aid in the field and office alike.

David L. Crow
Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer

Northern Region Office
4230 Kiernan Avenue, Suite 130
Modesto, CA 95356-9322
(209) 557-6400 • FAX (209) 557-6475

Central Region Office
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726-0244
(559) 230-6000 • FAX (559) 230-6061

Southern Region Office
2700 M Street, Suite 275
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2373
(661) 326-6900 • FAX (661) 326-6985

www.valleyair.org

The District encourages innovation in measures to reduce air quality impacts. There are a number of measures that could be incorporated into this project to provide additional reductions of the overall level of emissions. (Note: Some of these measures may already exist as City development standards. Any measures selected should be implemented to the extent possible.) The measures listed below should not be considered all-inclusive and remain options that the project proponent should consider.

From Table 6-3 of the District's Guide to *Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts* 2002 revision (GAMAQI)

- Install Sandbags or other erosion control measures to prevent silt runoff to public roadways from sites with a slope greater than one percent
- Install wheel washers for al exiting trucks, or was off all trucks and equipment leaving the site
- Install wind breaks at windward side(s) of construction areas
- Limit area subject to excavation, grading, and other construction activity at any one time

From Table 6-4 of the GAMAQI:

- Use of Alternative fueled or catalyst equipped diesel construction equipment.
- The project applicant should identify the construction equipment that can feasibly be switched from conventional to alternative-fueled or catalyst-equipped diesel equipment. The project applicant should identify a minimum of alternative fueled or catalyst-equipped diesel construction equipment that will be used for this project. As an example of alternative fuels, not all biodiesels or biodiesel blends will result in reduced NOx emissions. According to the EPA's website, biodiesel use generally results in an increase in NOx emissions. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has certified specific biodiesels for NOx reduction. Only biodiesels that have been certified by CARB should be used. For more information on biodiesel or other types of alternative fuels, please call Mr. Chris Acree, Air Quality Specialist, at (559) 230-5829. The applicant should calculate the associated emission reductions from implementing this mitigation measure.
- Limit the hours of operation of heavy-duty equipment and/or the amount of equipment in use
- The project applicant should specify the conditions of reduced hours or reduced amount of equipment. Implement activity management (e.g. rescheduling activities to reduce short-term impacts)
    - The applicant should specify what measures will be implemented.
- Curtail construction during periods of high ambient pollutant concentrations; this may include ceasing of construction activity during the peak-hour of vehicular traffic on adjacent roadways
    - The project applicant should state the criteria for curtailing construction activities, and the steps that will be taken to reduce emissions. For curtailment during periods of high ambient pollutant concentrations, the criteria should be set in terms of the Air Quality Index. See the table below for more information on the Air Quality Index.

http://www.epa.gov/airnow/aqi.html#good

Air Quality Index Levels of Health Concern	Numerical Value	Meaning
Good	0-50	Air quality is considered satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Moderate	51-100	Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101-150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is not likely to be affected.
Unhealthy	151-200	Everyone may begin to experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
Very Unhealthy	201-300	Health alert: everyone may experience more serious health effects.
Hazardous	> 300	Health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is more likely to be affected.

Additional Mitigation Measures:

- When feasible, construction activity should occur during early morning, late evening, and night time hours. Ozone formation is directly related to temperature and sunlight. If the project emits short-lived ozone precursors during cooler hours, the project's local impact will be reduced.

- Pave haul roads in the project area.

- Construction equipment should have engines that are at least Tier I (as certified by the Air Resources Board). Tier I and Tier II engines have a significantly less PM and NOx emissions compared to uncontrolled engines. To find engines certified by the Air Resources Board, see http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/offroad/cert/cert.php. This site lists engines by type, then manufacturer. The "Executive Order" shows what Tier the engine is certified as.

- Participate in the District's Heavy Duty Engine Program. The District has a Heavy-Duty Engine program to help engine owners reduce emissions. The Heavy Duty program provides incentives for the replacement of older diesel engines with new, cleaner, fuel-efficient diesel engines. The program also provides incentives for the re-power of older, heavy-duty trucks with cleaner

diesel engines or alternative fuel engines. New alternative fuel heavy-duty trucks also qualify. For more information regarding this program, contact the District at (559) 230-5858 or visit our website at http:www.valleyair.org/transportation/heavydutyidx.htm.

Additional Construction Mitigation:

- See the Air Resources Board's website for more information on reducing emissions from diesel engines. California's Diesel Risk Reduction Plan http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/documents/rrpapp.htm. Specifically- Appendix 3 *Mobile Diesel-Fueled Engines* and Appendix 9 *Diesel PM Control Technologies*. Another website for reducing construction emissions is the UC Davis-Caltrans *Air Quality Project* at http://aqp.engr.ucdavis.edu/.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (661) 326-6980.

Sincerely,

Heather Ellison
Air Quality Planner

Enclosures

C: File

San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution Control District

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

September 2002

(Update from June 2002)

Fugitive Dust Control at Construction Sites

Regulation VIII, Fugitive PM10 Prohibitions, of the District's Rules and Regulations regulates activities that generate fugitive dust. Fugitive dust is emitted to the air from open ground or caused by activities such as excavation, transporting bulk materials, or travel on unpaved surfaces. "PM10" is a term applied to small sized particulate matter - microscopic dust particles - in the air. The San Joaquin Valley currently exceeds the air quality standards for particulate matter. It is for this reason that the District adopted Regulation VIII in 1993. Significant amendments to Regulation VIII were adopted in 2001 and became effective May 15, 2002. The following dust control and administrative requirements are applicable at construction sites:

Visible Dust Emissions (VDE). Visible dust emissions may not exceed 20% opacity during periods when soil is being disturbed by equipment or wind at any time. Dust control may be achieved by means of applying water before and during earth work and on traffic areas, phasing work to limit dust, and setting up wind fences to limit wind blown dust. VDE opacity of 20% means the amount of dust that would obstruct the view of an object by 20%.

Soil stabilization. Soil stabilization is required at any construction site after normal working hours and on weekends and holidays. This requirement also applies to inactive construction areas such as phased projects where disturbed land is left unattended. Applying water to form a visible crust on the soil is an effective method for stabilizing a disturbed surface area. Long-term methods include applying dust suppressants or establishing vegetative cover. Restricting vehicle access from the area will help to maintain a stabilized surface. Information regarding stabilization standards and test methods are in Rule 8011 – *General Requirements*.

Carryout and Trackout. These requirements are found in Rule 8041 – *Carryout and Trackout*. Carryout and trackout are materials adhered to vehicle tires and transport vehicles carried from a construction site and deposited onto a paved public road. Should carryout and trackout occur, it must be cleaned up at least daily, and immediately if it extends more than 50 feet from the exit point onto a paved road. The recommended clean-up methods include manually sweeping, sufficiently wetting the area prior to mechanical sweeping to limit VDE or using a PM10-efficient street sweeper. A blower device, or dry sweeping with any mechanical device other than a PM10-efficient street sweeper is prohibited.

Northern Region Office
4230 Kiernan Avenue, Suite 130
Modesto, CA 95356-9321
(209) 557-6400 ♦ FAX (209) 557-6475

Central Region Office
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(559) 230-6000 ♦ FAX (559) 230-6062

Southern Region Office
2700 "M" Street, Suite 275
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2370
(661) 326-6900 ♦ FAX (661) 326-6985

Access and Haul Roads. Dust control is required on all unpaved access and haul roads, and unpaved vehicle and equipment traffic areas at construction sites, per Rule 8021 – *Construction, Demolition, Excavation, Extraction, and Other Earthmoving Activities.*

Storage Piles and Bulk Materials. The handling, storage, and transportation requirements for bulk materials are found in Rule 8031 – *Bulk Materials.* These requirements include: applying water as materials are handled, stabilizing or covering stored materials, and installing wind barriers to limit VDE. Limiting vehicle speed, loading haul trucks with a freeboard six inches or greater, covering haul trucks, or applying water to the top of the load are options for reducing VDE from vehicle transportation of bulk materials.

Demolition. Wetting of the exterior of a building to be demolished is required. Demolition debris and the area around the demolition must also be controlled to limit VDE. Cleaning up carryout and trackout must be completed according to Rule 8041. Demolition activities are also subject to the District's asbestos rule, Rule 4002 – *National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants.*

Dust Control Plans. For large construction projects, Rule 8021 requires the owner or contractor to submit a Dust Control Plan to the District for approval at least 30 days prior to commencing construction activities. This requirement applies to projects that include 40 or more acres of disturbed surface area or will involve moving more than 2,500 cubic yards per day of material on at least three days during the project.

Record keeping. All sites subject to the regulation that employ dust control measures must keep records for each day any dust controls are used. The District has developed record keeping forms for water application, street sweeping, and for "permanent" controls such as applying long term dust palliatives, vegetation, ground cover materials, paving, or other durable materials. Pursuant to Rule 8011, records must be kept for one year after the end of dust generating activities.

Exemptions. Activities in areas above 3,000 feet elevation are exempt from all Regulation VIII requirements. The following exemptions in Rule 8021 apply to construction activities:

- Blasting activities
- Maintenance and remodeling of existing buildings if the addition is less than 50% of the size of the existing building or 10,000 square feet. These activities, however, are subject to the District's asbestos rule, Rule 4002.
- Additions to single family dwellings
- Mowing, disking or other weed control on sites less than ½ acre.

Nuisance. Whether or not the construction activity is exempt from the Regulation VIII requirements, any activity that creates fugitive dust must not cause a nuisance, per Rule 4102 - *Nuisance*. Therefore, it is important to monitor the dust generating activities and, if necessary, plan for and implement the appropriate dust control measures to limit the public's exposure to fugitive dust.

This is a basic summary of Regulation VIII as it applies to the construction industry. For more information contact the Compliance Division of the District office nearest to you.

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.

Howard Kahan (WTR-1)
U.S. EPA, Region 9
Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1460
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Telephone: (213) 244-1819
Fax: (213) 244-1850
Email kahan.howard@epa.gov

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.

_____ _____

Wayne Nastri — Date
Regional Administrator

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Milford Wayne Donaldson
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, California 94296-0001

June 22, 2006

RE: County of Kern – Rexland Acres
Grant ID # XP-XP-96966101-0

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

The County of Kern has plans to install sewer trunk lines and lateral connections in the Rexland Acres. The purpose of the project is to eliminate the use of the existing septic system and reduce the amount of bacteria and nitrates that are associated with them. The Rexland Acres is a rural community in southeast Bakersfield.

The County of Kern is proposing to pay for this project using federal funding from a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) special appropriation grant. The County also has federal funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA). The USDA has a programmatic agreement with SHPO for projects that "do not involve extensive ground disturbances." EPA does not have a programmatic agreement.

A California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) Search was done for the Rexland Acres area. The CHRIS search found no archaeological sites and no cultural resources listed. Digitized photos of all building built before January, 1952 were taken and the mitigation measure was included in the Environment Assessment "that stopping all work if potential cultural resources should be discovered until the resources can be reviewed."

We have been determined that this project is a federal undertaking and the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act apply. Because of the limited amount of ground moving activities and the lack of documentation of cultural resources, EPA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the implementation of this project and that a finding of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate. We are seeking your concurrence on this determination. Please inform us within 30 days if you concur with our proposed findings. If you do not reply within this 30 day review period, EPA will consider the lack of reply to indicated SHPO's agreement with the findings.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please refer any questions you or your staff may have to me at (213) 244 – 1819 or at kahan.howard@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist
Water Division (WTR-4)

Enclosure: Site map
CHRIS Search
Copy of Photos of buildings built before 1952
CEQA Supplement
Correspondence between USDA, County of Kern, and Southern San Joaquin Valley Information center

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE RESOURCES AGENCY

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, *Governor*

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
P.O. BOX 942896
SACRAMENTO, CA 94296-0001
(916) 653-6624 Fax: (916) 653-9824
calshpo@ohp.parks.ca.gov

August 3, 2006

In Reply Refer To: EPA060626A

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist, Water Division (WTR-4)
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Re: Environmental Protection Agency Grant ID-XP-96966101-0 for the Rexland Acres Sewer Line and Lateral Connection Project, Kern County, California.

Dear Mr. Kahan:

Thank you for seeking consultation with me, regarding the above noted undertaking, pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended 8-05-04) regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the lead federal authority regarding Section 106 consultation for the Rexland Acres Sewer Line and Lateral Connection Project that is being proposed by the County of Kern.

This undertaking requires the issuance of a grant (ID-XP-96966101-0) from the EPA to fund the construction of this project, which would involve the installation of sewer lines in the Rexland Acres rural subdivision in Southeast Bakersfield and lateral connections to existing wastewater treatment facilities. Completion of this project will eliminate the use of existing individual septic systems and reduce the amount of bacteria and nitrates that are associated with them. Rexland Acres has a documented history of septic systems failures. The project will largely involve trenching within existing paved streets, but some sewer alignments will lie within adjacent farm roads and some will occur within areas devoted to crop production. In addition to your letter of June 22, 2006, you have submitted the following documents in support of this undertaking:

- Records Search at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, NEPA Project-Rexland Acres Community Wastewater Treatment Lines and Connections, Bakersfield, CA (March 8, 2002).

- Inventory of Buildings within the Rexland Acres Project Area (Letter of February 11, 2002) and photo documentation of 49 buildings within the project Area.

- CEQA Supplement Rexland Acres Wastewater System.

After reviewing your letter and supporting documentation, I have the following comments:

1) I concur that your identification of the Rexland Acres Area of Potential Effects is appropriate pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.(a)(1).

2) I concur with your assessment that no further architectural studies are warranted for the 49 buildings in the Rexland Acres project area. Your documentation indicates that these structures, 48 residences and a church with an outbuilding, were constructed between the late 1940's and 1952, and are of sufficient age to warrant National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility evaluation. However, I have inspected the photographs that you have provided and do not consider these structures to be potential NRHP eligible historic properties, and agree that additional documentation is unnecessary considering the transient nature of the project effects within Rexland Acres.

3) I do not concur that your efforts to identify historic properties, pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(b), are as yet completed within the project APE. A record search is not, in and of itself, an adequate assessment of the project APE. I agree that the locations involving buried sewer lines and connections that will occur under existing paved streets in Rexland Acres cannot be subject to an archeological survey. However, the project description in the CEQA Supplement states that "some construction will occur within areas devoted to crop production," that trenching will occur within "5½ miles of undeveloped property devoted to agricultural crop production," and that "much of the proposed alignment lies within or adjacent to existing farm roads." Historic properties (i.e., archeological sites) could exist within these areas to be affected by the subject undertaking and their existence would be verified by an on-foot field survey. I recommend that a Phase I level archeological survey be completed within the Rexland Acres APE and that the findings be submitted, in the form of a written report, as documentation of your identification efforts pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(b)(1).

4) Your letter of June 26, 2006 and attachments provide no evidence of consultation with Native American tribes pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.3(f)(2). Please provide documentation of consultation with the appropriate Native American tribes or organizations regarding the project APE.

I will be pleased to continue this consultation following the receipt of documentation of the additional historic property identification efforts as requested under above items 3 and 4. Thank you for seeking my comments and for considering historic properties in planning your project. If you require further information, please contact William Soule, Associate State Archeologist, at phone 916-654-4614 or email wsoule@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan K Stratton for

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

September 19, 2006

Re: Rexland Acres Sewer Line and Lateral Connection Project
EPA Grant XP-96966101-0

Dear Tribal Representative,

The County of Kern has plans to install sewer lines and connections in Rexland Acres. The purpose of the project is to eliminate the use of the existing septic systems and reduce the amount of bacteria and nitrates that are associated with them. The County of Kern anticipates the use of federal funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA has determined that this project is a federal undertaking and that the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act apply.

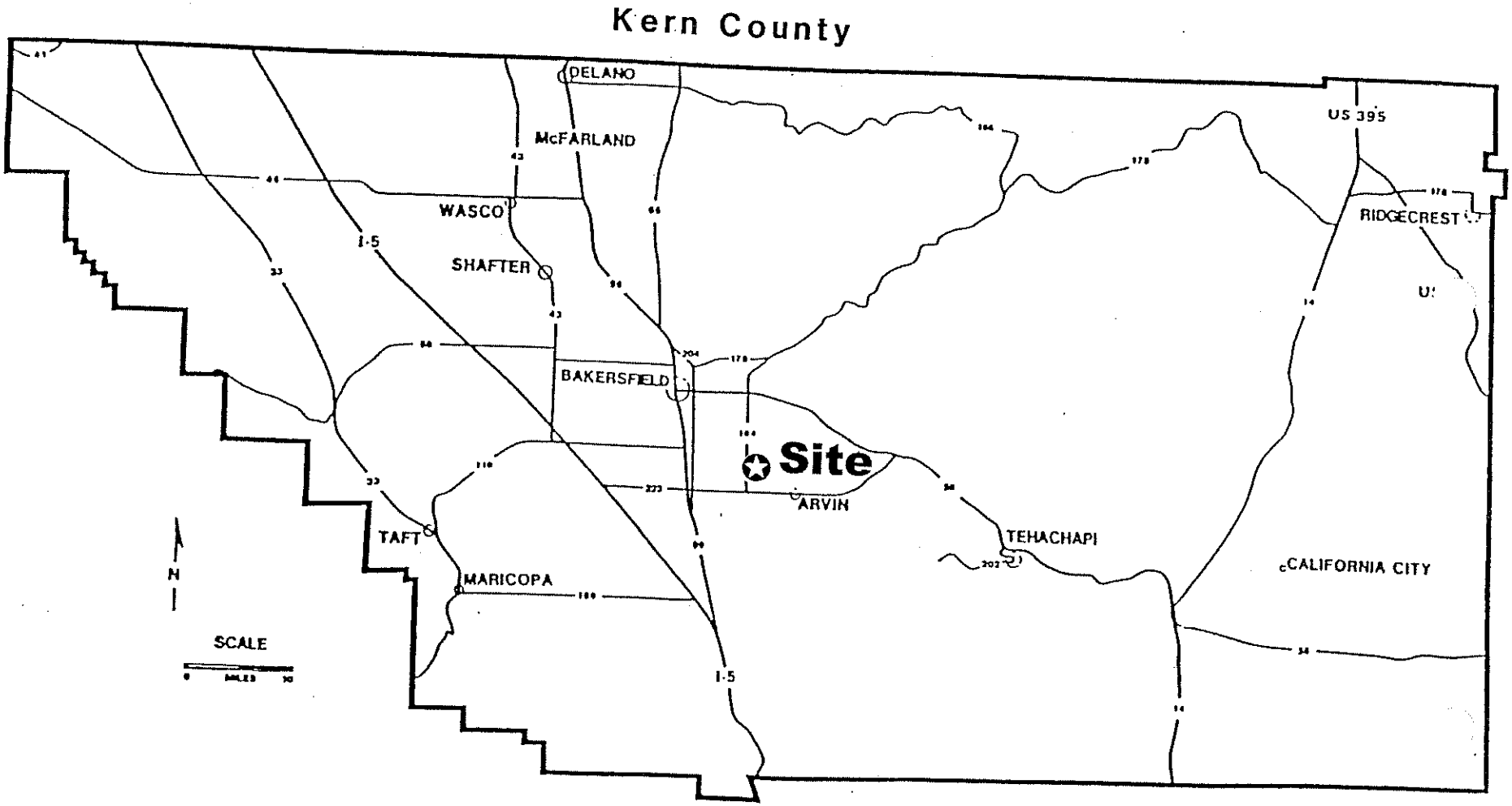
The purpose of this letter is to contact Native American tribal groups to determine whether there are Traditional Cultural Places in the vicinity of the project or other issues of concern. Included is a map of the project area.

Please notify this office if you are aware of any historic properties of religious or cultural significance to the Tribe that may be affected by the proposed project. If we have not heard from you by October 30, 2006, we will assume that there are no areas of concern.

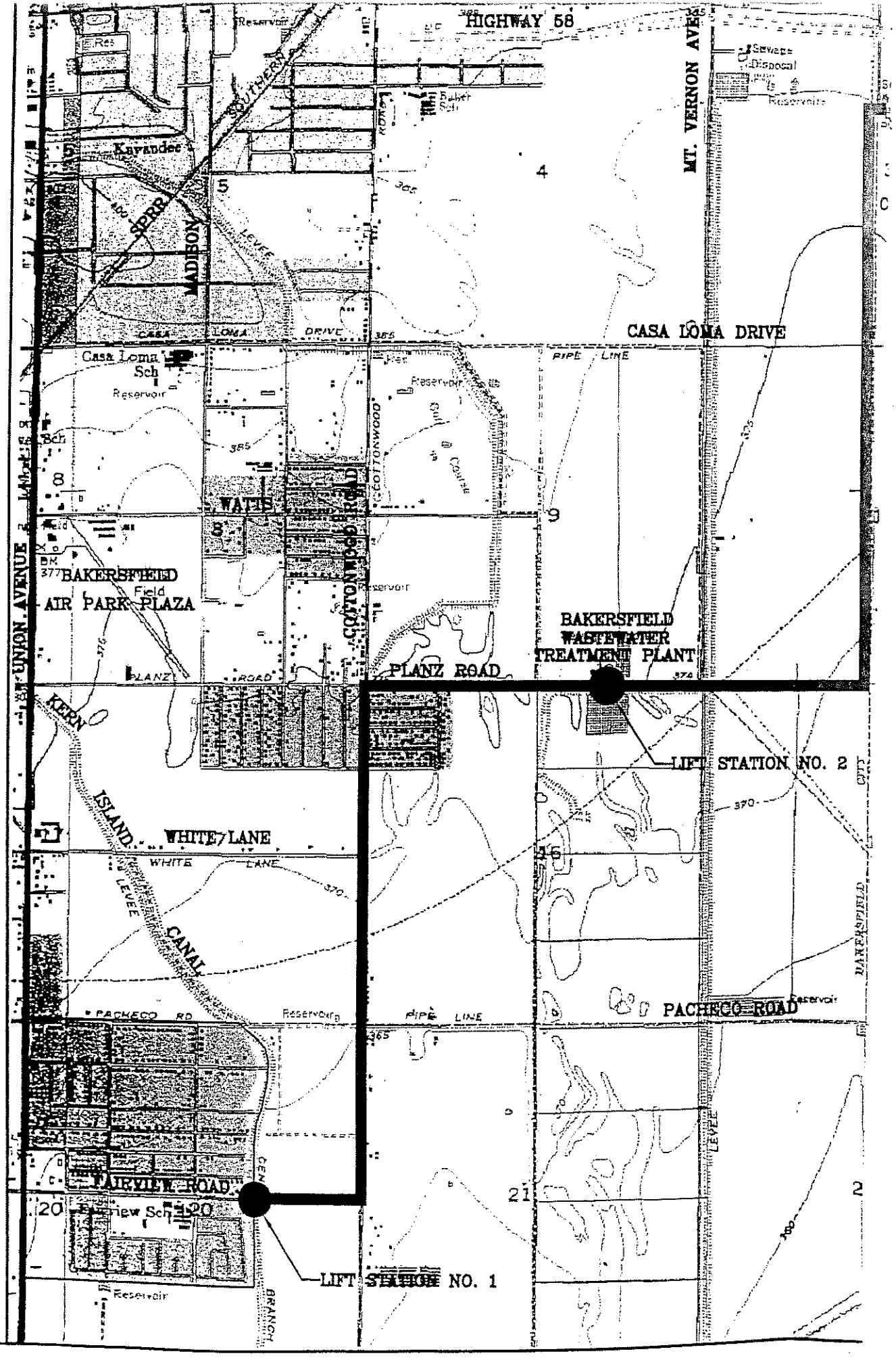
If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (213) 244-1819 or by fax at (213) 244-1850. My email address is Kahan.howard@epa.gov

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.
Sincerely,

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist
Water Division (WTR-4)



Rexland Acres Wastewater System
Kern County Engineering and Survey Services
Sections 3, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 20, and 21, T 30S, R 28E, MDB&M


HIGHWAY 58
MT. VERNON AVE
Sewage Disposal
Reservoirs
Kayandee
SPRR
MADISON
LEVEE
CASA LOMA DRIVE
Casa Loma Sch
Reservoir
PIPE LINE
COTTONWOOD ROAD
WATTS
BAKERSFIELD
Field
AIR PARK PLAZA
UNION AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
PLANZ ROAD
KERN
ISLAND
WHITE LANE
CANAL
LIFT STATION NO. 2
PACHECO RD
PACHECO ROAD
FAIRVIEW ROAD
Fairview Sch
LIFT STATION NO. 1
BRANCH
BAKERSFIELD

STATE OF CALIFORNIA Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION
915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 653-4082
Fax (916) 657-5390
Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov

September 6, 2006

Howard Kahan
United States Environmental Protection Agency

Sent by Fax: 213-244-1850
Number of Pages: 3

RE: Proposed installation of sewer trunk lines and lateral connections in the Rexland Acres, southeast Bakersfield, Kern County

Dear Mr. Kahan:

A record search of the sacred land file has failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area. The absence of specific site information in the sacred lands file does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Enclosed is a list of Native Americans individuals/organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. The Commission makes no recommendation or preference of a single individual, or group over another. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated, if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe or group. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these individuals or groups, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 653-4040.

Sincerely,

Rob Wood
for: Environmental Specialist III

Native American Contacts
Kern County
September 6, 2006

Santa Rosa Rancheria
Clarence Atwell, Chairperson
P.O. Box 8
Lemoore , CA 93245

(559) 924-1278

(559) 924-3583 Fax
mailed 9/21

Tache
Tachi
Yokut

Tule River Indian Tribe
Neil Peyron, Chairperson
P.O. Box 589
Porterville , CA 93258
chairman@tulerivertri
(559) 781-4271

(559) 781-4610 FAX
mailed 9/21

Yokuts

Puilulaw Khus
2001 San Bernardo Creek Road
Morro Bay , CA 93442

mailed 9/21

Chumash

Ron Wermuth
P.O. Box 168
Kernville , CA 93238
warmoose@earthlink.
(760) 376-4240 - Home
mailed 9/21

Tubatulabal
Kawaiisu
Koso
Yokuts

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians
Delia Dominguez
981 N. Virginia
Covina , CA 91722

(626) 339-6785
mailed 9/21

Yowlumne
Kitanemuk

Tejon Indian Tribe
Kathy Morgan, Chairperson
2234 4th Street
Wasco , CA 93280

mailed 9/21

(661) 868-6434 (Work)

Yowlumne
Kitanemuk

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the installation of sewer trunk lines and lateral connections in the Rexland Acres, southeast Bakersfield, Kern County.

Native American Contacts
Kern County
September 6, 2006

Tejon Indian Tribe
Ernie Garcia
23437 Via Gayo
Valencia , CA 91355
661-254-4856 mailed 9/21

Yowlumne
Kitanemuk

Tejon Indian Tribe
Kathy Van Meter, Cultural Res. Team Leader
14035 Rosedale Hwy
Bakersfield , CA 93314
mailed 9/21

Yowlumne
Kitanemuk

Robert L. Gomez, Jr.
2619 Driller Ave.
Bakersfield , CA 93306
(661) 871-4760 mailed 9/21

Paiute
Yokuts
Tubatulabal

Chumash Council of Bakersfield
James R. Leon, Chairperson
P.O. Box 902
Bakersfield , CA 93302
chumashtribe@sbcglo
(661) 836-0486 mailed 9/21
(661) 836-0487

Chumash

Kern Valley Indian Council
Robert Robinson, Historic Preservtion Officer
P.O. Box 401
Weldon , CA 93283
brobinson@mchsi.
(760) 378-4575
(Home)
mailed 9/21

Tubatulabal
Kawaiisu
Koso
Yokuts

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the installation of sewer trunk lines and lateral connections in the Rexland Acres, southeast Bakersfield, Kern County.

Tejon Indian Tribe

Cultural Resource Management Team

October 15, 2006

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist, Water Division
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Rexland Acres Sewer Lines and Lateral Connection Project EPA Grant XP-96966101-0

Dear Mr. Howard Kahan:

Thank you for your recent letter, dated September 19, 2006. This letter is to inform you the Tejon Indian Tribe is very much interested in the information you have sent us.

Knowing that the proposed area is within our native boundaries, we would like to be present during any archeological survey and any surface disturbance.

.

Please contact me for more information.

Kathy Van Meter
TEJON Indian Tribe CRM
661-565-5208
www.kathyvanmeter@aol.com
or
Kathy Morgan
kmorgan@bak.rr.com

Sincerely,

Kathy VanMeter
Tejon Indian Tribe CRMT
2234 4th Street Wasco Ca. 93280

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

September 19, 2006

Re: Rexland Acres Sewer Line and Lateral Connection Project
EPA Grant XP-96966101-0

Dear Tribal Representative,

The County of Kern has plans to install sewer lines and connections in Rexland Acres. The purpose of the project is to eliminate the use of the existing septic systems and reduce the amount of bacteria and nitrates that are associated with them. The County of Kern anticipates the use of federal funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA has determined that this project is a federal undertaking and that the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act apply.

The purpose of this letter is to contact Native American tribal groups to determine whether there are Traditional Cultural Places in the vicinity of the project or other issues of concern. Included is a map of the project area.

Please notify this office if you are aware of any historic properties of religious or cultural significance to the Tribe that may be affected by the proposed project. If we have not heard from you by October 30, 2006, we will assume that there are no areas of concern.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (213) 244-1819 or by fax at (213) 244-1850. My email address is Kahan.howard@epa.gov

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.
Sincerely,

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist
Water Division (WTR-4)

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1460
Los Angeles, CA 90046

April 9, 2007

Kathy Van Meter
Tejon Indian Tribe

Re: Rexland Acres Project – EPA Grant XP-96966101-0

Dear Ms. Van Meter:

Thank you for your interest in the project. Attached are the results of the cultural resources assessment for Kern County. These recommendations include "an archaeological monitor spot check randomly during moving activities" and if human remains are discovered work must halt and the coroner immediately notified." Both of these recommendations will be included as mitigation measures of the proposed project. A copy of the draft County of Kern Negative Declaration and NEPA supplement can be found at http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/rexland/index.html. This version will be updated to include the mitigation measure of "an archaeological monitor spot check randomly during moving activities." The updated hard copy of the Negative Declaration and NEPA supplement will be provided to you once it is available. Please refer any questions you or your staff may have to me at (213) 244 – 1819 or at kahan.howard@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist
US EPA Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd Suite 1460
Los Angeles CA 90017
Water Division (WTR-4)

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1460
Los Angeles, CA 90046

April 9, 2007

Kathy Van Meter
Tejon Indian Tribe

Re: Rexland Acres Project – EPA Grant XP-96966101-0

Dear Ms. Van Meter:

Thank you for your interest in the project. Attached are the results of the cultural resources assessment for Kern County. These recommendations include "an archaeological monitor spot check randomly during moving activities" and if human remains are discovered work must halt and the coroner immediately notified." Both of these recommendations will be included as mitigation measures of the proposed project. A copy of the draft County of Kern Negative Declaration and NEPA supplement can be found at http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/rexland/index.html. This version will be updated to include the mitigation measure of "an archaeological monitor spot check randomly during moving activities." The updated hard copy of the Negative Declaration and NEPA supplement will be provided to you once it is available. Please refer any questions you or your staff may have to me at (213) 244 – 1819 or at kahan.howard@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Howard Kahan

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist
US EPA Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd Suite 1460
Los Angeles CA 90017
Water Division (WTR-4)

A CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR TEN PLUS MILES ON EXISTING ROADWAYS IN SOUTHEAST BAKERSFIELD, KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Prepared by:

Dorothy Fleagle

Three Girls and a Shovel, LLC
Catherine Lewis Pruett
Dorothy Fleagle
Peggy Murphy
2820 Alta Vista
Bakersfield, CA 93305
Phone: 661-861-8711
Fax: 661-324-9656

TG&S Job #100633

KCWMD Work Authorization No. 5 – Rexland Acres Sewer Project

Prepared for:

Frank Bedard
Kern County Waste Management Department
2700 'M' Street, Suite 500
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Key Words: T30S, R28E, Lamont 7.5' series quad (1954), Rexland Acres, survey on existing streets and roads, no resources

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the request of Frank Bedard, Waste Management Specialist, representing the Kern County Waste Management Department (KCWMD), Three Girls and a Shovel, LLC (TG&S) conducted a cultural resources assessment on approximately 10.1 miles along existing streets and roadways in southeast Bakersfield, Kern County, California. The study area is for sewer line right-of-way. The project is being funded by federal and county monies and therefore was evaluated in compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 106 of the National Heritage Preservation Act (NHPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the identification and protection of archaeological resources on lands proposed for development.

The sewer line project encompasses the distance between the Kern Sanitary Authority Water (KSA) treatment connection and within the service area of the community of Rexland Acres.

The cultural resources study included a records search, a pedestrian survey and a report. No cultural resources were observed in the project area and no further archaeological work needs to be done at present. The following is recommended:

1) An archaeological monitor spot check randomly during earth moving activities (earth moving activities include weed removal, digging, trenching, piling and back-filling), and, as always,

2) If human remains are discovered work must halt and the coroner immediately notified (Health and Safety Code 7050.5).

INTRODUCTION

At the request of Frank Bedard, Waste Management Specialist, representing the KCWMD, TG&S conducted a cultural resources assessment for approximately 10.1 miles of existing streets and roadways for the installation of a sewer line to run from the Kern Sanitary Authority water treatment connection and within the service area of the unincorporated community known as Rexland Acres. The project is being funded by federal and county monies and therefore was evaluated in compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 106 of the National Heritage Preservation Act (NHPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the identification and protection of archaeological resources on lands proposed for development.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project consists of ten plus miles in southeast Bakersfield encompassing all of Rexland Acres, including Fairview Road east to Cottonwood Road, north to Planz Road, east to within one-half mile west of Mt. Vernon Avenue, and north almost to State Highway 58 (Figure 1). The project is on land located on Sections 3, 9, 10, 15, 16, 20 and 21, T30S, R28E as depicted on the Lamont and Gosford, CA 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangles. Current plans call for placement of the sewer line on the north of the east/west running streets/roads and west on the north/south streets/roads. Where possible, 30 feet from the center line of the street/road was examined. Individual homes and businesses are outside this project.

RECORDS SEARCH

A Records Search of the subject property and the area immediately surrounding it was conducted at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Archaeological Information Center at California State University, Bakersfield. The records search indicated there have been nine surveys conducted on or adjacent to the project area. Twelve surveys were conducted within one-half mile of the project area and ten surveys have been conducted within one mile. One archaeological resource was reported within one-half mile of the project area. The records search included an examination of the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, California Points of Historical Interest, California Inventory of Historic Resources, California State Historic Landmarks Registry, and the HRIC files of pertinent historical and archaeological data. There are no known cultural resources within the subject property or within a half-mile radius listed in any of the registers.

ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

A recounting of the prehistoric environment of California and the San Joaquin Valley is presented in Michael J. Moratto's "California Archaeology" (1984). The following is excerpted and paraphrased from that source.

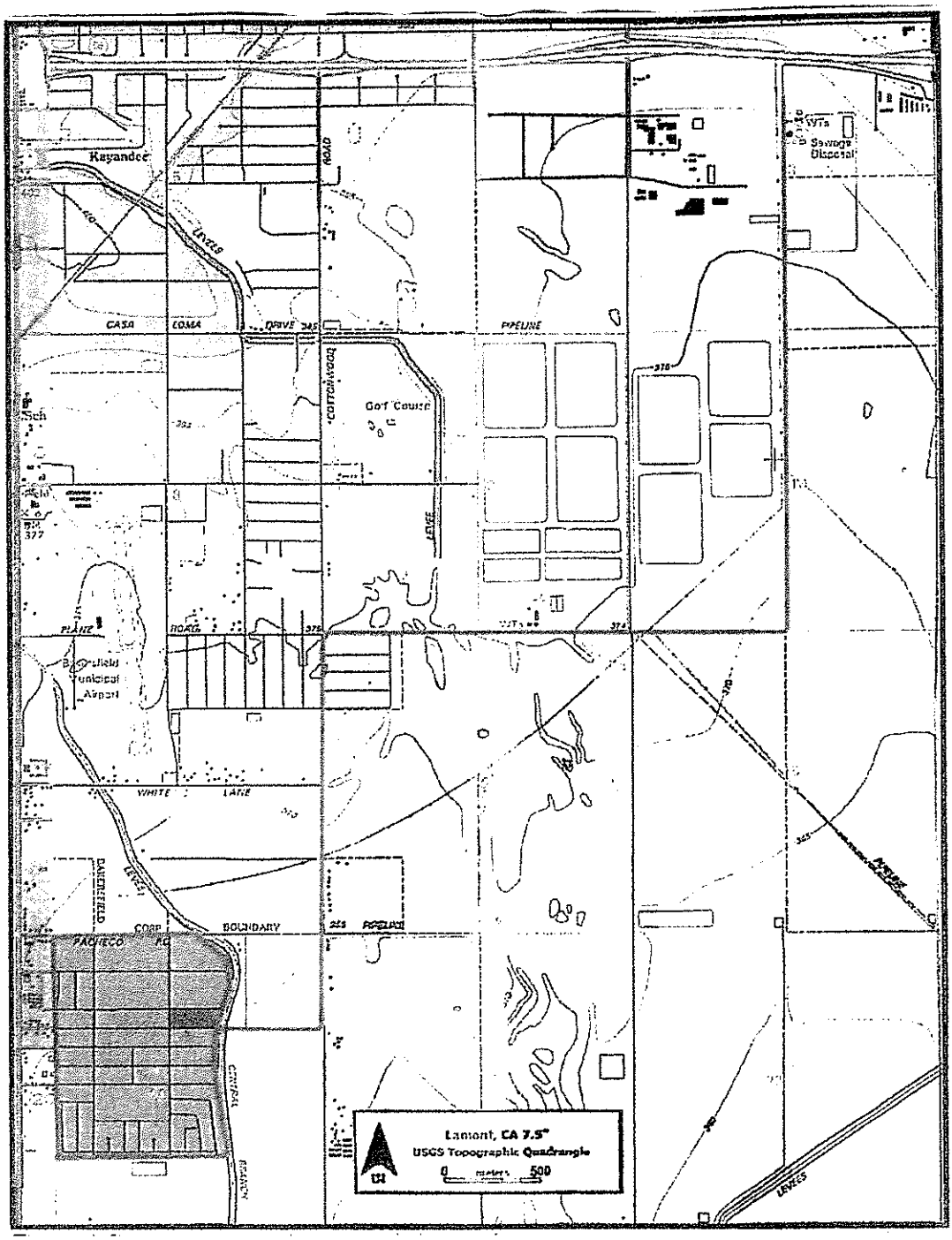

Fig. 1: Project and survey area (in green) as shown on the Lamont, CA 7.5' USGS Topographic Quadrangle.

The pre-contact Native Americans were completely reliant upon their natural resources. They had extensive knowledge about habitats and animals, plants, climate, rocks and minerals. They knew how to place villages to maximize the environmental surroundings. Their cultures were strongly influenced by natural conditions and it is necessary to understand California's environmental setting to understand the pre-historic inhabitants and interpret the later archaeological record.

California covers approximately 157,207 square miles and includes many geomorphic provinces. With such a large area. including a long coastline, mountains, and deserts, there is great variety and contrast in the state's physiography, geology, climate, flora and fauna. Of special concern here is the Great Central Valley, consisting of the Sacramento Valley, the Delta, and the San Joaquin Valley.

The floor of the valley is 750 km long and 30-80 km wide and is enclosed by the Siskiyou, Sierra Nevada, Tehachapi, and Coast Mountain ranges. It is underlain, mainly, by Sierra stream sediments up to 17 km deep. Elevation ranges from sea level to 100 m AMSL, broken only by the 600 m high Sutter Buttes. The Sacramento and San Joaquin River systems drain the valley and merge into the channels and marshes of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The waters later pass through a gap in the Coast Range and empty into San Pablo Bay.

Over the centuries the valley experienced many dramatic environmental changes, including: faunal extinctions and replacement at the end of the Pleistocene, the emergence of wetlands, flooding, massive siltation, cyclical appearance and evaporation of shallow lakes and biogeographic shifts in response to climatic fluctuations.

In ancient times lakes, marshes and sloughs covered more than 5,000 square km in the San Joaquin Valley alone. The largest lake, Tulare, occupied a structural basin created by down warping. Additionally, Tulare and Buena Vista Lakes were partially contained by alluvial fans reaching into the valley from the King's River and Los Gatos Creek. These coalesced into the ridge and lands to the south were so arid that runoff was not able to maintain a discharge through the alluvium. The natural dam thus contributed to the impoundment of Tulare Lake and its swampy basin. A similar projection from the Kern River fan westward to the McKittrick Hills formed a second dam behind which lie Kern and Buena Vista Lakes. At flood levels the Buena Vista and Tulare Lakes spilled into a single basin and with the waters of the Kern, Kaweah and the King's Rivers, flowed into the San Joaquin River system. The lakes are now mostly dry due to historic drainage projects.

The Central Valley was attractive to the early inhabitants. The climate was locally varied, but generally pleasant. Precipitation was also variable and in the southern San Joaquin Valley, where it was scant, the water was supplemented by snowmelt from the mountains. The Central Valley's plains and wetlands had abundant game and vegetal foods. The bottomlands produced lush swamp vegetation valued for food, fiber and building materials. Riparian woodlands grew along the watercourses. The waterways also provided the habitats for river mussels and many species of fish. Steatite and asphaltum

occurred in the southern part of the valley and salt deposits were found in the north. With so many abundances, resources that were lacking, such as obsidian, were easily obtainable through trade with outside areas. With such an abundance of resources and comfortable living conditions, the eighteenth century aboriginal population was 105,000, with 53,000 people in the Sacramento Valley and 52,000 in the San Joaquin.

During the long prehistory of the Central Valley there have been diverse and changing environments, along with many population movements, waves of cultural influences from neighboring groups and a complex interplay between local and regional cultural forces. The oldest evidence for occupation of the valley comes from Tracy, Tulare and Buena Vista Lakes and dates to about 11,500-7,500 years ago. Since the floor of the valley is covered with a thick layer of alluvium, it is likely that most of the earliest habitation evidence lies buried beneath it. This would account for the modest antiquity of artifacts, especially in the valley lowlands of the San Joaquin and Sacramento River drainages. In these areas 10-m of sediments have accumulated just during the past 5,000-6,000 years.

ETHNOGRAPHY: SOUTHERN VALLEY YOKUTS

The Yokuts have been broken into three geographical divisions, the Northern, Foothill and Southern Valley Yokuts. The project area lies within the territory of the Southern Valley Yokuts. William J. Wallace (1978) excerpts the following information from the "Southern Valley Yokuts."

The territory of the Southern Valley Yokuts included Tulare, Buena Vista and Kern Lakes, their connecting sloughs and the lower portion of the Kings, Kaweah, Tule, and Kern Rivers. The area consisted of extensive swamps and marshlands that provided an enormous variety and abundance of wildlife and aquatic flora. The southern San Joaquin Valley received only 5-10 inches of rain annually and was dependent upon the additional water being brought in from the melting snows of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. As the Yokuts adapted to this abundance of subsistence resources they developed a culture of comparatively greater material wealth and tended to live in large, more permanent settlements. It is estimated that this way life lasted approximately 2,000 years. At the beginning of the historic period 15 different Yokuts groups were identified in the area.

Adapting to their environment, the Southern Valley Yokuts developed a mixed economy subsistence pattern. It emphasized fishing, hunting waterfowl, and collecting shellfish, roots, and seeds. Most of their region was treeless except for cottonwoods, sycamores, and willows that lined the river channels and sloughs. Oaks did not extend very far onto the valley floor and therefore acorns were not readily available. They were generally obtained by trade with neighboring groups.

Small land mammals and birds were only a small portion of the native diet and the Southern Valley Yokuts rarely ventured into the open country to capture antelope and

elk. They did, however, capture many of the larger mammals when they came to the lakes and sloughs for water.

Various cooking methods were employed. Tule roots and seeds were ground into meal, mixed with water, and stone-boiled in baskets. Fish and meat were broiled and roasted on coals and ashes. Small earth ovens were used to bake both vegetable and animal foods. Salt grass was used for seasoning. Firewood was at a premium and dried tules were usually substituted.

Single family residences were constructed by using long poles, limbs or sticks with one end set on the ground in an oval pattern, the other ends brought together at the top of form a frame that was then covered with mats made from the tule reeds. Some groups, using the same materials, built a distinctive long, steep roofed communal house. This structure would shelter ten or more families. Each family would have a fireplace and outside door. Along the front of the house a long open shade porch was constructed and many of the domestic activities, such as cooking, were performed there. Additionally, each village had a communally owned sweathouse. The men did their daily sweating and occasionally slept there.

Clothing worn by the Southern Valley Yokuts was minimal. Males were either naked or used a breechcloth. Females wore a narrow fringed apron in front and a larger back piece. In cold weather both sexes wrapped themselves in skin cloaks. Generally feet were bare, though simple skin moccasins were used when traveling over rocky, brushy terrain. The hair was worn long by men and women and held in place by string ties around the forehead. Women, who bore the heaviest burdens, wore basketry caps to protect the forehead from the tumpline band when carrying heavy burdens. Men carried loads in net backpacks held by a chest strap. Mainly women wore simple design tattooing. The design consisted of lines, zigzags, and rows of dots down the chin and across from the corners of the mouth. Children had their earlobes and nasal septa pierced for insertion of an ornament.

The Yokuts technology was also shaped by the source of raw materials available. The very important tule provided the basis for their highest technological skill – basket weaving. The baskets varied in shape and use and included bowl-shaped cooking containers, conical burden baskets, flat winnowing trays, seed beaters, and a unique necked water bottle. Wood and stone crafts were quite undistinguished. Wood and many lithic materials were imported. Stone mortars and pestles were obtained by trade. Marine shells were secured from trade with coastal peoples and used for currency and personal adornment.

Canoe-shaped rafts were constructed of dried tules and constituted the Yokuts favored mode of travel. The rafts could hold six people and their belonging.

The basic domestic and economic unit in Southern Valley Yokuts society was the nuclear family. The families were grouped into patrilineal totemic lineages. A totem, an animal or bird, was a symbol representing the father's line. The totem was dreamed

about, prayed to, and forbidden to kill or eat by that lineage. The lineage was a mechanism for transmitting offices, performing certain ceremonial duties, and creating mutual loyalties. These lineages were further organized into two moieties, or groups. The moieties had little to do with day-to-day life, but did serve certain functions. They would serve as opposing teams for games and as reciprocal groups in mourning rites and first fruits ceremonies. Moiety exogamy was customary but no absolute.

There was no overall political unity among the tribes. They were split into self-governing local groups. Each group had a name, spoke a different dialect, and had a territory that was collectively owned. Some official positions were filled through patrilineal inheritance. The Tachi tribe each settlement had a chief for each moiety and the pair shared equal authority.

Yokuts groups were generally peaceful, but occasional warfare did break out. Fighting was on a small scale and very little ritual was attached to warfare.

There were four occasions regarded as significant and crucial in the life of each Yokuts: birth, a girl's puberty, marriage, and death. Each of these periods required special care, attention, and ceremony.

One of the most important ceremonies was the ritual honoring the tribal dead. This usually took place annually, lasted sic days, and included outside local groups. Gusts came by the hundreds for the festival. The shamans were the only religious specialists of the Yokuts. They also served as "doctors."

Many rituals were accompanied by songs and instrumental music. Musical instruments included a cocoon rattle, bone and wood whistle, flute, musical bow, and a cleft-stick rattle. The major artistic accomplishment of the Southern Valley Yokuts was the decorative patterns woven into their baskets.

No significant number of the Southern Valley Yokuts came under the control of the coastal Franciscan missionaries; however, significant impact to their culture resulted from infiltration of the escaped native from the missions. The runaways introduced foreign practices from their cultures that had suffered greatly from non-practice and practices acquired from the missions. Complete cultural breakdown and near total disappearance of native peoples from the San Joaquin Valley came with the annexation of California by the United States. The land passed quickly into the hands of the settlers. The process was relatively easy since the native peoples offered little resistance.

Because of the early and rapid decimation of the Southern Valley Yokuts and the rapid collapse of their culture, there is relatively little published literature regarding them and ethnographic descriptions obtained from aged informants are certainly incomplete.

FIELD PROCEDURE

A pedestrian survey of the ten plus miles of street/roads involved in the proposed sewer line was conducted by Dorothy Fleagle in December 2006 and January 2007 (see Appendix II for qualifications of personnel). Transects were walked on the north side of east/west streets/roads and on the west side of the north/south streets/roads and always outside existing fences. In two areas, each about a half-block in length, one in Rexland Acres and one on Cottonwood Road, packs of dogs were encountered and surveying was done from the car window. Visibility was good owing to the small area in question.

RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

No cultural resources were observed in the project area and no further archaeological work needs to be done at present. The following is recommended:

1) An archaeological monitor spot check randomly during earth moving activities (earth moving activities include weed removal, digging, trenching, piling and back-filling), and, as always,

2) If human remains are discovered work must halt and the coroner immediately notified (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5).

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APPENDIX I: RECORDS SEARCH

Center for Archaeological Research
California State University, Bakersfield
9001 Stockdale Highway, 24 DDH
Bakersfield, CA 93311

661/654-6161 office
661/654-2143 fax

January 3, 2007

Dorothy Fleagle
Three Girls and a Shovel
2820 Alta Vista
Bakersfield, CA 93305

Re: Cultural Resources Records Search for land located on Sections 3, 9, 10, 15, 16, 20, 21, T30S, R28E of the Lamont and Gosford, CA 7.5'USGS Topographic Quadrangles

Dear Ms. Fleagle:

Per your request, a cultural resources records search (RS#07-001; CAR Project No. 06-54) was conducted for the above-referenced project on January 2 and 3, 2007, at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Historical Resources Information Center at California State University, Bakersfield. The Project Area is described as all of Rexland Acres, including Fairview Road east to Cottonwood Road, north to Planz Road, east to one-half east of Mt. Vernon Avenue, and north almost to Highway 58 (please see project area map in Figure 1).

The results of the records search indicate that there have been nine surveys conducted on or adjacent to the project area. Twelve surveys were conducted within one-half mile of the Project Area and ten surveys have been conducted within one-half to one mile of the Project Area. One archaeological resource (P-15-006011 – a sparse glass and ceramic scatter in 1997) was reported within one-half of the current Project Area. The records search included an examination of the *National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, California Points of Historical Interest, California Inventory of Historic Resources, California State Historic Landmarks Registry,* and the HRIC files of pertinent historical and archaeological data. There are no known cultural resources within the subject property or within a half-mile radius listed in any of these registers.

The Project Area encompassing Rexland Acres and 80% of the linear portion of the Project Area have not been surveyed, and as such, the possibility remains that resources do exist there. At this time, we are not able to ascertain the date of the earliest structure in Rexland Acres, but the potential exists that structures from the 1940s and 1950s may be present in the Project Area. Therefore, we recommend that the proposed project area be surveyed by a qualified archaeologist.

The invoice for this records search will follow. If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 661-654-6161 or by email at rorfila@csub.edu.

Sincerely,

Rebecca S. Orfila, M.A., RPA
Assistant Director

APPENDIX II: QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL

Catherine Lewis Pruett
2820 Alta Vista Drive
Bakersfield, California 93305
661-861-8711

EDUCATION

1987	MA Behavioral Science, CSU Bakersfield
1984	BA Anthropology, CSU Bakersfield
1977	AA Anthropology, Bakersfield College

SPECIALTY:	Archaeology of Southern California, in particular the southern Sierra Nevada and the Tehachapi Mountains areas, the southern San Joaquin Valley, and the western Mojave Desert.
AREAS OF FIELDWORK:	Active in archaeological investigations since 1978. Experience in the central and southern San Joaquin Valley, the surrounding Mountain ranges, and the Mojave Desert.
SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE:	Thirty years of field experience in central and southern California, participation in 500+ surveys and excavations, 14 years as Assistant Coordinator and three years as Coordinator of the Southern San Joaquin Valley Archaeological Information Center. Two years as Assistant Director of the Cultural Resource Facility, California State University, Bakersfield. Eleven years as a private consultant.

A complete vita is available upon request.

Dorothy Fleagle
822 Niles Street
Bakersfield, CA 93305
661-323-5728

EDUCATION:

1996	MA Behavorial Science, CSUB (ABT)
1990	BA Anthropology, CSU Bakersfield
1988	AA Anthropology, Bakersfield College

SPECIALTY: Archaeology of the southern Sierra Nevada Mountains, Great Basin pertaining to Tubatulabal, Western Mojave Desert

AREAS OF FIELDWORK: Experience in the southern Sierra Nevada/Tehachapi Mountains, the southern San Joaquin Valley, the San Bernardino Mountains and the western Mojave Desert.

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE: Sixteen years of field experience in southern and central California, participation in over 500 surveys and excavations. Sic years as staff archaeologist with the Cultural Resource Facility, California State University, Bakersfield and eleven years as a private consultant.

A complete vita is available upon request.

Peggy Murphy
205 Haggin Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309
661-325-0307

EDUCATION:

1989	BA Anthropology, CSU Bakersfield

SPECIALTY:	Archaeology of southern California, in particular the southern Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi Mountains, the southern San Joaquin Valley and the western Mojave Desert.
AREAS OF FIELDWORK:	Active in field investigations since 1985. Experience in the southern Sierra Nevada Mountains, Tehachapi Mountains, the southern San Joaquin Valley, and the western Mojave Desert.
SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE:	Twenty years of field experience in southern and central California, participation in over 500 surveys and excavations. Seven years as staff archaeologist with the Cultural Resource Facility, California State University, Bakersfield and twelve years as a private consultant.

A complete vita is available upon request.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1460
Los Angeles, CA 90046

Mr. Milford Wayne Donaldson
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, California 94296-0001

May 8, 2007

In Response to EPA060626A

RE: County of Kern – Rexland Acres
Grant ID XP-96966101-0

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

The County of Kern has plans to install sewer trunk lines and lateral connections in the Rexland Acres. The purpose of the project is to eliminate the use of the existing septic system and reduce the amount of bacteria and nitrates that are associated with them. The Rexland Acres is a rural community in southeast Bakersfield.

The County of Kern is proposing to pay for this project using federal funding from a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) special appropriation grant. The County also has federal funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA). EPA sent a letter asking for concurrence on June 26, 2006. On August 3, 2006 SHPO requested additional information for the project.

SHPO recommended a Phase 1 archaeological survey. The Survey was completed in January of 2007. The results of the Survey stated that no cultural resources were observed. The recommendations included 1) An archaeological monitor spot check randomly during earth moving activities and 2) If human remains are discovered work must halt and the coroner immediately notified. Both of these recommendations will be added as conditions of the project.

SHPO recommended evidence of consultation with tribal representatives. A letter was sent to tribal representatives on September 15, 2006. This letter did not include a map as stated and a follow up letter was sent to all tribal representatives on September 26, 2006. EPA received one response from the Tejon Indian Tribe. From discussions with the tribe, the following measures will be taken. If human remains or cultural resources are found, the Tejon Tribe will be notified. Also a hard copy of the Negative Declaration will be provided to the Tribe once it is available.

We have been determined that this project is a federal undertaking and the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act apply. Because of the limited amount of ground moving activities and the lack of documentation of cultural resources, EPA has determined that no historic properties will be affected by the implementation of this project and that a finding of No Historic Properties Affected is

appropriate. EPA has also made the determination of no effect to cultural resources. We are seeking your concurrence on this determination. Please inform us within 30 days if you concur with our proposed findings. If you do not reply within this 30 day review period, EPA will consider the lack of reply to indicated SHPO's agreement with the findings.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please refer any questions you or your staff may have to me at (213) 244 – 1819 or at kahan.howard@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist
Water Division (WTR-1)

Enclosure: Cultural Resources Assessment
NAHC contact list
Communication between Tejon Indian Tribe and EPA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE RESOURCES AGENCY ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, *Governor*

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
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May 24, 2007

In Reply Refer To: EPA060626A

Howard Kahan
Environmental Scientist, Water Division (WTR-4)
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Re: Environmental Protection Agency Grant ID-XP-96966101-0 for the Rexland Acres Sewer Line and Lateral Connection Project, Kern County, California.

Dear Mr. Kahan:

Thank you for continuing consultation with me, regarding the proposed Rexland Acres Sewer Line and Lateral Connection Project, pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended 8-05-04) regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the lead federal authority regarding Section 106 consultation for this undertaking which is being proposed by the County of Kern. Earlier in this consultation (SHPO letter of August 3, 2006) I commented that the level of documentation that you submitted with your letter and enclosures of June 22, 2006 was not sufficient evidence that your efforts to identify and evaluation historic properties, efforts which consisted entirely of a records search in regard to archeological historic properties, had been completed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4. I requested at that time that you have an archeological survey completed of the proposed installation alignments for the sewer pipelines needed for the Rexland Acres project. In response to my request, you have submitted your letter of May 8, 2007 and the following report as documentation of your additional identification efforts:

- *A Cultural Resources Assessment for Ten Plus Miles on Existing Roadways in Southeast Bakersfield, Kern County, California* (D. Fleagle; Three Girls and a Shovel, LLC: 2007).

After reviewing your letter and supporting document, I find that I can now concur that your efforts to identify historic properties have been completed pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4. I further concur that your proposed finding of No Historic Properties Affected has been determined pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1). Be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, the EPA may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for seeking my comments and for considering historic properties in planning your project. If you require further information, please contact William Soule, Associate State Archeologist, at phone 916-654-4614 or email wsoule@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan K Stratton for

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

July 19, 2006

Mr. Peter Cross
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W2605
Sacramento, California 95825

Subject: Determination of no effect under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for County of Kern- Rexland Acres, EPA Grant # XP-96966101-0

Dear Mr. Cross

Project Description:

The County of Kern is proposing to construct a wastewater collection system in the Rexland Acres community. The project includes installing sewer lines in the streets and alleys of Rexland Acres, construction of a wastewater force main from a pumping station, located at the west side of the Kern Island Canal, east of Fairview Road, then east 0.3 miles to Planz Road, then east on Planz Road 1.5 miles to a dirt utility road, then north on the dirt road about 1.75 miles to the KSA Wastewater Treatment Plant. A second pumping station may be built on Planz Road about 0.75 miles east of the Cottonwood and Planz Road intersection.

In August of 2004, the County of Kern along with the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (USDA) released a Environmental Information Document (EID), the Negative Declaration with NEPA supplement. The results of the EID state that "the project will not affect any listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat." The information for this decision was based on the approved Kern County Valley Floor Habitat Conservation Plan. The entire project lies within the existing habitat conservation plan and no portion of the project lies with a critical habitat area. The EID was submitted to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service along with the State Department fish and game. No comments were received.

The Finding of No Significant Impact was signed by the USDA on March 13th, 2006. EPA is planning on adopting the EID. A copy of this document can be found at www.epa.gov/region09/water/rexland

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, I have made a determination of no adverse effect to threatened or endangered species or their habitat.

For further information, please call Howard Kahan at (213) 244-1819 or Howard Kahan, US EPA Southern California Field Office 600 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1460 (WTR-4), Los Angeles, CA 90017.

Sincerely,

Howard Kahan

Attached : Map