



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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MAR 18 2015

Ref: 8P-W-TF

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

PROJECT: Southwest Jordan Valley Groundwater Extraction and Treatment Remedial Project, West Jordan, Utah

TO: All Interested Government Agencies and the Public

TOTAL COST: \$ 1,847,818

EPA GRANT: \$ 1,016,300

LOCAL SHARE: \$ 831,518

As required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an environmental review has been performed on the proposed Environmental Protection Agency grant for the above project. The project is proposed to be partially funded by the EPA through a Special Appropriations Grant. Additional funding has been provided for the overall project through local sources and settlement agreements.

The EPA's grant will fund a portion of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD) project to remediate a groundwater plume contaminated with sulfate from historic mining (the Southwest Groundwater Treatment Project). The treated groundwater will be used for JVWCD municipal water supply. Most of the project has been constructed using other funding including: (1) deep wells to intercept and extract contaminated water from the plume in the deep confined aquifer, (2) pipelines to collect the well water, (3) a reverse osmosis treatment plant to treat the water, (4) a finished water pipeline to distribute the potable water to the cities in the affected area, and (5) a 21 mile by-product pipeline to pump the concentrate to Great Salt Lake (GSL) and Kennecott's tailings pond. The EPA funding will be used for several shallow ground water wells and/or extension of the by-product pipeline into GSL. These two remaining components of the project have not been constructed.

Environmental Review

The proposed project will have some environmental impacts as described in the November 2014 Environmental Assessment (EA). The primary impact of concern is the discharge of by-product water from the reverse osmosis water treatment plant to GSL. The impacts from that discharge will be mitigated and controlled through a surface water discharge permit (UPDES) administered by the State of Utah. The permit specifies the water quality limits and outfall location for discharges of by-product water and include monitoring and reporting requirements. Other impacts include construction dust and noise and increased use of groundwater for municipal water supply. This FONSI and EA supersedes an April 2011 FONSI and EA for this grant. Additional analysis has been added to this EA regarding water quality in GSL and the UPDES discharge permit was issued by the State in March 2014.

Preliminary Decision - No Environmental Impact Statement is needed

Since the review process did not indicate that significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action, a preliminary decision has been made that it is not necessary to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for this project. This action is taken on the basis of careful review of the engineering analysis, environmental review record, and other supporting documentation. These materials are available for public review at: <http://www2.epa.gov/region8/region-8-nepa-compliance-documents-index> or at the JWCD Office, 8215 South 1300 West, West Jordan, Utah

Public Comment

Comments concerning this decision may be submitted for consideration by the EPA to:

Bruce Cooper
US EPA, Region 8, 8P-W-TF
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202

After evaluating the comments received, the EPA will make a final decision. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after release of the Finding of No Significant Impact.

Sincerely,



Philip S. Strobel
Acting Director, NEPA Compliance and Review Program
Office of Ecosystems Protection and Remediation