

facilities on the American and Sacramento rivers. A new pipeline would be constructed to convey the water to the City's E.A. Fairbairn Water Treatment Plant and to a point on FSC. Water for EBMUD would then be conveyed from that point through FSC to its terminus, where a new pipeline would be constructed to convey the water to EBMUD's Mokelumne Aqueducts.

The DEIR/DEIS describes the environmental effects of taking delivery of water under EBMUD's contract from the FSC and from the lower American River near its confluence with the Sacramento River. Emphasis is directed toward potential effects related to American River fisheries, endangered species, Central Valley Project water users, pipeline construction, and biological resources in the EBMUD service area.

Public Hearings

Public hearings to receive comments on the DEIR/DEIS will be held as follows:

- December 1, 1997, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the EBMUD Training Room, 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, California
- December 3, 1997, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Littleton Community Center, 420 Civic Drive, Galt, California
- December 4, 1997, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Loel Senior Center, 105 South Washington Street, Lodi, California
- December 9, 1997, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Sequoia Elementary School, 3333 Rosemont Drive, Sacramento, California
- December 11, 1997, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Hart Senior Center, 915 27th Street, Sacramento, California

Requests to speak may be made at the hearing; these speakers will be called upon in order at the meeting. Oral comments/presentations will be limited to 10 minutes per individual.

The hearing facilities have disabled access, but there are no facilities for the deaf. A telephone device for the hearing impaired (TDD) is not available.

DEIR/DEIS Public Inspection and Review

Copies of the DEIR/DEIS are available for public inspection and review at the following locations:

1. East Bay Municipal Utility District, 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA 94607-4240.
2. Sacramento County Water Agency, 827 Seventh Street, Room 301, Sacramento, CA 95814.
3. City of Sacramento Utilities Department, 5770 Freeport Boulevard, Suite 100, Sacramento CA 95822.

4. Sacramento County Clerk-Recorder's Office, 600 Eighth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.
5. Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1704, Sacramento, CA 95825.
6. Bureau of Reclamation, Folsom Area Office, 7794 Folsom Dam Road, Folsom, CA 95630.
7. Library, Bureau of Reclamation, 6th Avenue and Kipling, Room 167, Building 67, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225-0007.
8. Natural Resources Library, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Main Interior Building, Washington DC 20240-0001.
9. Sacramento Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA.
10. Lodi Public Library, 201 W. Locust Street, Lodi CA 95240
11. Caesar Chavez Central Library, 605 N. El Dorado Street, Stockton CA 95202.
12. Science, Social Science & Government Documents Department, Oakland Public Library, 125 14th Street, Oakland CA 94612.
13. Contra Costa County Clerk's Office, 730 Las Juntas, Martinez CA 94553.
14. Alameda County Clerk's Office, 1225 Fallen Street, Oakland CA 94612.
15. San Joaquin County Clerk's Office, 24 S. Hunter, Room 304, Stockton CA 95202.

Dated: October 29, 1997.

Kirk C. Rodgers,

Deputy Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 97-29137 Filed 11-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Proposed Orange County Regional Water Reclamation Project (OCR Project), Orange County, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent (NOI) to prepare a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) and notice of scoping meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) intends to prepare a draft EIS on the proposed Orange County Regional Water Reclamation Project, Orange County, California. Reclamation proposes to partially fund this joint project with the Orange County Water District (OCWD) and County Sanitation Districts of Orange County (CSDOC).

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Two formal scoping meetings in connection with

preparation of the draft EIS are scheduled to be held as follows:

November 18, 1997-3:00 to 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Orange County Water District, 10500 Ellis Avenue, Fountain Valley, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Del Kidd, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Reclamation, (Mail Stop LC-2511), Environmental Compliance Group, P.O. Box 61470, Boulder City, NV, 89006-1470, Telephone: (702) 293-8698 or Ms. Tama Snow, Senior Engineer, Orange County Water District, Advance Planning Group, P.O. Box 8300, Fountain Valley, CA 92728-8300, Telephone: (714) 378-3200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Orange County Water District (OCWD) and the County Sanitation Districts of Orange County (CSDOC) propose to develop an advanced water treatment plant, pipeline and related facilities within the Cities of Fountain Valley, Santa Ana, Orange, Garden Grove, and Anaheim. The OCR Project will further process water from the County Sanitation Districts of Orange County. The water from CSDOC, which is typically discharged into the ocean, will be treated through a sophisticated, advanced water treatment process that will include microfiltration, reverse osmosis and disinfection. The microfiltration process uses a series of microscopically fine filters to remove fine particles, nitrogen, salts, and organic matter that might be in the water. The water from this advanced treatment process will be of better quality than the current water that is infiltrated into the groundwater basin from the Santa Ana River and will surpass (be cleaner and better than) the drinking water standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Health Services and other healths and regulatory agencies.

The water from this process will be piped to injection wells to create a barrier against saltwater intrusion and to spreading fields for infiltration into the groundwater basin. The OCR Project will provide a new, reliable water supply to meet increased demands for potable water within the OCWD service area and continue to protect the existing groundwater from further contamination from seawater intrusion. OCR Project water will also be used to supplement the existing Green Acres Project which uses recycled water for landscape irrigation and industrial applications. The project will help reduce the dependency on the uncertain water supplies currently received from

northern California and the Colorado River.

Extensive evaluations have been conducted over the past seven years to define and determine the feasibility of a reclamation project. A study was performed by OCWD to evaluate the water supply alternatives to meet the future needs of Orange County Water District's customers. The OCR Project was identified to be one of the most reliable and cost effective project alternatives to providing a new local water supply to Orange County. The project is proposed to be implemented in three phases. Phase I is proposed to be implemented by the year 2003 and would supply 50,000 acre-feet per year (afy) (one afy is enough water to supply two families of four for an entire year). Phases II and III would supply an additional 25,000 afy by the years 2010 and 2020 respectively, or sooner if required.

An EIS will be prepared and a full environmental analysis will be completed to address any significant impacts the project may have on the surrounding environment. The draft EIS is expected to be completed and available for review and comment by April, 1998.

The present investigation began in 1994. Since that time, OCWD and CSDOC have held public meetings to discuss study progress with interested individuals and affected agencies. Additional public meetings will be scheduled to encourage public and agency involvement in the study and the environmental analysis.

Dated: October 21, 1997.

John A. Johnson,

Deputy Director, Resource Management Office.

[FR Doc. 97-29142 Filed 11-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Ecosystem Roundtable Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Ecosystem Roundtable (a subcommittee of the Bay-Delta Advisory Council) (BDAC) will meet in November to discuss the following issues: an update on restoration coordination and the CVPIA FY 98 annual workplans. The Ecosystem Roundtable will also meet in December to discuss the following issues: the planning and decision making process for the 1998 funding cycle. Interested persons may make oral

statements to the Ecosystem Roundtable or may file written statements for consideration.

DATES: The Ecosystem Roundtable will meet from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Friday, November 14, and 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 4, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The Ecosystem Roundtable will meet in Room 1412, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA for the November meeting and Room 1131, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA for the December meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: For the Ecosystem Roundtable meeting contact Kate Hansel, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, at (916) 657-2666. If reasonable accommodation is needed due to a disability, please contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Office at (916) 653-6952 or TDD (916) 653-6934 at least one week prior to the meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta system) is a critically important part of California's natural environment and economy. In recognition of the serious problems facing the region and the complex resource management decisions that must be made, the state of California and the Federal government are working together to stabilize, protect, restore, and enhance the Bay-Delta system. The State and Federal agencies with management and regulatory responsibilities in the Bay-Delta system are working together as CALFED to provide policy direction and oversight for the process.

One area of Bay-Delta management includes the establishment of a joint State-Federal process to develop long-term solutions to problems in the Bay-Delta system related to fish and wildlife, water supply reliability, natural disasters, and water quality. The intent is to develop a comprehensive and balanced plan which addresses all of the resource problems. This effort, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (Program), is being carried out under the policy direction of CALFED. The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is exploring and developing a long-term solution for a cooperative planning process that will determine the most appropriate strategy and actions necessary to improve water quality, restore health to the Bay-Delta ecosystem, provide for a variety of beneficial uses, and minimize Bay-Delta system vulnerability. A group of citizen advisors representing California's agricultural, environmental, urban, business, fishing, and other interests who have a stake in finding long term

solutions for the problems affecting the Bay-Delta system has been chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) as the BDAC to advise CALFED on the program mission, problems to be addressed, and objectives for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. BDAC provides a forum to help ensure public participation, and will review reports and other materials prepared by CALFED staff. BDAC has established a subcommittee called the Ecosystem Roundtable to provide input on annual work plans to implement ecosystem restoration projects and programs.

Minutes of the meetings will be maintained by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, Suite 1155, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Friday within 30 days following the meeting.

Dated: October 29, 1997.

Roger Patterson,

Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region.

[FR Doc. 97-29112 Filed 11-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Request for Determination of Valid Existing Rights Within the Monongahela National Forest

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of request for determination of valid existing rights, reopening and extension of the comment period.

SUMMARY: The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is in the process of determining whether Mr. Walter D. Helmick has valid existing rights (VER) to surface mine coal on Federal lands within the Monongahela National Forest in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. By this notice, OSM is reopening and extending the comment period during which interested persons may submit relevant factual material on the matter.

DATES: OSM will accept written materials on this request for a VER determination until 5 p.m. local time on November 12, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Hand deliver or mail written materials to: Peter R. Michael, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Appalachian Regional Coordinating Center, room 218, Three Parkway Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15200.