Delta Conveyance Project – Update to Eastern Municipal Water District

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Essential to Climate Adaptation Strategy

01. California faces a future of water instability, more rain, less snow, and more frequent extreme events like drought and flood

02. The Delta Conveyance Project protects against future water supply losses caused by climate change, sea level rise, and earthquake

03. The Delta Conveyance Project helps ensure that the State Water Project can capture, move and store water by making the most of big, but infrequent, storm events
MISSED OPPORTUNITY: If the DCP were operational in 2021, we could have captured and moved 236,000 acre-feet of water into the San Luis Reservoir.

236,000 acre-feet = enough water to supply over 2.5 million people for one year or nearly 850,000 households for one year.
Prudent Public Policy

• 27 million Californians rely on the State Water Project
  • That’s 1 in 12 Americans, including about 6 million disadvantaged community members

• Communities must have confidence in the stability and efficiency of the State Water Project in the face of climate change

• Local resiliency requires a stable SWP
  • Recycling, groundwater management, storage and conservation

• Water managers need functional water infrastructure to meet all water supply needs, including health and safety, economy, environment and water equity.
Proposed Project (Bethany Alignment)

- **Proposed Project**
  - Bethany alignment
  - 6,000 cfs
  - 2 intakes
  - Pumping plant connects the tunnel directly to Bethany Reservoir

- **Alternatives**
  - Central or Eastern alignment
  - 1, 2 or 3 intakes
  - 3,000, 4,500, 6,000 or 7,500 cfs
  - Southern complex with pumping plant and forebay
Worked hard over past 3 years to meet Governor Newsom’s mission

A Very Different Project

• Changing from 2 tunnels to 1 tunnel opened the door to many design and engineering innovations
• The project is downsized, rerouted, redesigned and is responsive to community needs
• Took a fresh look at everything. Built on, but not constrained by, previous work
• Considered ways to minimize noise, traffic, power needs, aesthetic effects, boating and waterway effects, land disturbance
Design Objective: Minimize Project Effects

Some Examples:

• Launch shafts moved away from intakes
• Proposed route avoids the central Delta
• Acreage needed to store tunnel material has been minimized
• Avoid using Highway 160
• Undergrounding power near sandhill crane habitat
• No new barge landings
• No new forebays
Robust Community Engagement

• Environmental Justice/Disadvantaged Community focus using dedicated consultant and based on guidance about best practices from statewide experts
• Extensive coordination with Tribes
• First-of-its-kind Tribal impact analysis and mitigation
• Delta community engagement to obtain local insight during conceptual design/engineering to avoid and minimize impacts
Committed to a Comprehensive Community Benefits Program

Acknowledge and address the reality that impacts are local to the Delta, but direct project benefits accrue to other parts of the state

• Overarching Delta Fund
• Leave-behind infrastructure
• Targeted hiring, job training and business participation expectations
• Open to town-by-town community benefits agreements
Draft EIR Milestone Approaching

Draft Environmental Impact Report released July 27, 2022

• 90-day public comment period
• Draft EIS from Corps to follow for shorter review period
• Final EIR in fall 2023
Questions?
For Comparison

- California WaterFix proposed alignment was through the central Delta