



**CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST  
FOR THE  
PARK ROYAL MUTUAL WATER COMPANY  
WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT,  
SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

**December 18, 2024**

**CEQA Lead Agency:**

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. General Information About this Document

The proposed project is the replacement of existing water distribution piping for the Park Royal Subdivision in Sonoma County, California. This Checklist was prepared to analyze the potential impacts of the proposed project to determine the correct level of compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Park Royal Mutual Water Company is the lead agency under the CEQA. This document describes the Proposed Project, how the existing environment could be affected by the project, the potential impacts of each of the alternatives, and any proposed avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures.

The Proposed Project is Categorically Exempt from further compliance requirements because the CEQA Guidelines grant exemption to the repair of existing public utilities (such as this proposed replacement of existing water supply lines)(see CEQA Guidelines Section 15301. EXISTING FACILITIES). It is also because the implementation of the Project will not have a significant physical effect on the environment and mitigation measures are not required. Note that the pipeline repairs will occur only under existing paved roads and do not require the disturbance of natural habitats or removal of trees. The resulting project will not be visible to the public. Existing ordinances, building codes, and permit conditions will ensure that the repairs are made correctly, safely, and without significant impacts.

## 1.2. Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

No environmental factors would be potentially affected by this project, and none involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” or “Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated” as substantiated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources      | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources              | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils           | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions        | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality   | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning               | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing              | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

## 1.3. PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is the replacement of existing water distribution piping for the Park Royal Subdivision in Sonoma County, California (“Proposed Project”)(see Exhibits). Park Royal Mutual Water Company is a nonprofit organization created to manage the community water supply system of the Park Royal Subdivision. The existing Park Royal water system serves approximately 75 people via 27 service connections. The water supply comes from two wells: Well # 1 is located in the well house at 4460 Abbey Lane; Well 2 is approximately 40 feet North of Well 01. Well 1 has a 5 horsepower submersible pump with a production capacity of 120 gallons per minute. Well 2 has a 5 horsepower submersible pump with a production capacity of 30 gallons per minute. The pumped water fills a 10,000-gallon storage tank and water pressure is maintained by a 1,500-gallon hydro-pneumatic tank, which is fed by a 15 horsepower booster pump from the storage tank. The existing distribution system consists of approximately 4,015 feet of pipes that are either 2 inches or 4 inches in diameter and are buried under Hall Road and under the streets of the Park Royal Subdivision.

The existing distribution system piping is planned to be abandoned in place. The new distribution system piping will be 8-inch diameter C-900 gasketed pipe throughout. The new water lines will be installed under Hall Road (approximately 200 feet), Park Royal Avenue (1,303 feet), Abbey Lane (504 feet), Coronation Drive (998 feet), Regent Court (309 feet), and Drury Lane (525 feet)(see Exhibits). The construction method will be open trench excavation, with the trench being up to two feet wide and eight feet deep. After placement of the pipe, the trench will be backfilled and compacted and the road surface repaved. The Proposed Project will also include new fire hydrants at the end of Regent Court and Crown Court and along Hall Road. The last component of the Proposed Project is a new backup generator. This will be placed inside the fenced water system compound at 4460 Abbey Lane (which already contains the existing storage tank, the hydro tank, and the pumphouse). The generator will be a portable diesel-powered generator that is mounted on a trailer. A small pad will be created for the parked trailer, and the pad will be either gravel or concrete. The Project Area is defined as the sum of the footprints of all of these components: the trenched area that is about 4,460 feet long and two feet wide; the ten fire hydrants (each 1 square foot); and the pad for the mobile generator (about 20 square feet) (see Exhibits).

## 2. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project Area is located within the Inner North Coast Range geographic subregion, which is contained within the Northwestern California geographic subdivision of the larger California Floristic Province (Baldwin et al. 2012). This region has a Mediterranean-type climate, characterized by distinct seasons of hot, dry summers and wet, moderately-cold winters. The Project Area and vicinity is in climate Zone 14 “Northern California’s Inland Areas with Some Ocean Influence”, with maritime air moderating temperatures that would otherwise be hotter in summer and colder in the winter (Sunset, 2021). The Park Royal Subdivision is situated in an un-incorporated, semi-rural area east of City of Santa Rosa in Sonoma County. The topography of the Project Area is flat and is a portion of the Santa Rosa Plain. The elevation ranges from approximately 80 feet to 100 feet above mean sea level. Drainage runs generally to the south. Stormwater is collected in ditches and is directed through pipe culverts to a large ditch along Hall Road, and eventually flows into the Santa Rosa Flood Control Channel. The land uses of the Project Area are rural residential. The surrounding land uses are private estates with gardens or corrals, row crop agriculture, and open space.

## 3. EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

This section identifies any environmental impacts of this project by answering questions from Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, the Environmental Checklist Form. All analyses take in to account the entire 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. Impacts are categorized as follows:

- Potentially Significant Impact is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect is significant, or where the established threshold has been exceeded. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) may be required.
- Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures would reduce an effect from Potentially Significant Impact to a Less Than Significant Impact. Mitigation measures are prescribed to reduce the effect to a less than significant level.
- Less Than Significant applies when the project will affect or is affected by the environment, but based on sources cited in the report, the impact will not have an adverse effect. For the purpose of this report, beneficial impacts are also identified as less than significant. The benefit is identified in the discussion of impacts, which follows each checklist category.
- A No Impact answer is adequately supported if referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved. A No Impact answer is explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards.

## 4. AESTHETICS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In nonurbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 4.1. Discussion

The Project Area is situated in a suburban area that has a mixture of residential estates and agricultural enterprises (row crops and animal pastures).

**a-d)** There is no designated scenic vista in the vicinity of the Project Area. The Project Area is not in the watershed of a wild and scenic river. The Proposed Project would not interfere with any scenic vista. All of the water pipe installations are below ground, and the new hydrant and generator are small and low-profile. Thus, the entire project is essentially invisible and scenic views will not be obstructed. The proposed Project does not propose any new development, construction or physical change to the environment that would directly or indirectly result in any impacts to aesthetic resources or conflict with zoning. The proposed project will not add any new lighting or otherwise compromise any views. Construction of the Proposed Project will introduce heavy equipment and trucks into the viewshed, but this new element is short-term and is buffered by open fields. Implementation of the Proposed Project will have no impact upon scenic vistas or resources, nor will it degrade the existing visual character of the region or introduce new light sources.

### 4.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 5. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 5.1. Discussion

**a,b)** The Project Area is not farmland but is developed land in a private housing association. The subject property is not identified as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the maps prepared, pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency. The parcels are not enrolled in a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, the proposed project will not result in any significant conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses.

**c,d)** The Project Area is not zoned forest land or timberland and does not contain any timber resources (although non-commercial trees are present in small stands). Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project will not convert forest land to other uses.

**e)** The Project Area is not designated as “farmland” (i.e., Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance). Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project will not convert farmland to other uses.

### 5.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 6. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 6.1. Discussion

The proposed project is located within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin. Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the primary agency responsible for assuring that the National and California Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS and CAAQS, respectively) are attained and maintained in the Bay Area.

Graening and Associates LLC estimated the types and quantities of air emissions associated with construction and operation of the proposed project on both the daily maximum level and annual average level. The following air pollutants are assessed in this analysis: Reactive organic gases (ROG); Nitrogen oxides (NOx); Carbon monoxide (CO); Sulfur oxides (SOx); Particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM10); and Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5). The proposed project does not have the potential to emit toxic air contaminants, so toxic air contaminant emissions were not modeled. Construction emissions and operational emissions were calculated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod)®, Version 2016.3.2 (California Air Pollution Control Officers Association, 2017).

Since the project does not involve long-term demolition or grading activities, fugitive dust is not anticipated to be a significant air pollutant source. Furthermore, construction best management practices will be employed, including dust suppression measures. The main sources of construction emissions are exhaust from heavy equipment and tailpipe emissions from cars and trucks. Fugitive dust from ground disturbing activities contributes to particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5). In the operational phase, no direct emissions will occur. The exception is the use of an emergency diesel-powered generator in cases where the power grid is down. The significance of air quality impacts associated with emissions was determined by comparing the maximum daily and annual emissions with the thresholds of significance adopted by the BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines.

a) A project would conflict with applicable air quality plans if it generated significant quantities of criteria pollutants, particulate matter (PM10 or PM2.5), toxins, odors, or if it exceeded the thresholds established by BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines. Air emissions modeling performed for this project demonstrates that the project, in both the construction phase and the operational phase, will not generate significant quantities of criteria pollutants or particulate matter and does not exceed the project-level thresholds established by BAAQMD. Note that the project will implement the BAAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures during construction. The BAAQMD recommends the implementation of all Basic Construction Mitigation Measures, listed in Table 8-2, whether or not construction-related emissions exceed applicable Thresholds of Significance.

The GHG emissions from permitted stationary sources are calculated separately from a project's operational emissions. Permitted stationary sources are subject to a different threshold than land use developments. For example, the GHG emissions from the back-up generator should not be added to the project's total emissions. The generator's GHG emissions should be calculated separately and compared to the GHG threshold for stationary sources to determine its impact level. Since the proposed back-up generator is small, and its use is anticipated to be very infrequent, GHG emissions are below the threshold for stationary sources. Furthermore, the project, in both the construction phase and the operational phase, will not generate air toxins. Therefore, implementation of the project will have a less than significant impact upon implementation of the applicable air quality plans.

**b)** Air emissions modeling performed for this project demonstrates that the project, in both the construction phase and the operational phase, will not exceed the project-level thresholds established by the BAAQMD (2017). This indicates that project emissions are less than significant for cumulative contributions for any criteria pollutant. The project, in both the construction and operational phases, has annual emissions of greenhouse gasses well below the threshold annual quantity. Implementation of the project will have a less than significant cumulative impact upon any criteria air pollutant.

**c)** The project does not emit toxic substances. Therefore, the project will have a less than significant impact upon sensitive receptors.

**d)** Operation of the drinking water system does not generate odors. Therefore, the project will not impact of odors or other emissions affecting people.

## **6.2. Mitigation**

No mitigation is required



**Table 8-2**  
**Basic Construction Mitigation Measures Recommended for ALL Proposed Projects**

1. All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day.
2. All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
3. All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
4. All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 mph.
5. All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
6. Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to 5 minutes (as required by the California airborne toxics control measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
7. All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper condition prior to operation.
8. Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District's phone number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

*NOTE: The BAAQMD recommends the implementation of all Basic Construction Mitigation Measures, listed in Table 8-2 above, whether or not construction-related emissions exceed applicable Thresholds of Significance (BAAQMD 2017).*

## 7. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 7.1. Discussion

A biological field survey was conducted in May 2024 by consulting biologist Geo Graening, PhD. The Project Area contains only developed and ruderal habitats. Vegetation consist primarily of landscape trees and shrubs, such as fruit trees, maple, mulberry, olive, bamboo, grape, iris, lily, rose, ivy, elm, agave and other succulents. Some native species are present, such as valley oak, coast oak, red willow, California poppy, and coastal redwood.

**a)** During the 2024 field survey, no listed species or special-status species were observed within the Project Area. The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) was queried and no listed species or special-status species are recorded within the Project Area. The CNDDDB reported two special-status species in the vicinity of the Project Area: Pitkin Marsh lily (*Lilium pardalinum* ssp. *pitkinense*) and western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata*). The Project Area is also near a nature preserve (Wright Preservation Bank and Slippery Rock Mitigation Bank) that contains federally-listed species and special-status species such as California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), congested-headed hayfield tarplant (*Hemizonia congesta congesta*), Sonoma sunshine (*Blennosperma bakeri*), and Baker's navarretia (*Navarretia leucocephala bakeri*). Construction of the Proposed Project will occur in existing paved roads and landscaped areas. The Project Area does not contain suitable habitat for any listed species or special-status species. No trees need to be removed. Thus, implementation of the Proposed Project will have no impact upon listed species or special-status species.

**b)** The Project Area is located within the general critical habitat boundary of California tiger salamander. However, the Project Area is completely developed and the Proposed Project will not convert or disturb

any natural habitat. Therefore, project implementation will have a less than significant impact upon critical habitat. The CNDDB reported no special-status habitats within the Project Area or immediate surroundings. The Project Area contains no special-status habitats; the Project Area contains only ruderal/developed habitat, and no channels or wetlands are present. Construction of the Proposed Project could result in indirect impacts to channels, wetlands, or riparian habitat by the accidental release of sediment or other pollutants into the drainage ditches that are upstream of these sensitive habitats. To address potential indirect impacts to receiving water bodies from pollution during construction of the proposed project, an erosion and sediment control plan and a spill control and prevention plan will be implemented. These measures will minimize the potential for erosion, sedimentation, or accidental release of hazardous materials such that the potential impact to sensitive habitats is less than significant.

**c)** The USFWS National Wetland Inventory reported no water features in the Project Area (see Exhibits). The nearest feature is a pond to the north and Santa Rosa Creek, farther to the north. An aquatic resources delineation was performed by Graening and Associates, LLC. This assessment determined that there are no channels or wetlands in the Project Area, although there are various roadside ditches in the Project Area. To address potential indirect impacts to receiving water bodies from pollution during construction of the proposed project, an erosion and sediment control plan and a spill control and prevention plan will be implemented. These measures will minimize the potential for erosion, sedimentation, or accidental release of hazardous materials such that the potential impact to water resources is less than significant.

**d)** No designated wildlife corridors exist within or directly adjacent to the Project Area. However, in the vicinity there are wildlife corridors, particularly the nature reserve to the south and Santa Rosa River to the north. Roads and fencelines create barriers to animal movement. Fishery resources exist in Santa Rosa Creek. Implementation of the proposed project will not create any new barriers to wildlife movement. Thus, implementation of the proposed project will have a less than significant impact upon wildlife movement, corridors, and native wildlife nursery sites.

**e,f)** No local policies or ordinances apply to tribal lands. No tribal policies or ordinances conflict with the proposed project. Project implementation does not require the removal of trees. The project area is not within the coverage area of any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan. The Project Area is within the Study Area of the USFWS Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy. However, areas that are already developed, such as the Project Area, were deemed by USFWS to have no impact upon California Tiger Salamander or other target species. No impacts to habitat plans will occur from project implementation.

## 7.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is necessary.

## 8. CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 8.1. Discussion

**a,b)** A California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search was conducted by the Northwest Information Center on the campus of California State University, Sonoma to determine whether prehistoric or historic cultural resources have been previously recorded within the Project Area, the extent to which the Project Area has been previously surveyed, and the number and type of cultural resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project limits. The results of the CHRIS search were returned on June 15, 2024. The archival search of the archaeological and historical records, national and state databases, and historic maps included the following sources: National Register of Historic Places; California Register of Historical Resources; Historic Property Data File for Inyo County; Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility; Built Environment Resources Directory; California Inventory of Historical Resources; California Historical Landmarks; California Points of Historical Interest; and Historical GLO land plat maps.

The CHRIS records search indicates that no cultural resources have been previously recorded within the Project Area, and no resources have been recorded outside the Project Area within the 0.25-mile search radius. No prehistoric resources of any kind have been recorded within 0.25 miles of the Project Area. The CHRIS records search indicates that no cultural resource studies have included portions of the Project Area, but 6 studies have been completed outside the Project Area but within the 0.25-mile records search radius. The studies were completed between 1980 and 2005, and two of the reports found no resources at all. The others involve historical resources such as an old barn and pre-historic resources such as scattered stone tool flakes. During the pedestrian survey, no cultural resources were noted. Additionally, no indication of subgrade cultural materials was noted in areas of exposed ground surface and no paleontological resources or unique geologic units were noted.

Although the potential for discovery of buried cultural materials within the Project Area is very low, it is possible that previously unknown archaeological or historical resources could be discovered during excavation work associated with construction of the project. Inadvertent discovery or damage to archaeological or historical resources would be a significant impact. Similarly, if human remains are inadvertently discovered, this would be a significant impact. However, existing regulations and standard operating procedures protect these resources. In the event that buried cultural deposits (e.g., prehistoric stone tools, historic glass bottles, foundations) are encountered during project implementation, all ground-disturbing activity within 100 feet of the resources shall be halted and a qualified professional archaeologist shall be notified immediately and retained to assess the significance of the find. Construction activities could continue in other areas. If the find is determined to be significant by the qualified archaeologist (i.e., because it is determined to constitute either a historical resource or a unique archaeological resource), the archaeologist shall develop appropriate procedures to protect the integrity of the resource and ensure that no additional resources are affected. Procedures could include preservation in place, archival research, subsurface testing, or contiguous block unit excavation and data recovery.

In accordance with regulations pertaining to the discovery of human remains (California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, and the Public Resources Code 5097.98), if human remains are encountered during project construction, all work within the vicinity of the find shall cease immediately, a 50-foot-wide buffer surrounding the discovery shall be established, and the County Coroner shall be contacted immediately to examine and evaluate the find. If the Coroner determines that the remains are not recent and are of Native American descent, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

Because of the lack of known cultural resources in the Project Area, and the existing regulations and standard operating procedures that protect inadvertent discovery of cultural resources, project implementation will have a less than significant impact.

## **8.2. Mitigation**

No mitigation is necessary.

## 9. ENERGY

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy, or wasteful use of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 9.1. Discussion

**a,b)** The majority of the Proposed Project does not require electricity, as the water system is powered by gravitational flow. The exception are the well pumps, which use electricity to draw water from the wells and lift it into the holding tank. The amount of energy required to run these small pumps is not excessive, and is supplied by Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Implementation of the proposed project will not cause a significant increase in existing energy consumption because there is no change in electricity usage; the project is not a service expansion. No agency plans for renewable energy resources or energy efficiency plans would be impacted as a result of implementation of the Proposed Project. The proposed project will have a less than significant impact upon energy resources.

### 9.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 10. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Directly or indirectly cause 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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 10.1. Discussion

The Project Area is in the following physiographic province: the Coast Ranges section of the Pacific Border Province (Fenneman and Johnson 1946). The surficial geology of the Project Area is “QPc: Plio-Pleistocene and Pliocene loosely consolidated deposits (Miocene to Pleistocene)” (Jennings et al. 1977).

**a-c)** The Project Area is not in a zone of landslide risk or other geologic instability (California Department of Conservation 2022). The Project Area is not on a known earthquake fault as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning. The nearest earthquake fault or trace is over 4 miles away. Thus, the Project Area carries low risk of seismic activity and the proposed project is unlikely to suffer structural damage from seismic-related forces. Furthermore, the Proposed Project does not involve inhabitable structures. Construction of the proposed project will require conformance to applicable seismic building standards (e.g. California Building Code and International Building Code seismic building standards). These standards vary by zone and require structures and infrastructure to be built to withstand seismic effects such as rupture, shaking, or liquefaction. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact regarding seismic forces and failures because of existing seismic building code requirements.

Construction of the proposed project may cause erosion or release of sediment into receiving waterbodies. However, existing laws address this potential impact. The project proponent must enroll under the State Water Quality Control Board’s Construction General Permit prior to the initiation of construction. In conjunction with enrollment in this permit program, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, Erosion Control Plan, and a Hazardous Materials Management/Spill Response Plan must be created and implemented during construction to avoid or minimize the potential for erosion,

sedimentation, or accidental release of hazardous materials. Implementation of these measures mandated by law would reduce potential construction-related impacts to erosion and topsoil loss to a less-than-significant level. No mitigation is necessary.

**d)** According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's soil database "SSURGO/STATSGO", there is one mapped soil unit within the Project Area: "WhA: Wright loam, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes". This soil is not listed as expansive.

**e)** The Project does not involve a residence or human occupation of the site. The project does not include the use of, or construction of, new septic tanks and associated disposal facilities. Therefore, the Project would have no impact upon alternative human waste disposal.

**f)** The Project Area is not recorded as a site that contains fossils, according to the University of California Museum of Paleontology database. Although the potential for discovery of paleontological resources within the Project Area is considered to be extremely low, it is possible that previously unknown paleontological resources could be discovered during grading and excavation work associated with construction of the project. However, standard operating procedures are established by law to protect paleontological resources. In the event that a paleontological resource is inadvertently discovered during Project-related work, regardless of the depth of work or location, work must be halted within 30 feet of the find and a qualified paleontologist notified immediately so that an assessment of its potential significance can be undertaken. If the find is determined to be significant, it should be salvaged following current standards (SVP 2010) and curated at a certified repository such as the University of California Museum of Paleontology.

## **10.2. Mitigation**

No mitigation is required.



## 11. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 11.1. Discussion

**a,b)** Air emissions modeling performed for this project demonstrates that the project, in both the construction phase and the operational phase, will not generate significant quantities of criteria pollutants or particulate matter and does not exceed the project-level greenhouse gas emission thresholds established by BAAQMD. Note that the project will implement the BAAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures during construction. The BAAQMD recommends the implementation of all Basic Construction Mitigation Measures, listed in Table 8-2, whether or not construction-related emissions exceed applicable Thresholds of Significance.

The GHG emissions from permitted stationary sources are calculated separately from a project's operational emissions. Permitted stationary sources are subject to a different threshold than land use developments. For example, the GHG emissions from the back-up generator should not be added to the project's total emissions. The generator's GHG emissions should be calculated separately and compared to the GHG threshold for stationary sources to determine its impact level. Since the proposed back-up generator is small, and its use is anticipated to be very infrequent, GHG emissions are below the threshold for stationary sources. Furthermore, the project, in both the construction phase and the operational phase, will not generate air toxins. Therefore, implementation of the project will have a less than significant impact upon implementation of the applicable air quality plans.

### 11.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 12. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 12.1. Discussion

**a,b)** During construction of the proposed project, surface water quality has a minor potential to be degraded from the accidental release of hazardous materials or petroleum products from sources such as heavy equipment servicing or refueling or from the application of PVC solvents and glues. To address potential indirect impacts to receiving water bodies from pollution during construction of the proposed projects, a hazardous materials management / spill response plan will be implemented as required by law.

Operation of the proposed project will not use any hazardous materials but it will use diesel to run the backup generator. Any utility district or business enterprise that engages in hazardous materials / petroleum product storage, use, and/or disposal would be required to comply with federal, state, and local requirements for managing hazardous materials. These plans include the primary hazardous materials programs administered by the Certified Unified Program Agency as well as other requirements of state and federal laws and regulations. Depending on the precise types and quantities of hazardous materials used, stored, and disposed of from the project site, these requirements may include the preparation of, implementation of, and training in the various plans, programs, and permits:

Aboveground and Underground Storage Tank Permits. Facilities with storage tanks must be permitted. Other plans, such as a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Program, may be required due to the size and type of hazardous materials stored in the storage tank. The SPCC Program provides a detailed engineering analysis of the potential for release

from oil-filled equipment, and describes the measures, such as secondary containment and emergency response, which will be implemented to reduce the release potential.

Hazardous Materials Business Plan (Business Plan). Facilities that use, store, or handle hazardous materials in quantities greater than 500 pounds, 55 gallons, or 200 cubic feet are required to prepare a Business Plan. The Business Plan would contain facility maps, up-to-date inventories of all hazardous materials for each shop/area, emergency response procedures, equipment, and a description of employee training.

The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment, because any proposed use or construction activity that might use hazardous materials is subject to permit and inspection by the County. Furthermore, operation of the project will not require the use of hazardous materials and there will be no human occupation of the Project Area itself.

**c)** The proposed project, and the water system in general, does not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste.

**d)** The following State hazardous materials databases were also queried in June 2024:

EnviroStor is an online search and Geographic Information System tool for identifying sites that have known contamination or sites for which there may be reasons to investigate further. The EnviroStor database includes the following site types: Federal Superfund sites (National Priority List); State Response, including Military Facilities and State Superfund; Voluntary Cleanup; and School sites.

GeoTracker is a geographic information system maintained by the California State Water Resources Control Board.

The Project Area is not on any list of hazardous materials sites. There are leaking underground storage tank cases nearby, but all of these cases are closed after having been remediated.

**e)** The Project Area is not within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. There is no conflict with any airport land use plan.

**f)** The project will not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, because the Proposed Project will implement a traffic control plan that will ensure that at least one lane is open on public roads that are involved in the project.

**g)** The Project Area is located on areas that are paved, graveled, landscaped or mowed, or otherwise lacking in dense natural vegetation. Fire breaks exist in the form of roads. Existing laws, such as requirements for maintenance of defensible space around structures and fire safety requirements, would reduce potential wildfire risks. The project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires. No new buildings are proposed that house humans. There is no increased risk for wildfire due to operation of the proposed project. Adherence with existing regulations and best management practices, such as requirements for maintenance of defensible space, the use of spark arrestors, and implementation of a construction fire safety plan, would mitigate fire risks. Implementation of the proposed project will have a less than significant impact upon the risk of wildfire. The combination of these existing regulations and protective measures would reduce fire risk to a less-than-significant level.

## 12.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 13. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would: (i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site; (ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site; (iii) 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; or (iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 13.1. Discussion

Drainage runs generally to the south. Stormwater is collected in ditches and is directed through pipe culverts to a large ditch along Hall Road, and eventually flows into the Santa Rosa Flood Control Channel. The Project Area is located in the Lower Laguna De Santa Rosa watershed (HUC 180101100704), which is a tributary of the Russian River. The Project Area is located within the plan area of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast (Basin Plan). The Basin Plan establishes water quality objectives.

The Project Area is located within the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Basin. According to the USEPA, the Project Area is not located in a sole source aquifer (USEPA, 2022). The Park Royal Mutual Water Company supplies their residents with drinking water, which derives from groundwater wells.

An aquatic resources assessment for the presence of potentially-jurisdictional water resources within the Project Area was performed by Graening and Associates, LLC. This assessment determined there are no channels within the Project Area. Although there are many roadside ditches in the Project Area, none of them are jurisdictional channels. This aquatic resources assessment also determined that there are no wetlands within the Project Area. The nearest feature is a pond to the north and Santa Rosa Creek, farther to the north.

**a)** The entire Project Area is located in uplands and contains no channels or wetlands (i.e., no jurisdictional waters of the United States). Thus, Project construction will not directly impact any surface water bodies. Operation of the project does not produce liquid waste discharge. To address potential indirect impacts to receiving water bodies from pollution during construction of the proposed project, an erosion and sediment control plan and a hazardous materials management/spill response plan will be created and implemented during construction spill control plan will be implemented. With mitigation, implementation of the proposed project will have a less than significant impact upon water quality.

**b)** The Proposed Project does not increase water consumption. The Proposed Project is simply an infrastructure improvement to an existing water supply system, and does not involve expansion or increased water use. There will be no impacts to groundwater resources.

**c)** Implementation of the proposed project will not alter drainage patterns or hydrology because the Project Area is in upland areas and does not contain any water resources (channels or wetlands). The proposed project will have a less than significant impact upon drainage patterns and other hydrologic issues.

To protect water quality and aquatic habitats from potential release of sediment during construction, an erosion and sediment control plan will be created and implemented. Note that if a construction project disturbs at least 1 acre of land, the project proponent must obtain coverage under the General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity (Construction General Permit, 2009-0009-DWQ) prior to the initiation of construction. In conjunction with enrollment under this Permit, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, Erosion Control Plan, and a Hazardous Materials Management/Spill Response Plan must be created and implemented during construction to avoid or minimize the potential for erosion, sedimentation, or accidental release of hazardous materials. Implementation of these measures mandated by law would reduce potential construction-related impacts to water quality to a less-than-significant level. For projects that disturb less than 1 acre of land, the County still requires implementation of an Erosion Control Plan.

No mitigation is necessary.

**d)** The Proposed Project will not be impacted by seiche or tsunami because the project is not adjacent to any body of water that has the potential of seiche or tsunami, such as the Pacific Ocean. The Project Area is not near the ocean or on a steeply sloped hill. Implementation of the proposed project will have no impact on the environment from inundation from seiche or tsunami.

According to the FEMA Flood Insurance Map Program (FEMA 2024), the Project Area is not in a flood zone. To the north there is the Santa Rosa Flood Channel, which is mapped by FEMA as a flood hazard area, but this is about 1,000 feet from the Project Site. Thus, there will be no impact from flood hazards.

**e)** The Proposed Project would conflict with, or obstruct implementation of, the Basin Plan if it discharged pollutants into surface waters or groundwater or violated any water quality objectives or impaired beneficial uses. Operation of the Proposed Project does not discharge pollutants into the environment. Water quality will be protected from sediment during construction by implementation of an erosion control plan during construction. Implementation of the proposed project will have no impact upon water quality plans.

## **13.2. Mitigation**

No mitigation is necessary.

## 14. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 14.1. Discussion

**a,b)** Because the Project Area is located within the Bishop Paiute Reservation and is in federal trust, it is not subject to County zoning or the General Plan or other county policies. The Proposed Project does not conflict with tribal ordinances or zoning. The Proposed Project will not physically divide an established community because the project does not involve the construction of barriers, such as new roads, and because no one will be displaced from their homes. The Proposed Project is simply the improvement of an existing, water distribution system that is compliant with all applicable land use policies and regulations. Therefore, the project will have no impact upon land use and planning.

### 14.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 15. MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 15.1. Discussion

**a,b)** The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act requires that local jurisdictions enact planning procedures to guide mineral conservation and extraction at particular sites and to incorporate mineral resource management policies into their general plans. On this basis, it is presumed that counties would, as needed and as applicable, encourage the conservation (i.e., protection from incompatible land uses) of areas designated as having substantial potential for mineral extraction and discourage development that would substantially preclude the future development of mining facilities in these areas. The potential for the extraction of substantial mineral resources from lands classified by the State as areas that contain mineral resources (Mineral Resource Zone [MRZ]-3) would be considered by counties at a local level when making land use decisions. For these reasons, no significant impacts are anticipated related to the availability or use of a known, valuable mineral resource, either at a program level or cumulatively.

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act Mineral Lands Classification data portal is a geographic information system provided by the Department of Conservation through data maintained by the California Geological Survey. The Mineral Lands Classification database does not designate the Project Area. The Project Area is generally near aggregate resource extraction areas, but it will not impact any mineral resource zone and will have no impact upon mineral resources.

### 15.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 16. NOISE

Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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 reside or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 16.1. Discussion

The existing noise environment consists of rural setting with residences, road corridors, and agricultural activities. Noise sources consist primarily of vehicular traffic along public roads and state highways. The nearest sensitive receptors to the Project Area are residences.

**a,b)** Construction of the proposed project will generate temporary noise from the operation of heavy equipment and from vehicles that deliver materials or worker commutes. The anticipated duration of construction is only a few weeks. The County noise ordinance limits the hours of construction to times when people are typically awake or at work. Ground vibrations from heavy machinery will be generated, but could only be felt within a few hundred feet of the project area. No blasting is necessary. The construction period is of short duration. Operation of the water supply system does not generate noise. Operation of the emergency generator would occur only during power loss, and would only be run for short duration. Therefore, construction of the proposed project will have a less than significant noise or vibration impact.

c) The nearest airport is Schulz–Sonoma County Airport, 10 miles to the north of the Project Area. Implementation of the Proposed Project will not subject residents to excessive noise levels.

### 16.2. MITIGATION

No mitigation is necessary.



### 16.3. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 16.4. Discussion

**a,b)** The Proposed Project improves and modernizes an existing water supply system, but it does not increase service capacity. Thus, implementation of the project cannot significantly induce population growth or expand utility services. No families or businesses will be displaced by the development of this Proposed Project.

### 16.5. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 17. PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) 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 other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 17.1. Discussion

**a, i-v)** In the Project Area, public services are provided primarily by the County. The Proposed Project would not induce growth or otherwise substantially increase demand for public services. The project is simply the improvement of an existing water supply system. Therefore, there would be no impact to public services.

### 17.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 18. RECREATION

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 18.1. Discussion

**a-b)** There are no public parks or recreational facilities within a mile of the Project Area. The parks closest to the Project Area is Finley Community Park. The Proposed Project would not involve parks or recreational facilities, and does not induce growth because no utility expansion is proposed. The Proposed Project would not have any potential to cause or accelerate physical deterioration of recreational facilities, or include or require construction, expansion, or increased use of such facilities. The Proposed Project would have no impact upon recreation resources.

### 18.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 19. TRANSPORTATION

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 19.1. Discussion

**a-e)** Regional transportation patterns consist of: through-traffic on State Route 101 going north and south State Route 12 which runs east – west. Hall Road also provides local movement east-west. These roads currently operate at acceptable Levels of Service. Construction of the proposed project is not anticipated to generate substantial numbers of vehicle trips on public roads. The daily trip estimate is 2 to 8 roundtrips per day with pickup trucks and equipment operators for up to several weeks, and 1 roundtrip per week for tractor-trailers carrying materials or heavy equipment. This low number of total trips resulting from construction will not lower the Level of Service on any roadway.

Construction of the Proposed Project does not require road closures, but it will require a temporary lane closure on Hall Road and the residential roads of the Park Royal Subdivision. The County requires a traffic control plan for lane closures. The traffic control plan that will be implemented for this project during construction will ensure that emergency vehicles may still pass through all roads and that the traffic flow is not significantly disrupted. The proposed project does not propose any new development, construction or physical change to the environment that would directly or indirectly result in any impacts to on-ground transportation and traffic, including emergency access. There will be a less than significant impact to circulation systems and emergency access.

### 19.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is necessary.

## 20. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code §21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code §5020.1(k), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code §5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code §5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 20.1. Discussion

a) No tribal cultural resources listed in, or eligible for listing in the California or national registers, were identified in the Project Area through the database research or during the pedestrian survey. Therefore, no impact would occur to previously recorded or known tribal cultural resources. While unlikely, there is the potential to encounter previously unidentified tribal cultural resources during construction. However, existing regulations and standard operating procedures protect these resources. In the event that buried tribal cultural resources are encountered during project implementation, all ground-disturbing activity within 100 feet of the resources shall be halted and a qualified professional archaeologist shall be notified immediately and retained to assess the significance of the find. Construction activities could continue in other areas. If the find is determined to be significant by the qualified archaeologist (i.e., because it is determined to constitute either a historical resource or a unique archaeological resource), the archaeologist shall develop appropriate procedures to protect the integrity of the resource and ensure that no additional resources are affected. Procedures could include preservation in place, archival research, subsurface testing, or contiguous block unit excavation and data recovery.

Because of the lack of known cultural resources in the Project Area, and the existing regulations and standard operating procedures that protect inadvertent discovery of cultural resources, project implementation will have a less than significant impact.

Note that AB 52 tribal consultation does not apply to projects that are exempt from CEQA; consultation pursuant to AB 52 is not necessary for the Proposed Project because it is categorically exempt from CEQA and because the Proposed Project will not adversely impact any cultural resources.

### 20.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is necessary.

## 21. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Negatively impact the provision of solid waste services or impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 21.1. Discussion

**a,b,c,d,e,f)** The Park Royal Mutual Water Company supplies their residents with drinking water. Wastewater collection and other services are provided by the County. Implementation of the Proposed Project will not require any significant relocation or construction of new utility facilities. The Proposed Project would not significantly expand the water supply system such that it induces growth because the proposed project is addressing only current deficiencies in the system. The Proposed Project itself will not generate wastewater or solid waste. Therefore, the Proposed Project will have a less than significant impact upon utilities and service systems.

### 21.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 22. WILDFIRE

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 22.1. Discussion

**a-d)** The Public Resources Code includes fire safety regulations that apply to fire hazard areas during the time of year designated as having hazardous fire conditions. During the fire hazard season, these regulations restrict the use of equipment that may produce a spark or fire, require the use of spark arrestors on engines, and specify fire-suppression equipment that must be provided on-site for various types of work in fire-prone areas. Public Resources Code section 4291 provides that a person who maintains a building or structure on land that is covered with flammable material shall at all times maintain defensible space. The Project Area is located on areas that are paved, graveled, landscaped or mowed, or otherwise lacking in dense natural vegetation. Fire breaks exist in the form of roads. The Project Area is located within a local responsibility area (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2024).

Existing laws, such as requirements for maintenance of defensible space around structures and fire safety requirements, would reduce potential wildfire risks. The project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires. No new buildings are proposed that house humans. There is no increased risk for wildfire due to operation of the proposed project. Adherence with existing regulations and best management practices, such as requirements for maintenance of defensible space, the use of spark arrestors, and implementation of a construction fire safety plan, would mitigate fire risks. Implementation of the proposed project will have a less than significant impact upon the risk of wildfire. The combination of these existing regulations and protective measures would reduce fire risk to a less-than-significant level.

### 22.2. Mitigation

No mitigation is required.

## 23. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 23.1. Discussion

**a) Environmental Quality.** The Project would not 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, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community. The Project would not impact rare or endangered wildlife species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The rationale for making this determination has been presented in the preceding chapters.

**b,c) Cumulative Impacts and Adverse Effects on Human Beings.** The Project would not result in adverse impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable and would not involve substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. All of these potential effects would be less than significant with implementation of existing regulations or mitigation measures identified in this document and would not contribute in considerable levels to cumulative impacts.



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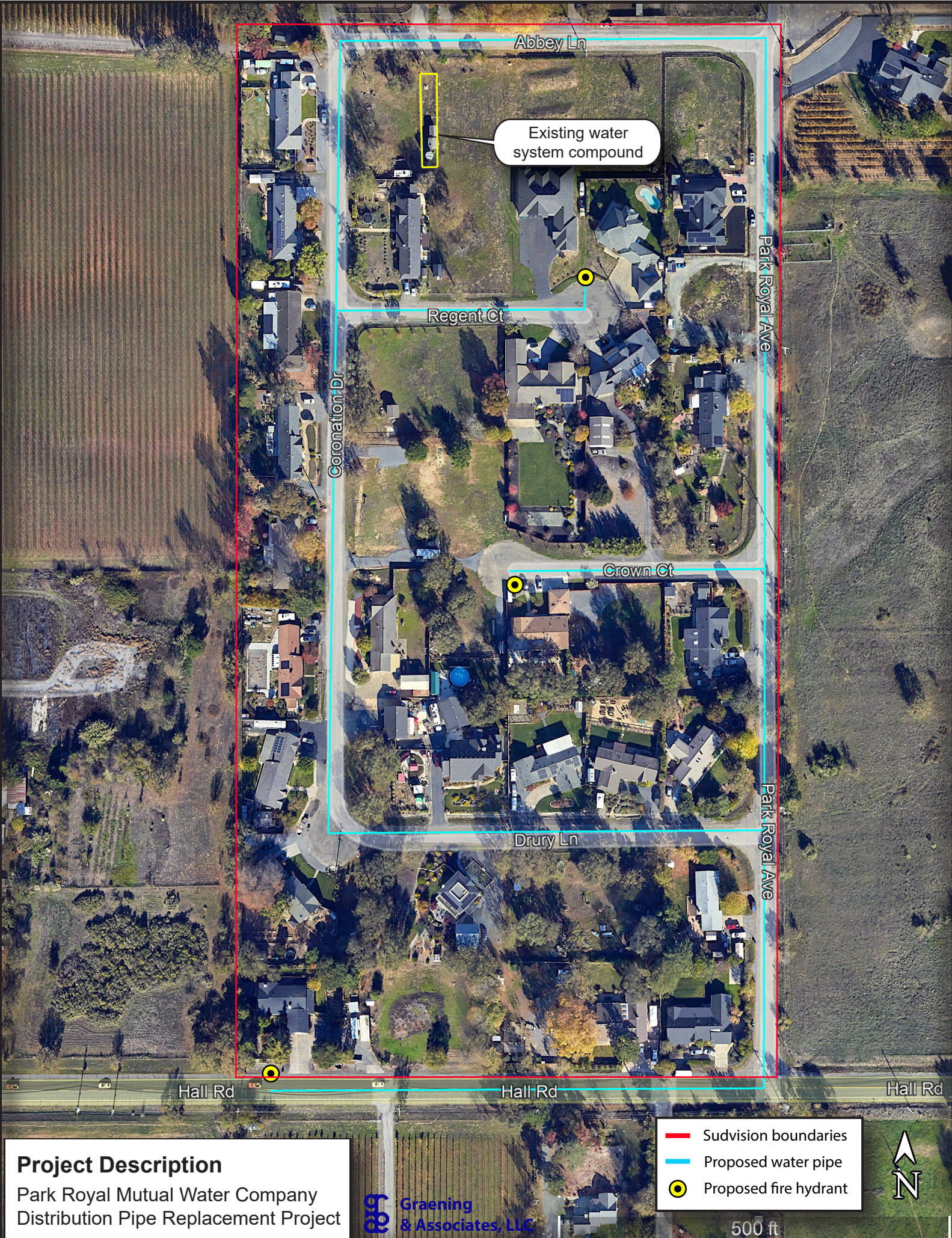
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## EXHIBITS



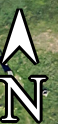


## Project Description

Park Royal Mutual Water Company  
Distribution Pipe Replacement Project

**Graening  
& Associates, LLC**

- Subdivision boundaries
- Proposed water pipe
- Proposed fire hydrant



500 ft





## Abbey Lane

4460 Abbey Lane

Gate

Transformer

Well 2



Proposed location  
for new generator

Fence

Hydro Tank

Pump House

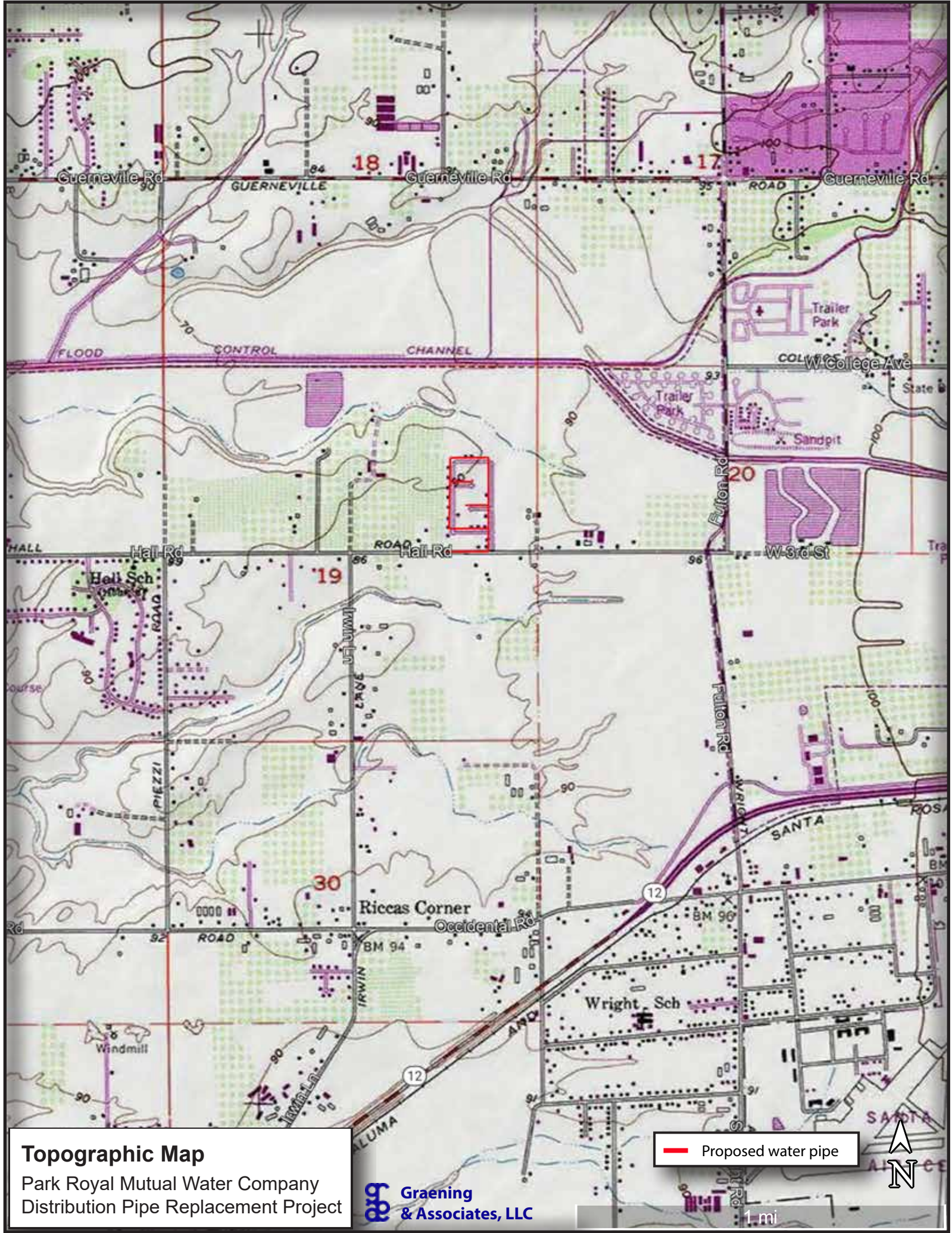
Storage Tank

0 20 40  
Ft

### Project Description Detail

Park Royal Mutual Water Company  
Distribution Pipe Replacement Project






## Topographic Map

Park Royal Mutual Water Company  
Distribution Pipe Replacement Project

 **Graening  
& Associates, LLC**

 Proposed water pipe



1 mi



Santa Rosa Creek

Piner Creek

Mancini Rd

Hall Rd

Hall Rd

Hall Rd

Streibel Rd

Abbey Ln

Coronation Dr

Drury Ln

Park Royal Ave

Proposed water pipe

Wetland mapped by N.W.I.

Channel mapped by N.W.I.

## National Wetland Inventory Data

Park Royal Mutual Water Company  
Distribution Pipe Replacement Project

Graening  
& Associates, LLC

1000 ft





## APPENDIX: SITE PHOTOS



















