

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2025110233

Project Title: Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project

Lead Agency: City of Santa Barbara

Contact Name: Kelly Bourque

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Project Location: Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara

City

County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The proposed Project would replace aging water infrastructure and implement improvements to enhance the reliability, resiliency, and operational flexibility of the City's water system. The Project would involve demolition of the existing 10-million-gallon Vic Trace Reservoir and construction of two new 5-million-gallon reservoirs at the same site. The new reservoirs would be fully buried below finished grade with soil cover. Additional onsite improvements include replacement of the existing Valve Building with a new facility housing pumps, disinfection systems, and electrical equipment; re-abandonment of an existing oil well in accordance with current regulatory standards; construction of new access roads, landscaping, and site infrastructure; and potential installation of renewable energy generation and storage systems.

Offsite improvements include installation, replacement, and relocation of underground water pipelines within surrounding streets; construction of a new underground pressure reducing valve (PRV) station and abandonment of the existing PRV station; and temporary use of a City-owned residential property for construction offices. Project construction would occur over an approximately three-year period and would include demolition, grading, excavation, pipeline installation, and facility construction activities.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The project would result in potentially significant effects to air quality, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geology and soils (paleontological resources), and transportation. However, implementation of the following mitigation measures was determined in the EIR to reduce these project effects to less-than-significant levels:

AQ-1: Tier 4 Construction Equipment

BIO-1: Worker Environmental Awareness Program

BIO-2: Nesting Bird Management Plan

BIO-3: Pre-Construction Presence/Absence Survey for Special-Status Wildlife Species

BIO-4: Biological Construction Monitoring

BIO-5: Lemonade Berry Scrub Restoration Plan

BIO-6: Tree Protection Plan

CUL-1: Worker's Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP)

CUL-2: Archaeological and Native American Monitoring at Meigs Road and Dolores Drive Intersection

CUL-3: Unanticipated Discovery of Archaeological and Tribal Cultural Resources

GEO-1: Paleontological Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan

GEO-2: Worker Environmental Awareness Program

TRA-1: Enhanced Traffic Control Plan

In addition, the project would result in significant and unavoidable impacts to noise. Implementation of NOI-1 (Construction Noise Reduction) and NOI-2 (Construction Vibration Reduction Measures) would reduce construction-related noise and vibration; however, these measures would not fully mitigate noise impacts to a less-than-significant level.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Areas of controversy identified by agencies and the public primarily relate to potential impacts on biological resources (including special-status species, habitat, and tree removal), construction-related noise and vibration, traffic, air quality, soil stability, and overall construction duration and community disruption, as well as regulatory compliance issues such as tribal consultation, survey requirements, and permitting/oversight. Public comments emphasized concerns regarding neighborhood quality of life, environmental effects, transparency, and communication during project implementation.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District
Santa Barbara County Public Health Department