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## Notice of Preparation

**Date:** January 16, 2013

**To:** Responsible and Trustee Agencies and Interested Parties

**Subject:** Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Foothill Trunk Line Unit 3 Project

This Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify agencies and interested parties that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), as the Lead Agency, is beginning preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Foothill Trunk Line Unit 3 Project (proposed project).

LADWP is soliciting the views of interested persons and agencies as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be evaluated in the EIR. In accordance with CEQA, LADWP requests that agencies review the project description provided in this NOP and provide comments on environmental issues related to the statutory responsibilities of the agency. The EIR will be used by LADWP when considering approval of the proposed project.

### Project Location:

The proposed project is located in the City of Los Angeles within the County of Los Angeles, specifically, within the communities of Sylmar, and Pacoima (see **Figure 1**). Sylmar is bounded by City of Los Angeles boundary lines to the north and east, the City of San Fernando to the south and southeast, and Interstate 405 (I-405) and I-5 to the west. Pacoima is bounded, approximately, to the southwest by the I-5, to the north by the City of San Fernando, Sylmar, and the State Route 118 (SR-118), to the east by Interstate I-210 (I-210) and Foothill Boulevard, and the Sunland-Tujunga-Shadow Hills-Lake View Terrace community borders to the east, and south. The project area is mostly urbanized.

### Project Description:

The existing Foothill Trunk Line (FTL) supplies water from the Van Norman Pump Station No. 2 (VNPS No. 2) to the Sylmar, Pacoima, Sunland, and Tujunga Service Areas (Service Areas), to the Maclay Tanks, Maclay Reservoir, and Green Verdugo Reservoir, and is supplemented by the Sheldon Pump Station.

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Installed in the 1930's, the FTL consists of 24-inch, 26-inch and 36-inch welded steel pipe and 30-inch riveted steel pipe. From 1982 to 1986, LADWP replaced a portion of the existing FTL with a 60-inch prestressed concrete cylinder pipe (PCCP) from the VNPS No. 2 to northwest of Hubbard Street under the Foothill Trunk Line Unit 1 and Unit 2 projects.

After many decades in service, the FTL suffered some deterioration, due to the corrosivity of the soil, and leaked. In the event the FTL goes out of service, the Sheldon Pump Station alone would not be able to provide water in full capacity to the Service Areas. LADWP proposes to install a 54-inch diameter welded steel pipe as part of the proposed Foothill Trunk Line Unit 3 Project (proposed project). The proposed project would replace and upsize approximately 16,600 linear feet of the existing FTL from northwest of Hubbard Street, where it would connect to the 60-inch PCCP, to just southeast of Terra Bella Street, where it would connect to a 36-inch pipe along Foothill Boulevard and a 30-inch pipe on Terra Bella Street. Furthermore, the proposed project would minimize dependency on the Sheldon Pump Station and would allow LADWP to decommission several pipelines, which have a history of leaks, currently servicing the area. The proposed project would be located in the City of Los Angeles in the communities of Sylmar and Pacoima.

Construction of the proposed project would occur along Foothill Boulevard, within the public right-of-way (ROW), which ranges in width from approximately 60 feet to 100 feet. Construction of the proposed project would require open-trench excavation and pipe jacking (trenchless installation) along the alignment and would potentially impact intersections along Foothill Boulevard between Hubbard Street and Terra Bella Street. To minimize traffic disruptions at busy intersections during construction, LADWP intends to install the 54-inch welded steel pipe via pipe jacking at four intersections along the proposed alignment. The proposed project would cross over the Pacoima Wash and would be supported by reinforced concrete piers on either side of the wash. Additionally, minor appurtenant facilities such as air vacuum/release valves and maintenance holes would be constructed as part of the project.

The proposed project is scheduled for a duration of approximately 60 months, commencing in late 2014 and ending in late 2019. Construction activities would occur between 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, and possibly from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. The LADWP would observe all pertinent LADOT requirements for working hours.

**Potential Environmental Impacts:** Potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the proposed project include impacts to: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology, Soils, and Seismicity, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Land Use Planning, Noise, Transportation and Traffic, and Utilities and Service Systems impacts. An analysis of these potential environmental impacts and other potential impacts that could be mitigated to a less-than-significant level is provided in an Initial Study Checklist, which is attached or can be reviewed at [www.ladwp.com/envnotices](http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices) and at the following libraries:

Sylmar Branch Library  
14561 Polk Street  
Sylmar, CA 91342

San Fernando Library  
217 North Maclay Avenue  
San Fernando, CA 91340

Pacoima Branch Library  
13605 Van Nuys Boulevard  
Pacoima, CA 91331

Lake View Terrace Library  
12002 Osborne Street  
Sylmar, CA 91342

**Public Review Period:** To provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment on the Initial Study, LADWP is extending the review period mandated by CEQA from 30 to 45 days. Your comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. **March 1, 2013**. Please indicate a contact name and return address in your comments and submit your comments to:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power  
Attention: Nancy Chung  
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044  
Los Angeles, California 90012

**Public Scoping Meeting:** A public scoping meeting will be held to receive public comments and suggestions on the project. The tentatively scheduled scoping meeting will be open to the public on:

DATE: February 13, 2013  
TIME: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
LOCATION: Truesdale Training Center  
11781 Truesdale Street  
Sun Valley, CA 91352

Please check the LADWP project website page, [www.ladwp.com/envnotices](http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices), to confirm the meeting time and date. If you require additional information regarding this notice, please contact Ms. Nancy Chung at (213) 367-0404 or e-mail at: [Nancy.Chung@ladwp.com](mailto:Nancy.Chung@ladwp.com).

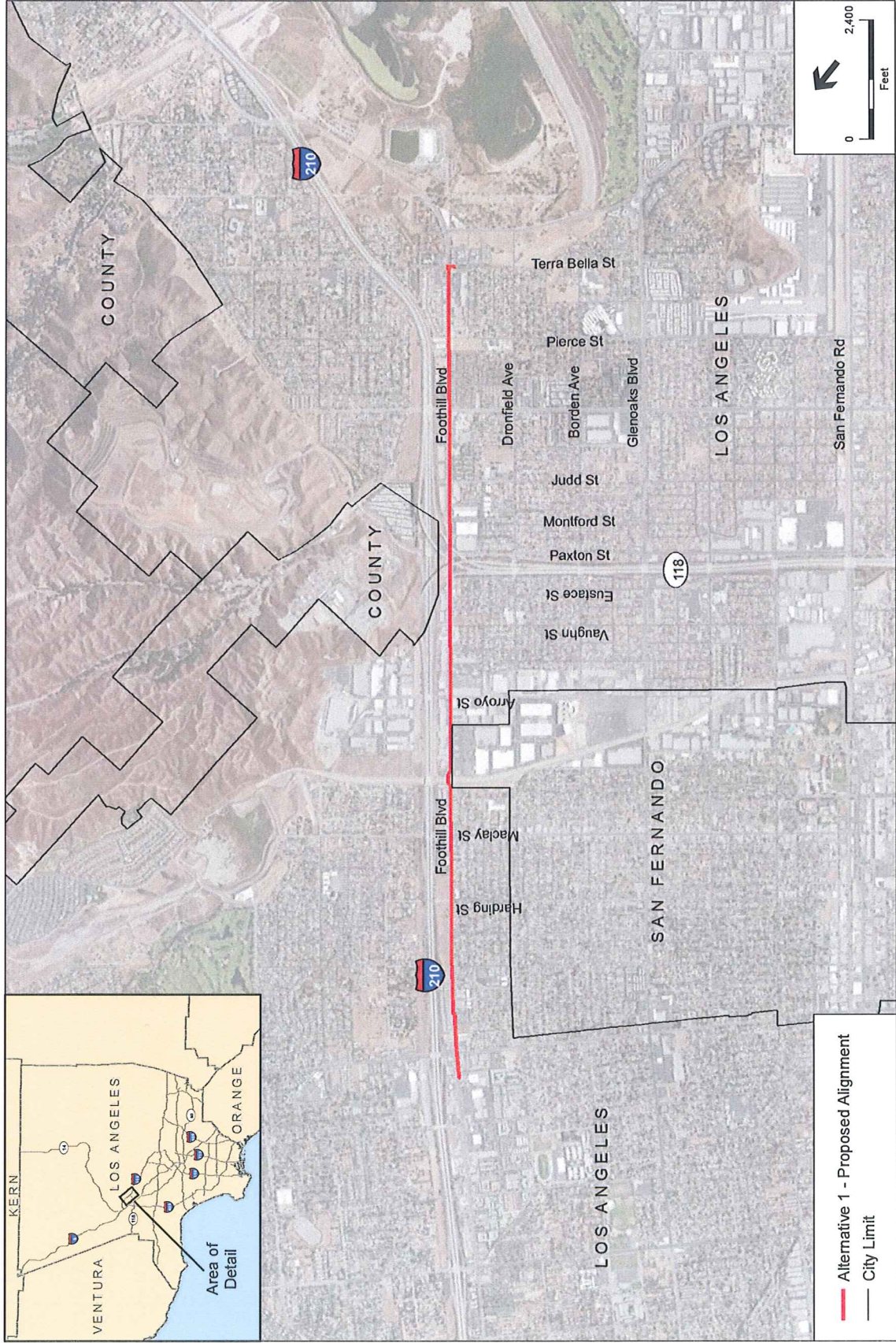
Sincerely,



Charles C. Holloway  
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment  
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

NC:lr  
c: Ms. Nancy Chung





LADWP - Foothill Trunk Line III EIR . 211490.15  
**Figure 1**  
 Project Vicinity

SOURCE: Bing Maps; ESA, 2012.