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Notice of Preparation and Notice of Public Meeting

Date: May 24, 2011

To: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Notice of Public Meeting
Owens Dry Lake Phase 7a Dust Control Measures
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, City of Los Angeles

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is proposing to implement Phase 7a of the Owens Lake Dust Mitigation Program (OLDMP) on Owens Dry Lake in order to further control emissions of particulate matter from the lakebed. LADWP constructs and operates dust control measures (DCMs) on the lake in compliance with Agreements with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (GBUAPCD) under the authority of California Health & Safety Code Sec. 42316, legal settlement agreements with GBUAPCD, lease agreements for use of state lands (administered by the California State Lands Commission), and other regulatory approvals.

Under Phase 7a of the OLDMP, best available control measures (BACM) will be installed on six parcels (T1A-3, T1A-4, T12-1, T32-1, T37-1, and T37-2) totally 3.1 square miles of Owens Lake. BACM will include Gravel Cover, Shallow Flooding, and Managed Vegetation. Additionally, the Phase 7a project includes transition of approximately 3-4 sq. miles of existing Shallow Flooding dust control areas (DCAs). The 3-4 sq. miles will be selected from 6 square miles of existing DCAs (T1A-2_a, T10-2_a, T2-1, T5-1, T5-3, T5-3 Addition_a, T5-3 Addition_b, T26, T28N, T28S, T30-1_a, T30-1_b, and T36-1_b, and potentially T35-1 and T35-2) for transition to a combination of the three BACM (BACM Hybrid).

As the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), LADWP has determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for the Owens Dry Lake Phase 7a Dust Control Measures Project (proposed project).

Water and Power Conservation ... a way of life

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Project Location

The 110 square-mile dry Owens Lake is located in Inyo County, California, approximately 5 miles south of the community of Lone Pine and approximately 61 miles south of the city of Bishop. Owens Dry Lake is bounded by State Route (SR) 136 to the north and east, SR 190 to the south, and U.S. Highway (U.S.) 395 to the west.

Potential Environmental Effects

Potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the proposed project include impacts to Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, and Greenhouse Gas Emissions. An analysis of these potential environmental impacts and other potential impacts that could be mitigated to a less-than-significant level is provided in the Initial Study Checklist.

Public Review Period: The enclosed Initial Study is being made available for public review for a period of 30 days beginning May 25, 2011 and concluding June 24, 2011. The document may be viewed at the following website address: <http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices>. Copies are also available for review at LADWP's Bishop Office (300 Mandlich Street, Bishop, CA 93514), the Bishop Library (210 Academy Avenue, Bishop, California 93514), and the Lone Pine Library (corner of Washington and Bush Streets, Lone Pine, California 93545). **Comments on the Initial Study must be received in writing no later than 5:00 pm, June 24, 2011 and sent to: LADWP, Environmental Affairs, Attention: Ms. Laura Hunter, 111 N. Hope Street Room 1050, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Comments may also be faxed to Ms. Hunter at (213) 367-4710.**

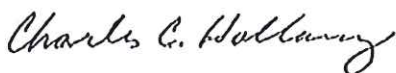
Notice of Public Meeting

A public meeting will be held to discuss the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. Agency representatives and members of the public interested in the Phase 7a project are welcome to attend. The meeting will be:

Tuesday, June 7, 2011
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
LADWP Sulfate Facility
Training/Conference Room
111 Sulfate Road
Keeler, California 93530
[1 mile south of Keeler, west side of State Highway 136]

If you require additional information, please contact Ms. Hunter at (213) 367-4096.

Sincerely,



Charles Holloway
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment