



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This section summarizes the characteristics of the proposed project, alternatives, environmental impacts, mitigation measures, and residual impacts associated with the proposed Vasquez Water Main Project.

PROJECT SYNOPSIS

Newhall County Water District (NCWD) is a special district, established under Water Code Section 3000, Div. 12, to provide water services for residential, commercial, and fire protection purposes in and around its district boundaries. The NCWD Mission Statement includes the following:

“The mission of the **NEWHALL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT** - including its Directors, Employees, and Contractors - is to:

- Provide adequate water volume and flow for fire fighting purposes within the District, to protect lives and property; and
- Adopt strategies and plans to accommodate an expanded customer base, either through the expansion of District territory or the acceptance of new users within District territory”.

NCWD, project applicant, proposes to build an approximate 2.4-mile-long, 18-inch-diameter water main pipeline that will provide water service to existing residences and businesses as well as proposed new housing developments in an approximate seven-square-mile service area along Sand Canyon Road, Sierra Highway (Mint Canyon Road), and Vasquez Canyon Road in the Santa Clarita Valley of Los Angeles County, California. The water service to residences will be by 1-inch to 2-inch water lines.

The Vasquez Water Main Project is located in the Mint Canyon area at the eastern end of the City of Santa Clarita. The total project site follows an approximate 2.4-mile path beginning on Sand Canyon Road (where a portion of the water main has already been installed), heads northeast on Sierra Highway, then heads northwest on Vasquez Canyon Road, intersecting Mint Canyon Creek, and ending on Vasquez Canyon Road.

The NCWD Vasquez Water Main, which originates from an existing water main at the corner of Sand Canyon and Soledad Canyon Roads, will be installed under existing roads (Sand Canyon Road, Sierra Highway, and Vasquez Canyon Road) except in three locations where the water main will cross natural watercourses, including Mint Canyon Creek. The Mint Canyon Creek crossing will involve trenching through the creek bed a few feet upstream from the Vasquez Canyon Road bridge. The remaining two water main crossings, which cross over two ephemeral drainages, will span the drainages and will not involve any soil disturbances within the channels.

The water main installation project, within the vicinity of the Mint Canyon Creek portion of the project site, includes a maximum impact area of approximately 50 feet wide along the length of the water main (a maximum of 25 feet along each side of the pipeline). The construction activities, required for crossing Mint Canyon Creek with the water main, will result in fill activities within the banks of Mint Canyon Creek, which contains jurisdictional waters of the United States, including wetlands. The water main construction activities may also substantially adversely affect existing fish and wildlife resources within the portion of Mint Canyon Creek, and existing vegetation and habitat resources in the vicinity of the project site. Additionally, the project could provide water to more than existing and proposed projects in the vicinity of the project service area; therefore, the project may also be growth inducing by removing an existing impediment to growth.





PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

Four alternatives to the project were selected for consideration: (1) No Project, (2) Reduced Pipeline Size, (3) Creek Avoidance, and (4) Environmentally Superior. These alternatives were selected to identify the range of alternatives available to NCWD that would potentially avoid or minimize project-related impacts to the environment. These alternatives are summarized below.

Alternative 1: No Project

The *No Project* alternative assumes that the project is not constructed, thereby, not providing water service to existing residences and businesses in an approximate seven-square-mile service area, and not providing water service for proposed new housing developments. This alternative assumes that the project site and adjacent areas will remain in its current state, with existing residences and businesses continuing to obtain water from private wells and storage tanks. No project-related impacts would occur under this alternative since the project would not be built. This alternative would not meet any of the project objectives. Under this alternative, existing residents and businesses may need to stop using or reduce water use from existing practices as groundwater availability declines in the future. Water availability from existing groundwater sources in the future is not certain; however, groundwater contamination in the Santa Clarita region has required closure of some water wells, but none in the Vasquez Canyon Road area.

Alternative 2: Reduced Pipeline Size

The *Reduced Pipeline Size* alternative would be the same as what is currently proposed by the applicant except that the pipeline size would be reduced to an 8-inch-diameter line to only serve water to existing residential, commercial, and industrial users, and provide water for fire fighting purposes. Alternative 2 would still require trenching in the Mint Canyon Creek channel, upstream from the Vasquez Canyon Road bridge, and installing the pipeline under existing roads. This alternative would eliminate growth-inducing impacts that may occur with the applicant-proposed project. NCWD expects that an 8-inch-diameter pipe would need to be replaced with a larger pipe within five to ten years to meet expected water demands, resulting in temporary direct impacts associated with traffic safety and noise, as well as added construction costs.

Alternative 3. Creek Avoidance

The *Creek Avoidance* alternative is essentially the same as what is currently proposed by the applicant; however, the pipeline would be installed by pipe jacking, or microtunnelling methods, under Mint Canyon Creek specifically to avoid direct impacts to the creek and its habitats. All other aspects and issue areas of this alternative are the same as for the currently applicant-proposed project. This alternative would avoid direct impacts to biological resources and water quality within Mint Canyon Creek and would avoid the need to obtain permits to conduct work within jurisdictional waters of the U.S. and the State of California. The Creek Avoidance Alternative would still have potential to result in growth-inducing impacts since installation of an 18-inch water main would remove an existing impediment to growth.

Alternative 4: Environmentally Superior

The *Environmentally Superior* alternative is a combination of Alternatives 2 and 3 to maximize avoidance of direct and indirect impacts to the environment. Alternative 4 consists of (1) reducing the size (diameter) of the pipeline from 18 inches to 8 inches, which is the size currently required to meet existing needs, and (2) boring (microtunnelling) under Mint Canyon Creek to avoid water resources and creek habitats. All other aspects of this alternative are the same as for the applicant-proposed project.





SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURES

Project environmental impacts, recommended mitigation measures, and residual impacts, if any, are summarized in Table ES-1, Summary of Project Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Residual Impacts. Table ES-1 is organized by environmental issue area as listed in the CEQA Initial Study Checklist.

Table ES-1. Summary of Project Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Residual Impacts

Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<i>Aesthetics</i>		
The pipeline construction is a temporary construction project, which would not result in any significant impacts to aesthetic resources.	None required	None
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. By removing an impediment to growth in the service area, a potential exists for impacts to aesthetic resources.</p> <p>Since substantial grading would be required by the County of Los Angeles for moderately or large-sized development projects to mitigate for geologic hazards, it is likely that any such developments proposed within the service area will substantially change the visual character of the area. Therefore, a significant potential impact to existing aesthetic resources within the service area may occur as a result making available additional water supply to potential new developments in the service area.</p>	<p>There are no feasible mitigation measures available to NCWD to offset any significant impacts to aesthetic resources in the Vasquez Water Main service area since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of NCWD. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. NCWD has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, NCWD has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	Significant and unavoidable; a Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted
<i>Agriculture</i>		
No impacts to agricultural resources would occur as a result of installing the NCWD Vasquez Water Main since no crop or grazing/foraging lands will be directly impacted by the pipeline.	None required	None
<i>Air Quality</i>		
Construction-related emissions from the temporary construction project were reviewed for a potential effect on air quality. All emissions fall below the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (South Coast AQMD's) thresholds of significance.	None required	Less than significant
Impact 5.3-1: Temporary Degradation of Air Quality. The construction of the pipeline has potential to significantly impact local	Mitigation Measure 5.3-1. Dust control to minimize PM ₁₀ emissions from construction activities. Development of a fugitive dust control plan, incorporating mitigation measures detailed in the South Coast AQMD CEQA	Less than significant





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<p>air quality by increasing PM₁₀ emissions during construction.</p>	<p>Handbook, Section 11, will mitigate for impact. This plan could contain measures, including reduction percentages, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of water sprays (45-85 %); • Limiting operations during higher winds; • Covering trucks hauling materials (7-14%); • Street sweeping (25-60%); • Limiting traffic speed on unpaved areas to 15 mph (40-70%); and • Ensuring that roads affected by construction are paved as soon as possible (up to 100%). <p>Utilization of Best Available Control Technology (BACT) and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce dust from construction and minimize emissions from construction equipment. If a geological investigation identifies that naturally occurring asbestos could be present in the project area, an Asbestos Dust Reduction Plan may be required. The plan would include the following asbestos dust reduction measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watering of excavation areas, soil storage piles; • Covering and wetting of exposed areas where asbestos-containing rocks are encountered; • Washing of equipment in contact with asbestos-containing dust/soils; and • Vegetating of exposed areas or paving of roads as soon as feasible. <p>(http://www.opr.ca.gov/clearinghouse/PDFs/asbestosdust.pdf)</p>	
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. Impacts to air quality in the service area as the result of removing an existing impediment to growth (growth-inducing impacts) is expected to result in significant impacts; however, these impacts cannot be quantified since the locations of such impacts are not known at this time.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of the District. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted</p>
<p>Biological Resources</p>		
<p>Impacts To Botanical Resources</p>		
<p>Impact 5.4-1: Impact to Palustrine and Riverine Resources. The water main installation construction, at the Mint Canyon Creek portion of the project site, includes a maximum impact area of approximately 50 feet wide along the length of the water main (25 feet along each side).</p>	<p>Option 5.4-1A. NCWD should avoid all direct impacts to Mint Canyon Creek and its habitats by boring (microtunnelling) entirely under the creek. This option would avoid impacts to existing habitats and eliminate the need to obtain permits from the Corps, CDFG, and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). It would also eliminate the need to implement habitat restoration as mitigation for temporary impacts to</p>	<p>None</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<p>Construction activities will result in a temporary impact to ~0.13 acre of waters of the U.S., including ~0.11 acre of Forested Wetland and ~0.02 acre of Riverine Habitat.</p> <p>Thus, the completion of the proposed project will have temporary significant negative effects on the overall ecosystem function of the project site creek and the associated riparian wetlands. NCWD will implement measures to avoid and minimize unnecessary impacts to waters of the U.S. and to biological resources. NCWD will implement mitigation measures and a long-term monitoring program to ensure that impacts will be reduced to a less-than-significant level.</p>	<p>riparian and wetland habitats. If boring replaces the applicant proposed project, then the impacts would be less than significant (see Alternative 3 above).</p> <p>Option 5.4-1B. If NCWD implements the applicant-proposed project, NCWD must enter the creek to install the water main under Mint Canyon Creek by trenching. These activities will result in at least a temporary disturbance to the existing riparian vegetation. Impacts to the special-status Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest by trenching can be minimized to the maximum extent possible by implementing the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that construction equipment only cut back or cut down what is absolutely necessary for water main and construction equipment access; • All construction activities, within the creek banks, should be conducted during seasons of no/minimal channel flows (late spring/summer/early fall); • A water main path through the creek channel should be one that minimizes impacts to existing riparian vegetation; • Fencing should be placed around trees that will be less efficiently replaced by mitigation/ restoration efforts; • All active wildlife nests existing within the project site riparian vegetation should be protected and avoided by construction equipment; • All raptor nests shall be avoided; and • A biological monitor should be present during all construction activities within or adjacent to Mint Canyon Creek. <p>If work must be conducted when surface water flows are present, specific actions should be taken to avoid increasing water turbidity downstream. Surface water flows should be diverted around all construction activities, and no equipment should be allowed to actively work in flowing water without sedimentation and turbidity control measures in place. These control measures will be described in detail in wetland mitigation plan and monitoring program and will be adopted for biological resources impacts.</p> <p>After efforts to minimize the impacts to the riparian vegetation are implemented, NCWD should restore the project site to pre-construction habitat conditions. This can be accomplished by implementing several mitigation measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regrading project site to accommodate onsite revegetation and to accomplish natural sinuosity of the creek channel; • Replacing and planting selected portions of the site with indigenous riparian plant species; • Maintaining/irrigating restored area(s); • Replacing invasive exotic plants with native species to increase species richness and habitat function; and • Monitoring the site for at least five (5) years after restoration plantings have been completed. <p>To compensate for the temporal loss of riparian habitat, the mitigation should be conducted at a 3:1 ratio. Suitable</p>	<p>None</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
	<p>additional area for 3:1 mitigation is available immediately upstream from the water main crossing site.</p> <p>In order to minimize impacts to aquatic habitat/wildlife due to alteration of Riverine habitat, construction and installment should be conducted during times of no active channel flows. If water main construction must be conducted while active flows are present, NCWD should minimize impacts by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment contact with active channel minimized to a maximum extent; • Flows diverted from the work area; • Sedimentation barriers should be installed and maintained; • Rising groundwater should be allowed to settle behind a downstream diversion berm prior to discharge to the primary flow channel; • Turbidity levels should be monitored and minimized (kept below a 20% increase over background turbidity); and • All foreign materials and litter removed from channel. 	
<p>Impact 5.4-2: Impact to Special-Status Plant Species. No special-status plant species were observed within the project site during botanical surveys; however, several special-status plant species are expected and known in the vicinity of the project site. Although there is potential to impact special-status plant species, resulting from construction activities, the likelihood that any special-status plants will be affected by construction activities is low, especially considering the relatively disturbed nature of the project site and the limited area that will be disturbed.</p>	<p>Mitigation Measure 5.4-2. Depending on the timing of water main construction in Mint Canyon Creek, supplemental field surveys for special-status plant species may be warranted. If the water main is constructed in late winter, a botanical field survey should be conducted in late March to determine if any early flowering special-status plant species occur onsite. If the water main is constructed prior to March, a botanist should monitor all construction activities through and immediately adjacent to Mint Canyon Creek. The bounds of the work area should be fenced temporarily to clearly delineate where construction workers are, and are not, allowed.</p>	None
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts (Loss of Biological Resources) are addressed at the end of Impacts to Wildlife Resources.</p>		
Impacts To Wildlife Resources		
<p>Impact 5.4-3: Impact to Wildlife Species, Including Special-Status Species. While significant impacts to the project site wildlife are not expected, the potential for temporary harm to, or permanent loss of, observed and expected terrestrial wildlife within the NCWD project area still exists, especially with use of heavy equipment.</p> <p>Aquatic wildlife are not present onsite for most of the year; however, these resources may be present when Mint Canyon Creek is active during winter</p>	<p>Mitigation Measure 5.4-3. To minimize impacts to terrestrial wildlife species observed and expected onsite, equipment operators should avoid contact with or harm to any dens, middens, nests, etc. If nests are discovered during construction, they should be fenced off as a protection measure. If wildlife is observed during construction activities, animals should be allowed the chance to escape danger. Having biological monitor onsite during construction activities is best means for minimizing impacts to wildlife, especially in the active channel and riparian vegetation; handling trapped or harmed wildlife; and documenting any permanent or temporary losses that require mitigation measures.</p> <p>To minimize impacts to expected aquatic wildlife species,</p>	None





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<p>and early spring months. The potential for temporary harm to, or permanent loss of, aquatic wildlife species will remain low as long as NCWD implements measures to prevent discharge or disturbance to the active stream channel. However, even temporary streambed alterations by heavy equipment creates potential for increased erosion, sedimentation, and water turbidity levels, and it reduces the ecological integrity of an otherwise functional Riverine habitat.</p> <p>The potential for impacts to aquatic wildlife species inhabiting the Riverine habitat onsite may increase in significance if project construction is conducted during seasons of peak channel flows. If construction activities are performed in the presence of active flows, several additional issues need to be addressed in order to ensure that the Mint Canyon Creek Riverine System remains intact and sustainable after water main construction activities have ceased.</p> <p>Temporary harm to, or permanent loss of, any special-status wildlife species is considered a significant impact. Therefore, all potential impacts to San Diego Horned Lizard (a special-status wildlife species observed onsite), Arroyo Toad, and Two-striped Garter Snake (expected special-status species) should be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent possible. This water main project may contribute to this species' habitat destruction and fragmentation, which are ultimately responsible for the continuing decline of this reptile.</p>	<p>ensure that water main construction will be conducted during times/seasons of no active channel flows. If construction activities are necessary during stream flows, the same listed recommendations for Aquatic (Riverine) habitat (above) should be implemented.</p> <p>Since San Diego Horned Lizard, a special-status wildlife species, was observed onsite, the proposed project may result in negative impacts to special-status wildlife species. All areas with suitable habitat should be fenced off. Equipment operators should be informed of this species presence and its identification traits to avoid impacts to this species to the maximum extent possible.</p> <p>To avoid impacts to all special-status wildlife species observed and expected onsite, equipment operators should avoid contact with or harm to any special-status species and any of their sources of cover. If a special-status species is encountered during construction activities, animals should be allowed the chance to escape danger, and the onsite biological monitor should be notified in order to implement all measures necessary to protect the sensitive species. Having a biological monitor onsite during construction activities is the best means for minimizing impacts to special-status species, handling trapped/harmed wildlife, and documenting losses requiring mitigation measures.</p> <p>All existing habitat for the San Diego Horned Lizard should be replaced in-kind onsite after all installation activities are completed. Implementation of the proposed wetlands mitigation and monitoring program should result in full restoration of the San Diego Horned Lizard habitat onsite.</p>	
<p>Impact 5.4-4: Impact to Foraging and Cover Habitats. The Palustrine Forested Wetland vegetation in the creek portion of the project site is used as nesting, cover, and foraging habitat for several bird and mammal species, some of which may use the site as a movement corridor where the site vegetation provides cover from predators.</p> <p>When functional wildlife habitat is negatively impacted, a temporary reduction in various food sources typically follows. Impacts to foraging and cover habitats that normally</p>	<p>Option 5.4-4A. NCWD should avoid all direct impacts to Mint Canyon Creek and its habitats by boring (microtunnelling) entirely under the creek. This option would avoid impacts to existing habitats and eliminate the need to obtain permits from the Corps, CDFG, and Los Angeles RWQCB. It would also eliminate the need to implement habitat restoration as mitigation for temporary impacts to riparian and wetland habitats. If boring replaces the applicant proposed project, then the impacts to foraging and cover habitats would be less than significant (see Alternative 3, Creek Avoidance, above).</p> <p>Option 5.4-4B. If NCWD implements the applicant-proposed project, NCWD must enter the creek to install the water main under Mint Canyon Creek by trenching. These activities will result in at least a temporary disturbance to</p>	<p>None</p> <p>None</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<p>contribute to the function of a region's ecosystem should be minimized and avoided.</p> <p>The Vasquez Water Main Project will result in unavoidable temporary impact to ~0.13 acre of waters of the U.S., including ~0.11 acre of Forested Wetland and ~0.02 acre of Riverine habitat. The installation will also result in unavoidable temporary impacts to ~0.14 acre of Chenopod Scrub.</p>	<p>the existing vegetation. Impacts to the foraging and cover habitats, required by wildlife species of the project site, may be minimized by similar recommendations as listed above in the Terrestrial Wildlife Species subsection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep habitat impacts to only those areas absolutely required for the water main installation; • Avoid contact or harm to any dens, middens, and nests; • Allow any wildlife observed during construction activities the chance to escape any danger; and • Have a biological monitor onsite during construction activities to help prevent harm to wildlife and to document impacts that require mitigation. 	
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts: Loss of Biological Resources. By removing an impediment to growth in the Vasquez Water Main service area, a potential exists for impacts to existing biological resources by: decreasing habitat as a direct and indirect result of building structures and clearing brush for fire hazard control; and increasing competitive nonnative plant and wildlife species into the service area. Therefore, significant potential impacts to existing biological resources within the service area may occur as a result making available additional water supply to potential new developments.</p>	<p>Some impacts to biological resources resulting from growth inducement are mitigable; however, there is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of the District. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process, within the County of Los Angeles, would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>
Cultural Resources		
<p>Impact 5.6-1: Loss of Cultural Resources. Based on record search findings, field survey results, and the extent of previous ground disturbance along the NCWD water pipeline route, the proposed project is expected to have no impact on cultural resources.</p>	<p>Mitigation Measure 5.6-1. An archaeological survey can only confidentially assess the potential for encountering surface cultural resources remains; therefore, the following should be conditions of project approval:</p> <p>In the event that prehistoric or historic resources are unearthed during project construction, all earth disturbing work within the vicinity of the find must be temporarily suspended or redirected until a qualified archaeologist has evaluated the nature and significance of the find. A Tataviam Native American representative shall be retained to monitor any mitigation work associated with Native American cultural material.</p> <p>If human remains are unearthed, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98.</p>	<p>None</p>



Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. By removing an impediment to growth in the Vasquez Water Main service area, a potential exists for impacts to existing cultural resources by increasing the number of new structures and infrastructure and total area disturbed within the service area, which could result in direct and indirect impacts to those resources.</p> <p>Therefore, significant potential impact to existing unknown cultural resources within the service area may occur as a result making available additional water supply to potential new developments.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of NCWD. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. NCWD has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, NCWD has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>
Geology and Soils		
<p>No impact</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. By removing an impediment to growth in the Vasquez Water Main service area, a potential exists for impacts to future structures and infrastructure by increasing the number of new structures and infrastructure that may be built on geologic hazard zones. However, existing building codes and regulations would prohibit anyone to build structures or infrastructure without designing the structure to avoid or accommodate potential affects from liquefaction, ground shaking from earthquakes, or landslides. The Vasquez Water Main Project would not result in significant growth-inducing impacts.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of NCWD. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. NCWD has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, NCWD has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>
Hazards and Hazardous Materials		
<p>Impact 5.7-1: Impact from risk of hazardous Materials. The only possibility for a potential impact related to the use of hazardous materials identified in the Initial Study is the following: Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. No other risks were identified during this impact assessment. The proposed project would not likely release hazardous materials into the environment. However, accidents resulting from mishandling of hazardous materials could occur.</p>	<p>Recommended Mitigation Measure 5.7-1</p> <p>The NCWD will implement all protocols for the disinfection of all new and repaired potable water mains established by ANSI and AWWA. NCWD currently uses the protocols established by ANSI/AWWA in the SOP, AWWA Standard for Disinfecting Water Mains, ANSI/AWWA C651-99, and will continue to use these protocols to prevent risk of spilling hazardous materials at the project site.</p>	<p>None</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. By removing an impediment to growth in the Vasquez Water Main service area, a potential exists for impacts to sensitive receptors by increasing the number of new structures and infrastructure that may be built on service area. However, existing regulations would prohibit or regulate persons or entities using hazardous materials. The Vasquez Water Main Project would not result in significant growth-inducing impacts.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of NCWD. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. NCWD has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, NCWD has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>
Hydrology and Water Quality		
<p>Impact 5.8-1: Potential to Violate Water Quality Standards of Waste Discharge Requirements. Pipeline construction has potential to temporarily degrade water quality below waste discharge standards. No long-term or permanent impacts to water quality are expected.</p>	<p>Mitigation Measure 5.8-1. NCWD shall obtain all necessary grading permits, adhere to the Uniform Building Code, and comply with all conditions of approval for discretionary projects (by local and County jurisdictions) within the service area and the Standard Urban Water Mitigation Plans (SUWMP). Temporary barriers will be constructed immediately downstream of pipeline construction adjacent to existing drainages and creeks to prevent accidental discharge of any contaminants.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Impact 5.8-2: Potential to Alter Drainage Patterns, Streams, or Rivers (erosion/siltation). Construction of those portions of the pipeline that cross Mint Canyon Creek and the two unnamed tributaries could result in alterations to existing drainage patterns or alter Mint Canyon Creek by erosion and/or siltation.</p>	<p>Option 5.8-2A. NCWD should construct the pipeline across Mint Canyon Creek by boring (microtunnelling) the pipeline under the creek, thereby avoiding all direct surface disturbances and impacts to drainage patterns from erosion and siltation within the creek bed and channel banks. The pipeline should be installed at a sufficient depth such that it will have no impact on the flow of the creek and will not cause erosion or siltation to occur. Construction should be conducted during the dry season providing no opportunity for alteration to drainage patterns or stream flows (see Alternative 3, Creek Avoidance, above).</p> <p>Option 5.8-2B. If NCWD implements the applicant-proposed project, NCWD must enter the creek to install the water main under Mint Canyon Creek by trenching, and NCWD will construct the pipeline across the two unnamed tributaries by spanning the tributaries. Construction should only be conducted during the dry season providing no opportunity for alteration to drainage patterns or stream flows.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Impact 5.8-3: Potential Alter Drainage Patterns, Streams, or Rivers (increased runoff). Construction of those portions of the pipeline that cross Mint Canyon Creek and the two unnamed tributaries could result in alterations to existing drainage patterns to cause increased runoff into Mint Canyon Creek.</p>	<p>Option 5.8-3A. NCWD should construct the pipeline across Mint Canyon Creek by boring (microtunnelling) the pipeline under the creek, thereby avoiding all direct surface disturbances and impacts to drainage patterns from increased runoff within the creek bed and channel banks. The pipeline should be installed at a sufficient depth such that it will have no impact on the flow of the creek and will not cause erosion or siltation to occur. Construction should be conducted during the dry season providing no opportunity for alteration to drainage patterns or runoff.</p>	<p>None</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
	<p>opportunity for alteration to drainage patterns or runoff (see Alternative 3, Creek Avoidance, above).</p> <p>Option 5.8-3B. If NCWD implements the applicant-proposed project, NCWD must enter the creek to install the water main under Mint Canyon Creek by trenching, and NCWD will construct the pipeline across the two unnamed tributaries by spanning the tributaries. Construction should only be conducted during the dry season providing no opportunity for alteration to drainage or stream flows.</p>	None
<p>Impact 5.8-4: Potential to Substantially Degrade Water Quality. The installation of the pipeline through Mint Canyon Creek and the two unnamed tributaries may result in increased stream water turbidity and sediment levels if construction activities are conducted within active stream flows. The bed and banks could become unstable during construction activities and may substantially degrade water quality due to soil bank erosion, and may cause adverse effects to aquatic wildlife species and riparian vegetation.</p>	<p>Option 5.8-4A. NCWD should construct the pipeline across Mint Canyon Creek by boring (microtunnelling) the pipeline under the creek and spanning across the two unnamed tributaries, thereby avoiding all direct surface disturbances and impacts to water quality within the creek bed and channel banks. The pipeline should be installed at a sufficient depth such that it will have no impact on the flow of the creek and will not cause erosion or siltation to occur. Construction should be conducted during the dry season providing no opportunity for alteration to drainage patterns or water quality (see Alternative 3, Creek Avoidance, above).</p> <p>Option 5.8-4B. If NCWD implements the applicant-proposed project, NCWD must enter the creek to install the water main under Mint Canyon Creek by trenching, and NCWD will construct the pipeline across the two unnamed tributaries by spanning the tributaries. To mitigate for this potential impact, NCWD will conduct work during the dry season and install erosion control measures, as will be identified in a mitigation plan and monitoring program that will be adopted for the project.</p>	None
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. By removing an impediment to growth in the Vasquez Water Main service area, a potential exists for impacts to existing cultural resources by increasing the number of new structures and infrastructure and total area disturbed within the service area, which could result in direct and indirect impacts to those resources.</p> <p>Therefore, significant potential impact to hydrologic resources within the service area may occur as a result of making available additional water supply to potential new developments.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of the District. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.
Land Use and Planning		
The proposed NCWD pipeline is consistent with the Land Use provisions of the Area Plan Land Use Policies; therefore, there will be no impacts.	None required	None; however, the Vasquez Water Main Project may contribute to cumulative impacts to existing land use.





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<p>Growth-inducing Impacts. Because the project is to provide service future projects within the NCWD service area and the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan, it may be considered to be growth inducing.</p> <p>By removing an impediment to growth in the Vasquez Water Main service area, a potential exists for impacts to land use by increasing the number of new structures and infrastructure that may be built on service area. However, existing regulations and the County of Los Angeles General Plan would prohibit or regulate persons or entities building in the service area.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of NCWD. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. NCWD has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, NCWD has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>
Mineral Resources		
<p>No mineral resources will be affected by the installation of the proposed pipeline. No mineral resources are known to occur within the project site. The permit process for discretionary projects will provide mitigation for any cumulative impacts that may occur.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>None</p> <p>No cumulative impacts and are considered to be less than cumulatively considerable.</p>
Noise		
<p>Impact 5.11-1: Noise impacts. The impacts related to noise are temporary in nature. The portion of the construction path on Sierra Highway past the mobile home park would be close enough to a noise sensitive area to cause a noise impact; however, the disturbance would last no longer than three days. This temporary impact is considered <i>significant but mitigable</i>.</p>	<p>Recommended Mitigation Measure 5.11-1. A modified work schedule is recommended for construction activities conducted past the mobile home park on Sierra Highway. The impact would only occur if all equipment were operating simultaneously. Therefore, for the segment of construction nearest the mobile home park, equipment operation will be limited to only those vehicles needed to ensure that the noise level is reduced.</p> <p>Recommended Mitigation Measure 5.11-2. It is recommended that the mobile home park residents be contacted and informed of the short-term noise impact and that they be given an estimated time frame of the disruption.</p> <p>Recommended Mitigation Measure 5.11-3. The operators will keep the equipment in good condition and will be maintained and/or repaired to minimize excessive noise. If possible, operators should use equipment designed for quiet operations. Keep mufflers in good repair. Keep equipment enclosure doors closed. Locate equipment such as compressors as far away as possible from noise sensitive areas. Limit construction to the daytime hours.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. By removing an impediment to growth in the Vasquez Water Main service area, a potential exists for impacts to acoustics by increasing the number of</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD since NCWD has no authority over projects that are approved by the County of Los Angeles.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<p>new structures and infrastructure that may be built within the service area, adding additional temporary noise sources in the service area. However, the Vasquez Water Main Project would not result in significant growth-inducing impacts as they relate to noise.</p>	<p>Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of NCWD. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. NCWD has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, NCWD has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	
Population and Housing		
<p>No direct significant impacts to population and housing will result from the proposed project.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Growth Inducement. The possibility that the water pipeline, as an extension of infrastructure, would induce growth in the area is a potentially significant impact for both project specific and cumulative impacts. The construction of the pipeline will be conducted by NCWD workers, and will have no impact on existing jobs. The Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan has a planning horizon from 1980 to 2010. The County of Los Angeles is currently updating the General Plan for the area. The planned growth in the service area of the water pipeline is planned within the horizon of the General Plan.</p> <p>Because the project is sized to provide more capacity than is needed to serve existing, recorded, and approved/pending projects, according to the Santa Clarita Area Plan, it is considered to be growth inducing to population housing needs.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of the District. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or require mitigation to do so.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>
Public Services		
<p>No direct significant impacts to public services will result from the proposed project.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. Because the water main is sized to provide more capacity than is needed to serve existing, recorded, and approved/pending projects, according to the Santa Clarita Area Plan, it is considered to be growth inducing to current planned population housing needs by potentially increasing demands on existing public services (other than water supply).</p>	<p>There are no feasible mitigation measures available to NCWD.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of the District. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
	has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or would require mitigation to do so.	
Impacts to public services in the service area as the result of removing an existing impediment to growth (growth-inducing impacts) is expected to result in significant impacts; however, these impacts cannot be quantified since the locations of such impacts are not known at this time.	Impacts to public services (other than water supply) resulting from removing an existing impediment to urban growth may or may not be mitigable. Regardless, NCWD has not authority to regulate or condition developments that may significantly impact existing public resources.	Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.
Recreation		
The project would result in a temporary inconvenience for recreators since alternate routes would have to be used. The temporary inconvenience to recreation associated with the proposed project is considered a temporary adverse but less-than-significant impact. No existing recreational facilities or activities would be impacted by the pipeline.	None required	None
<p>Growth Inducing Impacts Impact 5.14-1: Growth Inducement. Because the project is sized to provide more capacity than is needed to serve existing, recorded, and approved/pending projects, according to the Santa Clarita Area Plan, it is considered to be growth inducing to existing recreation facilities in the region of the service area if population growth expands beyond the capacity of existing or planned recreational facilities.</p>	<p>There are no feasible mitigation measures available to NCWD to reduce potentially significant impacts to recreation and/or recreational facilities in the area as the result of growth-inducing impacts.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of the California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of the District. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA, or would require mitigation to do so.</p>	Significant and unavoidable. Therefore, a Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted by the NCWD for this impact.
Transportation and Traffic		
<p>Impact 5.15-1: Impacts to Transportation and Traffic. The Vasquez Water Main Project will result in temporary traffic delays during the construction period, which is considered an adverse but mitigable impact. This impact is considered a less-than-significant impact to transportation and traffic; however,</p>	<p>Mitigation Measure 5.15-1. NCWD will deploy two employees to direct traffic during the construction of the pipeline to reduce traffic delays and allow safe passage of traffic around or through construction sites.</p>	None





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
<p>traffic flows will likely be impeded during construction of the pipeline, which can be reduced some through traffic control measures.</p>		
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. Because the project is sized to provide more capacity than is needed to serve existing, recorded, and approved/pending projects, according to the Santa Clarita Area Plan, it is considered to be growth inducing to current planned transportation needs.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation measure available to NCWD.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of the District. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the local discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles, and regional agencies such as South Coast AQMD and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>
Utilities and Service Systems		
<p>No direct significant impacts to utilities and service systems will result from the proposed project.</p>	<p>None required</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Growth-Inducing Impacts. Demands on Utilities and Service Systems</p> <p>The impacts created by residential and commercial development, and the concomitant increased demand on utilities/service systems precipitated by Los Angeles County, would regulate development during the discretionary permit process. Possible mitigation measures would include exactions for improvements and/or expansion of utility systems and service, excluding water services. Public services likely to be significantly impacted by increased growth beyond existing and approved levels include electricity, transportation, and natural gas.</p>	<p>There is no feasible mitigation available to NCWD.</p> <p>NCWD is a special district, a legitimate subdivision of the State government, established under the authority of Section 3000, Division 12 of California Water Code. Providing water service to municipal and industrial users is the essence of the mission of the District. As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the local discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles, and regional agencies such as South Coast AQMD and RWQCB, would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA.</p>	<p>Significant and unavoidable. A Statement of Overriding Consideration must be adopted.</p>
Growth Inducement		
Economic Growth		
<p>The Santa Clarita Area Plan (LA County General Plan) provides for continued economic growth to support existing and proposed residential and commercial development, consistent with General Plan growth projections.</p>	<p>As a special district NCWD, only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within</p>	<p>The pipeline to provide water service to existing, recorded, approved/pending and future residential and commercial projects will ensure the project will not have to be re-installed at a later date in</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
	<p>the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA. NCWD must rely on the other jurisdictions for the impact associated with growth to be mitigated.</p>	<p>order to support the projected growth in the area according to the Santa Clarita Area Plan. The water pipeline extension will not increase economic growth projections beyond the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan. Therefore, the project's impact on economic growth will be reduced to less than significant after mitigation measures developed during the normal discretionary project permit process have been applied to individual development projects in the area. The growth inducing impact is considered less than cumulatively considerable.</p>
Population Growth		
<p>The proposed NCWD pipeline is consistent with the Land Use provisions of the Area Plan Land Use Policies in that it will provide a needed water supply to existing homes and commercial uses, will also provide water service to the already recorded and approved projects in the service area and will also provide water service to the pending residential projects currently under review by the County Regional Planning Department. Because the project is sized to provide service to existing, recorded, approved/ pending, and future projected growth in the region according to the Santa Clarita Area Plan, it is not considered to be growth inducing.</p>	<p>As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA.</p>	<p>The pipeline to provide water service to existing, recorded, approved/pending and future residential and commercial projects will ensure the project will not have to be re-installed at a later date in order to support the projected growth in the area according to the Santa Clarita Area Plan. The water pipeline extension will not increase economic growth projections beyond the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan. Therefore, the project's impact on population growth will be reduced to less than significant after mitigation measures developed during the normal discretionary project permit process have been applied to individual development projects in the area. The growth inducing impact is considered less than cumulatively considerable.</p>
Removal of Obstacles to Growth		
<p>The pipeline project is to provide water service to existing, recorded, approved and pending residential/ commercial and future projects will ensure the project will serve only water customers in the NCWD service area within the Santa Clarita Area Plan projected population growth and will not remove obstacles to growth not</p>	<p>As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to the CEQA.</p>	<p>The pipeline to provide water service to existing, recorded, approved/pending and future residential and commercial projects will ensure the project will not have to be re-installed at a later date in order to support the projected growth in the area according</p>





Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Impact
anticipated by the Area Plan.		to the Santa Clarita Area Plan. The water pipeline extension will not increase economic growth projections beyond the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan. The project's impact on removal of obstacles to growth will be reduced to less than significant after mitigation measures developed during the normal discretionary project permit process have been applied to individual development projects in the area. The growth inducing impact is considered less than cumulatively considerable.
Transportation and Circulation		
Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections).	As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to the CEQA.	The implementation of the requirements of CEQA would reduce the impacts to less than significant and the cumulative impact of the project would be less than cumulatively considerable.
Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways.	As a special district, NCWD only has authority to control those issues currently enacted by ordinance by the Board of Directors. The District has no other authority over planning or development in their service area. Therefore, the district has no authority to control adverse impacts created by the potential growth from the water service. However, the normal discretionary permit process within the County of Los Angeles would identify and avoid, minimize, or reduce impacts according to CEQA.	The implementation of the requirements of CEQA would reduce the impacts to less than significant and the cumulative impact of the project would be less than cumulatively considerable.
Schools		
The proposed pipeline extension would cause no project specific impacts for schools. The potential for growth inducement may provide for more construction of residential dwelling units in the service area of NCWD. The legal jurisdiction of the Sulphur Springs School District is providing active planning for the student growth in the area by providing 1800-2000 pupil seats within five years.	Current and future planning by Sulphur Springs School District.	The current and future planning by Sulphur Springs School District will reduce the impact to schools to a level less than significant and less than cumulatively considerable.
The NCWD water pipeline extension will provide fire protection flow to areas that currently have no protection or rely on pumped groundwater.	None required	Beneficial impact





Project potential cumulative impacts, along with approved, pending, and proposed cumulative projects near the project area, are identified in Table ES-2, Summary of Cumulative Environmental Impacts. The impacts are organized by classes and are defined as the following:

- *Class I Impacts* - significant, unavoidable, adverse impacts that require a statement of overriding consideration be issued pursuant to Section 15093 of the *State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines* if the project is approved;
- *Class II Impacts* - significant adverse impacts that can be feasibly mitigated to less-than-significant levels and require findings to be made pursuant to Section 15091 of the *State CEQA Guideline*;
- *Class III Impacts* - considered to be less-than-significant impacts; and
- *Class IV Impacts* - identified as *beneficial impacts*.

Table ES-2. Summary of Cumulative Environmental Impacts

<i>CLASS I</i>
<p>There are no direct significant, unavoidable, adverse impacts associated with the Vasquez Water Main Project; however, since the proposed pipeline is sized such that an existing impediment to growth in the area would be removed, several resources are expected to be significantly impacted if additional growth indeed follows installation of the pipeline. Regardless, since NCWD has no authority to permit or condition and development project within the service area, NCWD cannot reduce those impacts to less-than-significant levels, and NCWD will need to make findings of overriding considerations for those resource impacts.</p>
<i>CLASS II</i>
<p>The implementation of the mitigation measures and monitoring programs for Biological Resources, Risk of Upset/Hazardous Materials, Hydrology, and Water Quality would reduce the cumulative impacts for the project to <i>less than cumulatively considerable</i>.</p> <p>The potential impacts from future growth, and their avoidance, reduction and/or mitigation through the CEQA process for discretionary projects would fall on a jurisdiction other than the NCWD. However, the discretionary permit process, and normal exactions from development projects would normally reduce the impact to <i>less than cumulatively considerable</i>.</p>
<i>CLASS III</i>
<p>There are no direct impacts associated with Agriculture, Geology and Soils, Minerals, and Recreation. The cumulative impacts are considered <i>less than cumulatively considerable</i>.</p>

