



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION RESERVOIRS 4711-3 AND 4711-4 PROJECT

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Draft Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the proposed Reservoirs 4711-3 and 4711-4 (Project) in accordance with Public Resource Code §§21000 – 21189.57 and the CEQA Guidelines §§15000 – 15387.

CEQA Guidelines §15105 and §15073 require a 30-day review period for the Draft IS/MND. During this review period, beginning **September 29, 2021 and ending October 29, 2021**, CVWD will receive comments on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the possible impacts on the environment and ways in which the significant effects of the project might be avoided or mitigated (CEQA Guidelines §15104). If you wish to be placed on the mailing list to receive notices regarding the proposed Project, have any questions, or need additional information, please use the Contact Person information identified below.

Project Description

The proposed Project includes the construction of two 1,000,000-gallon (1MG) aboveground welded-steel tanks (Reservoirs 4711-3 and 4711-4), followed by the demolition of the two existing 100,000-gallon aboveground bolted-steel tanks (Reservoirs 4711-1 and 4711-2), which were originally constructed in 1993 and 1999. The construction of the proposed Reservoirs 4711-3 and 4711-4 would include the following components:

- Excavation, grading, soil compaction, and construction of two 76-foot diameter by 5-foot deep foundations;
- Construction of two 1MG welded-steel tanks;
- Construction of all required aboveground and buried appurtenances (e.g., water meters, valves, 18-inch diameter connection to the existing Dillon Road Transmission Pipeline, etc.); and
- Construction of all required infrastructure (e.g., riprap revetment north/upstream of the new reservoirs, perimeter chain-link fence, etc.).

Following the construction and initial operation of proposed Reservoirs 4711-3 and 4711-4, the two existing bolted-steel tanks (Reservoirs 4711-1 and 4711-2) and associated appurtenances and infrastructure would be demolished and removed from the Project site. This demolition would include the removal of existing aboveground meters, valves, and pipelines as well as the existing riprap revetment and perimeter chain-link fence. The buried pipelines associated with the existing tanks may be removed or abandoned in place.

CVWD is a California Special District formed in 1918 to protect and conserve local water sources to the Coachella Valley. The District provides irrigation and domestic drinking water, collects and recycles wastewater, provides regional storm water protection, replenishes the groundwater basin and promotes water conservation. The proposed Project would restore and improve water storage infrastructure and ensure reliable and sustainable domestic water supply and fire flow protection to

Notice of Intent to Adopt A
Mitigated Negative Declaration
Reservoirs 4711-3 AND 4711-4 Project
Page 2

CVWD's customers within the Sky Valley Domestic Water Production Zone / Indio Hills Pressure Zone, which serves the unincorporated community of Indio Hills.

Project Location

CVWD's service area comprises approximately 1,000 square miles in the Coachella Valley within Riverside County and portions of Imperial and San Diego counties. The Project site is located in the northwest portion of CVWD's service area within the unincorporated community of Indio Hills, Riverside County, California approximately 0.5 mile north of the intersection of 30th Avenue and Sunny Rock Road. The Project site is located within the southwest corner of Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 750-130-005, a 3.67-acre, CVWD-owned property located within a portion of Section 11, Township 4 South, Range 7 East, San Bernardino Base and Meridian.

Environmental Impacts Analyzed

The Draft IS/MND analyzed potential environmental effects associated with: aesthetics; agriculture and forestry resources; air quality; biological resources; cultural resources; energy; geology and soils; greenhouse gas emissions; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; land use and planning; mineral resources; noise; population and housing; public services; recreation; transportation; tribal cultural resources; utilities and services systems; and wildlife. The Draft IS/MND also analyzed mandatory findings of significance, including potential cumulative impacts.

Availability of Environmental Documentation: The Draft IS/MND and other project background materials may be viewed online at: www.CVWD.org.

How to Submit a Comment & Contact Person

You are invited to submit written comments on the Draft IS/MND by standard mail to: William Patterson, Environmental Supervisor, CVWD, 75-515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92211, or by email to wpatterson@cvwd.org.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, comments on the Draft IS/MND must be received not later than **5:00 p.m. on October 29, 2021**. All comments provided will become public record.

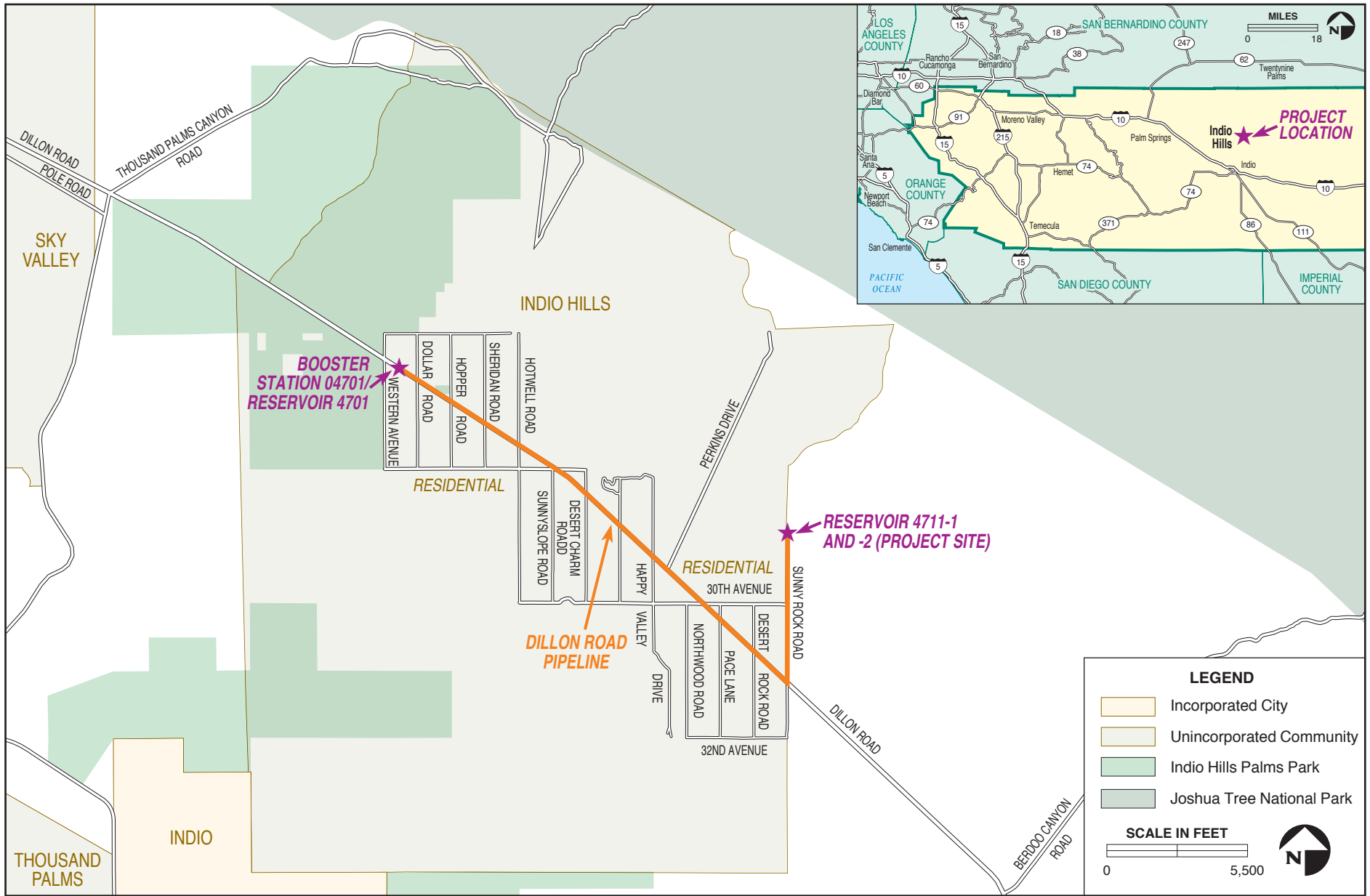


FIGURE 1