

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE
REGIONAL LIFT STATION FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

The Moulton Niguel Water District (MNWD), as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared and plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Regional Lift Station Force Main Replacements Project (project). This notice is intended to notify agencies and members of the public that may be interested in the project as to the availability of the Draft Initial Study (IS)/MND, and the procedures for public review and comment on the IS/MND.

Project Title: Regional Lift Station Force Main Replacements Project

Project Applicant: Moulton Niguel Water District

State Clearinghouse Number: None Yet Assigned

Project Location: The project area is generally located 1.6 miles west of Interstate 5 and 2.7 miles east of State Route 133 in the City of Laguna Niguel (City). The project is contained within the Laguna Niguel Regional Park, located at 28241 La Paz Road. The project area extends generally from the most southern portion of the park to the most northern portion of the park, traversing the park along the east bank of the Sulphur Creek Reservoir. At the northern extent of Laguna Niguel Regional Park, the project area extends west and terminates near Alicia Parkway.

Project Description: The project would replace existing sewage force mains with new dual 24-inch force mains, each approximately 8,500 linear feet in length, in a new alignment. The force mains would begin at the Regional Lift Station near Alicia Parkway, and head east and travel alongside the main access road for the Laguna Niguel Regional Park. The force mains would then head south following a service path on the east side of the Sulphur Creek Reservoir. The alignment would end at the Joint Regional Treatment Plant operated by the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA). Sewer service would be maintained through the existing pipes during construction. MNWD would install the new force mains utilizing open-cut trenching and trenchless installation methods. Trenchless installation methods may include microtunneling or jack and bore construction. One or both of the existing force mains will be repurposed for secondary effluent from the Regional Treatment Plant.

Probable Environmental Effects: The Draft IS/MND identified potentially significant impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, and tribal cultural resources. Mitigation measures, as described in the Draft IS/MND, have been incorporated into the project that either eliminate the project's impacts or reduce them to less than significant levels.

Availability of Document: Pursuant to CEQA, the Draft IS/MND is being made available for a public review period, which is to commence on March 6, 2019 and end on April 5, 2019. The Draft IS/MND and the supporting technical appendices are available for review at the following

locations: MNWD Main Office Front Counter (27500 La Paz Road, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677); Aliso Viejo Library (1 Journey, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656); and Laguna Niguel Library (30341 Crown Valley Pkwy, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677).

The Draft IS/MND and appendices are also available for review and download from MNWD's website: <https://www.mnwd.com/engineering-notices/>

Comments: MNWD will be accepting written comments regarding the Draft IS/MND. Please send responses to: Todd Dmytryshyn, Moulton Niguel Water District, 26161 Gordon Road, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 or via email to TDmytryshyn@mnwd.com. **Comments must be received no later than 5:00 PM on April 5, 2019.** Please include the name, email address, phone number, and mailing address of the contact person submitting the written response. For additional information regarding the environmental review for this project, please email Todd Dmytryshyn at TDmytryshyn@mnwd.com.

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15072(g)(5), it is hereby acknowledged that the project site is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5; specifically, the Laguna Niguel Regional Park site is listed in the State Water Resources Control Board's Geotracker database as a leaking underground storage tank (LUST) cleanup site. However, the cleanup was completed and the case was closed as of October 1990. No other listed hazardous material sites are located within or adjacent to the project alignment.