

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Name: Sediment Remediation Project, Piers 39 to 43½, San Francisco, CA

Notice: The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) hereby notices its intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for remediation of offshore sediment at Piers 39 to 43½ (the Project Area) within the Port of San Francisco. Since 2016, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) has investigated the nature, distribution, and extent of sediment contamination within the Project Area. Some sediments contain elevated concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which are chemicals found in petroleum and in byproduct waste formed from historical Manufactured Gas Plant operations. Impacts in sediments occur close to the shoreline and extend bayward in five areas within the Project Area. A Feasibility Study/Remedial Action Plan (FS/RAP) details the planned cleanup of offshore Bay sediments.

Project Location: The Project Area encompasses Pier 39 and the intertidal and subtidal area between Pier 39 and Pier 43½ along the margin of San Francisco, extending into the Bay to the north of The Embarcadero, approximately between Taylor and Kearny Streets. The bayward limits of the Project Area extend approximately 1,000 feet offshore. The Project Area includes a small craft marina; multiple piers housing vessels for bay excursions, cruises, sailing, fishing, and ferry operations; and a high concentration of visitor-related commercial development (shops and restaurants). The adjacent upland area consists of densely developed commercial areas including parking lots, hotels, shops, restaurants, pedestrian and bicycle pathways, a playground, and some park areas.

Project Description: The purpose of the proposed Project is to remediate (i.e., clean up) sediments impacted (i.e., contaminated) with PAHs within the Project Area to protect human health and the environment. The recommended remedial alternative proposes dredging to remove contaminated sediment, offsite disposal of contaminated sediment, and capping of sediments that pose a risk to human or environmental health. Placement of armoring where necessary during capping would protect installed sand caps or existing sediment from scour or disturbance that might expose sediment with elevated PAH concentrations. Dredged sediment will be placed in and transported by barge to Pier 96 on the southern San Francisco waterfront, offloaded, placed in a containment area for drying and transport by truck to a licensed landfill. Capping material and equipment staging will also occur at Pier 96.

Environmental Effects: The Water Board, as the lead State Agency, has prepared an Initial Study (IS) and MND pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15063 and 15071. Potentially significant environmental effects that are addressed in the Draft IS/MND include, but are not limited to, air quality, biological

resources, cultural resources, hydrology and water quality, hazardous materials, noise, recreation and transportation. All the potential significant environmental effects were found to be avoided or would result in less than significant impacts with the incorporation of mitigation measures.

Where to Review the Environmental Document and Provide Comments: The public is hereby invited to submit written comments regarding the environmental findings contained in the IS and MND. An electronic copy of the Draft FS/RAP, the Draft IS/MND, and other documents for the Site are available on the GeoTracker website at: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>. (Under “Tools”, click on “Advanced Search” and enter Case ID number: T10000007367, then click on “Site Maps/Documents.”)

Written comments should be submitted during the public review period listed below and should be addressed to:

Ross Steenson

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Comments may also be emailed to Ross Steenson at

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Public Review Period: October 20 to November 19, 2021