
State Water Resources Control Board

**Public Notice of Application for
Water Quality Certification for Metro Goldline Foothill Extension
Construction Authority**

**Metro Goldline Foothill Extension Project Phase 2B
Affected Counties: Los Angeles and San Bernardino**

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Water Quality Certification Program

Pursuant to federal law (Title 33, United States Code, Section 1341; Clean Water Act Section 401), applicants for a federal license or permit for activities that may discharge to waters of the United States must seek a Water Quality Certification from the state with jurisdiction. Such Certification is based on a finding that the discharge would meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has responsibility for issuing certifications for projects affecting waters within multiple Regional Water Board jurisdictions.

The following information is provided in satisfaction of the public notice requirements of Section 3858, Title 23, of the California Code of Regulations, which govern the State's Certification Program.

Applicant: Metro Goldline Foothill Extension Construction Authority
Agent: Kurt Kroner, Kroner Environmental
Agent Telephone: (310) 474-1500
Agent Email: kkroner@kronerenvironmental.com

Project Name: Metro Goldline Foothill Extension Project Phase 2B

CIWQS Regulatory Measure ID: 391256
File No.: SB18014IN
Date of Application: December 20, 2018

Designated Staff Representative:

Cliff Harvey, Environmental Scientist
401 Certification and Wetlands Unit, Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
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FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On December 20, 2017, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) received an application requesting Federal Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification for activities related to the Metro Goldline Foothill Extension (MGFE) Phase 2B Project (Project), from the Metro Goldline Foothill Extension Project Construction Authority (Applicant), a joint powers authority. The proposed Project spans the jurisdiction of more than one Regional Water Quality Control Board, and therefore, the State Water Board has jurisdiction over the Project. Activities would be conducted within the boundaries of the Los Angeles and Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Boards.

The MGFE Authority proposes to provide a direct light rail transit connection from the existing Metrolink light rail transit (LRT) system to the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair. The Metro Gold Line LRT system currently extends from Los Angeles to Azusa serving cities and communities along the alignment corridor. The Project will continue the Metro Gold Line alignment for approximately 12.3 miles to the east from Azusa to Montclair.

The project would replace or relocate the existing freight bridges/tracks that span Little Dalton Wash, Big Dalton Wash, San Dimas Wash, Puddingstone Channel, Marshall Canyon Channel, Live Oak Wash, and Thompson Creek Wash in the Los Angeles water quality control region, and the San Antonio Channel in the Santa Ana region, in order to accommodate additional dual track LRT bridges. Little Dalton Wash and Puddingstone Channel are completely underground where they intersect with the Project ROW.

Projected temporary impacts to Waters of the U.S. and waters of the state are summarized in Table 1, below. No permanent impacts are reported. Riparian impacts are not reported for these concrete lined channels; the areas adjacent to the channels are nearly continuous pavement or other development with only small patches of ruderal unpaved land.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity¹									
Aquatic Resource Type	Temporary Impact²			Permanent Impact					
				Physical Loss of Area			Degradation of Ecological Condition Only		
	Acres	CY	LF	Acres	CY	LF	Acres	CY	LF
Stream Channel	0.192		625						

Status of CEQA and other Natural Resource Documents and Permits

On March 6, 2013, the MGFE Construction Authority, acting as lead agency under CEQA filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) for the MGFE Project Phase 2B the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) (State Clearinghouse No. 2010121069). Subsequent refinements of the project were made through addenda to the Final EIR on May 28, 2014, December 17, 2014, and March, 23, 2016. A NOD for a fourth addendum was posted on September 29, 2017.

¹ Cubic Yards (CY); Linear Feet (LF)

² Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.

The Applicant is seeking authorization under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) 2017 Nationwide Permit # 33 through a notification to the Corps South Pacific Division – Los Angeles District (File No. SPL-2017-00779-VCL).

The State Water Board is proposing to regulate the Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. In addition, the Board will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office by mail during a 21-day comment period that begins on March 29, 2018 and ends at 5:00 p.m. on April 20, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact the designated staff representative listed above.

Submission of Written Comments

The State Water Board will accept written public comments regarding this item. Please indicate in the subject line: "Comment Letter – Metro Goldline." Written comment letters must be received no later than 12:00 p.m. noon on April 20, 2018.

Hard copy paper or other media (CD, DVD, etc.) must be addressed to the designated staff representative at the address listed above. Couriers delivering comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact the staff representative.

Comment letters may be submitted electronically to the designated staff representative at the email address provided above. For electronic documents larger than 15 megabytes in total size, please contact the designated staff representative directly to arrange for delivery. Comments may also be submitted by fax to (916) 341-5620.

Date Posted: March 29, 2018

Note: No regulatory decision on the application is implied or intended in this public notice.

KEEP INFORMED OF PROJECT MILESTONES

To be informed of milestones in the development of this proposed Water Quality Certification, any interested persons should enroll in the State Water Board's 401 Program e-mail notification service. To enroll, go the State Water Board webpage:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html and enter contact information. Open the "Water Quality" drop-down menu, and check the box next to "CWA401 – Certification and Wetlands Program" then click 'Subscribe'. By enrolling in the CWA401 – Certification and Wetlands Program list, you will receive notices for all current 401 project applications, including the project announced in this notice. You will need a valid e-mail address to use this service. You can enroll or un-enroll at any time.