



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF
SPKCO-O

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SACRAMENTO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
650 CAPITOL MALL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

CCLP 61-1

TO GO

7 July 1980

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 5820A

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Subject: Application for a Department of the Army permit to add four additional pumping units to the existing Delta pumping plant.

Applicant: State of California, Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802.

Location: The Delta pumping plant is located at the end of an intake channel, southwest of the **Clifton Court Forebay** at the southwest edge of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta on the Contra Costa-Alameda county line, approximately 12 miles northwest of Tracy, California. The project is described and shown on the drawings attached to this notice.

Purpose: The purpose of the Delta pumping plant, intake channel, and Clifton Court Forebay is to divert water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta into the California Aqueduct, where it is conveyed to the San Joaquin Valley, South San Francisco Bay area, and southern California. The proposed additional units would alleviate scheduling problems for maintenance of the existing units, would minimize the peak power requirements of the State Water Project (SWP) in energy costs, and would convey future water supplies from upriver water transfer and storage facilities.

Additional Information: The existing pumping plant consists of seven pumps with a capacity of 6,300 cubic feet per second. These pumps lift water 244 feet from the intake channel into the California Aqueduct. The four proposed units would be capable of pumping 1,067 cubic feet of water per second each and each would be driven by a 34,500-horsepower electric motor. These pumps would be paired to discharge through existing manifolds into two existing 15-foot diameter discharge lines.

PENDING PERMIT NO. 5820: The Department of Water Resources, on October 21, 1975, applied for a Department of the Army permit for operation of the Delta Pumping Plant, Intake Channel, and Clifton Court Forebay, and for the installation and operation of four additional pumps at the pumping plant. The application was filed pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and by order of the United States District Court (**Sierra Club v. Morton**). By making application, the Department of Water Resources in no way waives its right to withdraw the application if it prevails in overturning the order of the court referred to above.

To facilitate compliance with the District Court's order, the Corps has treated the application as if it were two applications; first, for approval of the existing facilities; second, for the installation and operation for four additional pumps. A public notice and draft EIS for the first application was published on December 21, 1978, and a final EIS is presently being prepared.

The latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and its monthly supplements have been reviewed and there are no places either listed or recommended as eligible which would be affected. No further cultural resources review is warranted because the permit area has been created in modern times. The proposed activity would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat. The District Engineer has made this determination based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary evaluation.

A permit issued by the Department of the Army does not give any property rights either in real estate or material or any exclusive privileges and does not authorize any injury of private property or invasion of private rights, or any infringement of Federal, State or local laws or regulations, nor does it obviate the necessity of obtaining State or local assent to the work authorized.

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Interested parties are invited to submit any comments they may have in writing, on or before **7 August 1980**. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the impact on the public interest, under authority of **Section 10**, River and Harbor Act of 1899. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. No permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be in the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers and California Department of Water Resources will prepare a joint EIR/EIS to discuss environmental impacts related to the construction and use of the four additional pumping units. With this notice we intend to accomplish the scoping process called for by the Council on Environmental Quality's guidelines for environmental statements. We request, therefore, that reviewers of this public notice provide comment on the topical scope, alternatives, major issues, and mitigation to be discussed in the EIS. Comments should be sent to the Regulatory Section at the above address before the expiration date of this public notice. The final EIS for the existing pumping plant and appurtenances is being completed and will be distributed before 1 November 1980. No decision will be made on this application until processing of the application for the operation of the existing Delta Pumping Plant is complete.

For further information, contact Regulatory Section, Operations Branch, Room 6540, or telephone (916) 440-2325, or Norm Meade, Department of Water Resources at (916) 322-6220.

2 Incl
2 Drawings
1 Project Description

PAUL F. KAVANAUGH
Colonel, CE
District Engineer

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF FOUR ADDITIONAL PUMPING UNITS IN THE DELTA PUMPING PLANT

Existing Facilities

Location

The Delta Pumping Plant, Intake Channel, and Clifton Court Forebay are located at the south edge of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta approximately 12 miles northwest of Tracy, California. The Delta Pumping Plant is located on the Contra Costa and Alameda County line. These facilities are delineated on the attached drawings.

Purpose

The purpose of these existing facilities is to divert water from the Delta to the California Aqueduct, part of the State Water Project (SWP), for beneficial use in the San Joaquin Valley, South San Francisco Bay, and Southern California areas of need. This water is entirely contracted for by local water vending agencies.

Operations

Project water flows through the channels of the Delta to the forebay, through control gates into the forebay, and then through the intake channel to the pumping plant. A fish protective facility is located on the intake channel to divert and retrieve fish for return to the Delta. The pumping plant lifts water 244 feet from the intake channel to the California Aqueduct. The plant was designed for 11 pumps, presently 7 pumps are installed with a pumping capability of 6300 cubic feet of water per second.

Operation of the forebay and the pumping plant is coordinated with that of upstream reservoirs of the SWP and the federal Central Valley Project (CVP) and CVP Delta diversion facilities to meet applicable Federal and State water quality standards. The present standards are those set forth in Water Rights Decision 1485. Clifton Court Forebay accommodates mismatches between variable rates of inflow from the Delta, which are governed by tides, and pumping rates.

THE ADDITIONAL PUMPING UNITS

The four additional pumps and the related facilities are delineated on the attached drawings. The four additional pumps could each pump 1,067 cubic feet of water per second and each would be driven by 34,500-horsepower electric motors. These pumps would be paired to discharge through existing manifolds into two existing 15-foot diameter discharge lines.

The additional units are a component of the Department of Water Resources' comprehensive program to balance water supplies with needs in the State Water Project's service areas, while protecting the beneficial uses of water in the Delta-Bay estuary. Present planning for transferring water across the Delta includes a Peripheral Canal to mitigate the impact of the diversions on Delta fisheries. Other components include additional reservoirs north and south of the Delta, ground water storage south of the Delta, and water conservation and recycling in the service areas.

Purpose

The purposes of the additional pumping units are:

1. alleviate scheduling problems for maintenance of the existing units,
2. minimize the peak power requirements of the SWP and energy costs, and
3. convey future water supplies developed by the aforementioned water transfer and storage facilities.

Alternatives

The following alternatives have been identified to date. All alternatives involve operation in compliance with D-1485 and/or other constraints, as identified below.

1. No action, i.e., continued operation with existing seven pumps.
2. Installation and operation of one, two, or three additional pumps.
3. Installation of four additional pumps, with operations on a monthly basis limited to the diversions which could be made with the existing seven pumps.
4. Installation of four additional pumps, with operations on an annual basis limited to what could be diverted with the existing seven pumps.

5. Installation of four additional pumps with maximum diversions of available surplus water. (Defined as water over and above that necessary to comply with D-1485 and other constraints.)
6. Installation of four additional pumps, with operations in accordance with limitations for protecting fish to be negotiated with the California Department of Fish and Game.
7. Balance water needs in project service areas by such measures as conservation, reclamation, water rights transfers, pricing, and watershed management.

Environmental Impacts

The environmental effects of the project itself are expected to vary with the operational alternatives. Environmental effects identified to date are:

1. Increased off-peak pumping might adversely affect the efficiency of the present fish salvage system, which would be improved with the enlarged fish facility.
2. More efficient use of available electrical generating capacity for the SWP in particular and California in general.
3. Increased exports could adversely affect the Delta fisheries.

Cumulative future environmental effects of related water development projects could include:

4. Impacts associated with generating the energy to pump additional water to the service areas.
5. Impacts associated with future additional reservoirs required to store the water that would be pumped.
6. Impacts on air quality, water quality, transportation, social services, solid waste, waste water, conversion of agricultural lands, etc., from the growth serviced by the additional water.