



February 1, 2007

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Richmond Advanced Recycled Expansion (RARE) Water Project Richmond, California Draft Environmental Impact Report

Notice is hereby given that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Richmond Advanced Recycled Expansion (RARE) Water Project is available for public review. The lead agency is the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, CA 94607.

Project Description: The East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) proposes to implement the RARE Water Project, which would include the construction and operation of an advanced recycled water treatment plant to treat up to 4 million gallons per day (mgd) of recycled water within the Chevron Refinery (Chevron) property in Richmond, California. Through a partnership formed between EBMUD and the West County Wastewater District (WCWD), secondary effluent from the WCWD Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) would undergo microfiltration and reverse osmosis at the RARE water treatment plant to produce high-purity recycled water that would be used at Chevron as boiler makeup water. This new use of recycled water at the refinery would expand EBMUD's existing recycled water service in Richmond and offset up to 4 mgd of limited potable water supply.

A majority of project construction would occur within the boundaries of the Chevron Refinery. Construction occurring outside the refinery would include pipeline installation in 1) a portion of West Gertrude Avenue, west of Richmond Parkway, and 2) along a section of Brookside Drive, from Central Street to just west of Giant Boulevard.

Analysis of environmental impacts associated with the RARE Water Project identified some potentially significant impacts in the following areas: hydrology, biological resources, air quality, noise, transportation and traffic, hazards and hazardous materials, cultural resources, and recreation. These impacts primarily would be temporary impacts resulting from construction activities, and all impacts would be reduced to less-than-significant levels by implementation of mitigation measures. Growth inducement potential, secondary effects of growth, alternatives to the project, and cumulative impacts also are addressed in the Draft EIR.

Public Review: The Draft EIR, prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, is available for public review at the EBMUD office located at 375 11th Street in Oakland and at the following locations:

Richmond Public Library
325 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

San Pablo Library
2300 El Portal Drive
San Pablo, CA 94806

The Draft EIR will also be available on EBMUD's website at www.ebmud.com. Click on *Water & Environment > Water Supply > Current Projects*. Requests for copies of the EIR (in hard copy or on CD) can be made by calling Susan Alfonso at (510) 287-1658 or e-mailing salfonso@ebmud.com.

Public Meeting: EBMUD will be conducting a public workshop for the project on **March 1, 2007** at **6:30 p.m.** at West County Wastewater District Board Room in Richmond, California. The Board Room is located at 2910 Hilltop Drive. This location is accessible by public transportation.

Deadline: Comments on the Draft EIR must be received by **4:30 p.m.** on **March 19, 2007**. Submit comments in writing to Heidi Oriol, Associate Engineer, 375 Eleventh Street, Mail Slot 702, Oakland, CA 94607-4240 or by e-mail to horiol@ebmud.com. All comments must include a contact name and mailing address. Action on the EIR is currently scheduled to be taken by the EBMUD Board of Directors at a regularly scheduled board meeting on May 22, 2007 at 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, California.

