



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Notice of Preparation

TO: Whom It May Concern FROM: County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803

Subject: **Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development and Notice of Four Scoping Meeting Dates and Locations**

The County of Los Angeles will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to assess the feasibility of the adoption of an ordinance to allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new single-family residential construction in unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles, where there is no available service from a public or private water purveyor and where it has been demonstrated that an on-site groundwater well is not feasible. This project is referred to as the proposed Initiative. The County is seeking input from responsible and trustee agencies, other agencies required to receive this notice, and from the State Office of Planning and Research, and is also extending the outreach for early public consultation with potentially eligible property owners, and other interested parties regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. Scoping has been helpful to agencies in identifying a range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant impacts to be analyzed in depth in an EIR, and in eliminating detailed studies of issues that are not expected to result in significant impacts. Responsible and trustee agencies will need to use the EIR when considering permits or related approvals for the proposed Initiative.

In order to determine which areas would be subject to the proposed Initiative, the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning developed a geographic information system (GIS) suitability model in 2012 based on five criteria :

- Parcels located in the unincorporated territory of Los Angeles County
- Vacant parcels
- Parcels located in areas where there is no designated water purveyor
- Zoning and General Plan designation that allow for development of a single-family residence
- Parcel size > 2,000 square feet with slopes under 50 percent (26.6°)

The County has estimated that, should the proposed Initiative be adopted, approximately 42,677 parcel owners in the County could be eligible to seek authorization for use of hauled water to support issuance of a building permit for a single-family residence (see Topographic Map). The combined proposed initiative study area consists of approximately 285,500 acres or approximately 450 square miles.

The parcels that would be affected by the proposed Initiative are located entirely within the 5th Supervisorial District in the northern one-third of the County, including areas located north and east of the San Gabriel Mountains in the Antelope Valley; areas located northeast of the City of Santa Clarita, north and south of California State Route 14; areas that are southwest of the City of Palmdale in the communities of Agua Dulce and Acton; and in the Kagel Canyon area in the Angeles National Forest. The subject parcels have been categorized into seven subareas:

1. **Lake Hughes, Gorman, West of Lancaster:** The Lake Hughes, Gorman, West of Lancaster subarea is located in an area generally located west of State Highway 14 and north of the Angeles National Forest.
2. **Lancaster Northeast:** The Lancaster Northeast subarea is located in an area generally east of State Highway 14 and north of East Avenue J.
3. **Antelope Valley Northeast:** The Antelope Valley North East subarea is located in an area generally located north of East Avenue E and east of 165th Street East in the far northeastern portion of Los Angeles County.
4. **Lake Los Angeles / Llano / Valyermo / Littlerock:** The Lake Los Angeles / Llano / Valyermo / Littlerock subarea is located in an area generally south of East Avenue J, east of 47th Street East.
5. **Acton:** The Acton subarea is located in an area generally east of Hubbard Road and West of 47th Street East.
6. **Castaic / Santa Clarita / Agua Dulce:** The Castaic / Santa Clarita / Agua Dulce subarea is located generally west of Hubbard Road and north of the 210 Freeway excluding Kagel Canyon.
7. **Kagel Canyon:** The Kagel Canyon subarea is surrounded by the Angeles National Forest and generally located along Kagel Canyon Road north of the 210 Freeway, west of Little Tujunga Road, and east of Lopez Canyon Road.

The County has completed an Initial Study and made a preliminary determination regarding the scope of the environmental analysis:

Environmental Issues Determined to Have No Impact or Less than Significant Impact

- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Geology and Soils
- Minerals

Environmental Issues with Potential Significant Impacts or Public Controversy

- Aesthetics
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Population and Housing
- Biological Resources
- Public Services
- Cultural Resources
- Recreation
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Transportation/Traffic
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Land Use and Planning

The Initial Study is available for review during the scoping period, September 17 to October 20, 2014, at:

5th Supervisorial District Field Office
1113 West Avenue M-4, Suite A
Palmdale, California 93551

Acton Agua Dulce Library
33792 Crown Valley Road
Acton, California 93510

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803

Castaic Library
27955 Sloan Canyon Road
Castaic, California 91384

Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Stevenson Ranch Express Library
26233 West Faulkner Drive
Stevenson Ranch, California 91381

Quartz Hill Library
42018 North 50th Street West
Quartz Hill, California 93536

Lancaster Library
601 West Lancaster Boulevard
Lancaster, CA 93534

Lake Los Angeles Library
16921 East Avenue O, #A
Palmdale, California 93591

The County is providing a 35-day scoping period, rather than the standard 30-day scoping period, to allow sufficient time to host four scoping meetings:

Scoping meetings: The County will host four public scoping meetings to review the various project elements and solicit information in relation to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis for the proposed Initiative. The scoping meetings will take place from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the following locations on the dates listed:

September 24, 2014:
Agua Dulce Women's Club
33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Road
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

October 8, 2014:
Acton Community Club
3748 West Nickels Avenue
Acton, CA 93510

October 1, 2014:
Juniper Hills Community Center
31401 N. 106th East
Juniper Hills, CA 93543

October 15, 2014:
General William J. Fox Airfield
4555 West Avenue G
Lancaster, CA 93536

To ensure full consideration in the Environmental Impact Report, comments must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 20, 2014. Please send letters of comment (including the name of the designated contact person for your agency if applicable) on the Notice of Preparation to the following address:

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803

Comments can also be submitted electronically at: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

Comments sent via e-mail should state Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments in the Subject Line

Agencies and organization should identify a point of contact for future coordination.

Project Title: Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development

Signature: 
Mr. Dale Sakamoto

Telephone: (626) 458-3915

Title: Civil Engineer

Date: September 17, 2014

