

Attachment 9 – Past Performance

ATTACHMENT 9 – PAST PERFORMANCE

- *Summarize, in no more than two pages using a minimum 10-point type font (excluding supporting attachments), the performance of the applicant over the past five years in doing work comparable to the proposal. Provide copies of letters, e-mails, evaluations, etc., as supporting documentation. Discuss past performance on previous DWR grants or grants from other State or federal agencies.*

The City has not had any active grant agreements with DWR or other state or federal agencies. However, in April 2011, the City submitted a grant application to the State of California's Department of Water Resources, Proposition 84/1E Stormwater Flood Management Grant Program. The application submitted under this program pertained to the Upper Amargosa Creek Flood Control, Recharge, and Habitat Restoration Project (ACRP). The Amargosa Project proposed to provide flood protection by confining Amargosa Creek stormwater flows within channel berms that prevent erosion damage to nearby utilities, local streets, and eliminating a public safety hazard.

The project also provides the region with additional water supplies from increased groundwater recharge, native habitat restoration, and additional community/park areas within the Amargosa Creek Watershed. The project will use two sources of water to recharge the underlying aquifer: 1) untreated State Water Project (SWP) water and 2) stormwater runoff from the Amargosa Creek Watershed.

To date, the Proposition 84/1E Stormwater Flood Management Grant Application for the Amargosa Project has been approved and awarded by the state. The letter of approval by DWR is included in this attachment. The City is now in the process of finalizing and executing a final grant agreement with the state.

With respect to performance on comparable work efforts, the City has been actively engaged with USGS to assess the feasibility and potential benefits of the proposed Amargosa Project. In 2008, the City entered into a cooperative agreement with USGS. The City, in conjunction with USGS, has conducted preliminary evaluations of the study area to determine alluvial thickness, identify features such as faults that might influence groundwater flows, etc. Geophysical data has also been collected help characterize aquifer conditions. The USGS has prepared a Scientific Investigation Report (SIR), "*Feasibility and Potential Benefits of the Proposed Amargosa Creek Recharge Project. Palmdale, California.*" The SIR presents preliminary results and data collected and includes: results of geophysical surveys including gravity surveys, seismic refraction-reflection survey and seismic inversions, simulated artificial recharge scenarios based on alluvial thickness models, and estimated aquifer properties. These studies have all been completed within schedule and budget. The SIR abstract, describing project related findings is included in this attachment. This SIR is still under peer review and has not yet been circulated for publication.

The proposed project will provide additional data that is necessary to validate previous findings and will provide information to other stakeholders in the Antelope Valley Region on aquifer

conditions that will serve to inform the agencies on how to better manage groundwater supplies for the area.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791

JAN 27 2012



Mr. Mike Mischel
Director of Public Works
City of Palmdale
38250 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, California 93550

Commitment Letter - Proposition 1E, Round 1 Stormwater Flood Management Grant

Dear Mr. Mischel:

Thank you for your interest in the Proposition 1E, Round 1 Stormwater Flood Management (SWFM) Grant Solicitation Program. We are pleased to inform you that the proposal, Upper Amargosa Creek Flood Control, Recharge, and Habitat Restoration Project, filed by the City of Palmdale, has been selected by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for funding. This letter serves as DWR's conditional commitment of \$6,500,000 in Proposition 1E, SWFM grant funding for the proposal. This award is conditioned upon the execution of a Grant Agreement between DWR and your agency. A copy of the Grant Agreement template is available at the following website: http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_resourceslinks.cfm.

The execution conditions that must be met before DWR will enter into a Grant Agreement with your agency and additional requirements that must be addressed to maintain grant eligibility or prior to disbursement of grant funds are listed in Attachment 1. Your timely attention to these requirements is very important. DWR wishes to execute the Grant Agreement within the very near future. Attachment 2 includes an Environmental Information Form (EIF) that will need to be completed for the grant funded project. Failure on your part to meet these conditions and requirements, in a timely manner, may result in DWR revoking the grant award.

Please return the requested information to Jennifer Wong at 770 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 102, Glendale, California 91203 within the time period listed in Attachment 1.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Wong at (818) 500-1645 x 262 or jenwong@water.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracie L. Billington".

Tracie L. Billington, P.E., Chief
Financial Assistance Branch
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management

Attachments

Attachment 1

Grant Agreement Execution Conditions and Additional Requirements

The following execution conditions must be met before DWR will execute the Grant Agreement. Whereas, the additional requirements must be continuously met by the Grantee to maintain grant funding eligibility and must be met prior to disbursement of grant funds.

Execution Conditions:

- Within 14 calendar days of the date of this letter, submit a letter confirming your agency as the Grantee to accept the grant award in the amount of \$6,500,000.
- Within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter, submit documentation that the Grantee has available sources of sufficient funds to complete the grant-funded project. Specifically, submit copies of the most recent three years of audited financial statements including the following items:
 - Balance sheets, statements of sources of income and uses of funds, a summary description of existing debts including bonds, and the most recent annual budget
 - Separate details for the water enterprise fund, if applicable to your organization
 - A list of all cash reserves, restricted and unrestricted, and any planned uses of those reserves
 - Any loans required for project funding and a description of the repayment method of any such loans.
- Within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter:
 - Submit work plan, budget, and schedule changes to DWR for review and approval. Any changes to the work plan, budget, or schedule since the grant application was submitted will only be considered acceptable by DWR if the project maintains or increases the level of quality and benefits as compared to the original application.

Additional Requirements to Maintain Eligibility for Grant Reimbursements:

- Grantee must submit documents that satisfy the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and, if applicable, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process as well as any mitigation agreements, and environmental permits. DWR is the responsible agency in complying with CEQA for the project included in the grant proposal. Reimbursement of grant expenses related to construction work is subject to the DWR's decision to concur or not concur with the Grantee's final CEQA document. For this purpose, Grantee must complete an EIF (Attachment 2) and submit to DWR in a timely manner.
- Since the proposed project may have potential impact on groundwater, your agency must also demonstrate that either:
 - a. Has prepared and implemented a Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) in compliance with CWC §10753.7, or
 - b. Participate or consents to be subject to a GWMP, basin-wide management plan, or other IRWM program or plan that meets the requirements of CWC §10753.7(a) or,
 - c. Conform to the requirements of an adjudication of water rights in the subject groundwater basin.

**Attachment 2
Environmental Information Form**

Grantees are responsible for complying with all applicable laws and regulations for their projects, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Work that is subject to the CEQA shall not proceed under the Grant Agreement until documents that satisfy the CEQA process are received by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and DWR has completed its CEQA compliance review. Work that is subject to a CEQA shall not proceed until and unless approved by DWR. Such approval is fully discretionary and shall constitute a condition precedent to any work for which it is required. Once CEQA documentation has been completed, DWR will consider the environmental documents and decide whether to continue to fund the project or to require changes, alterations or other mitigation. **This form is to be completed by the Grantee or Lead Agency.**

Grantee: _____ **Grant Program:** Prop 1E SWFM

Project Manager: _____ **Project Title:** _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

1. List the source of any other grants or funds received from DWR to implement a portion of this project. If none, please respond NA.
2. Is this a project as defined by CEQA? Explain. If no, skip to No.9 below. If yes proceed to No.3.
3. Is this project exempt from CEQA compliance? Yes _____ No _____
If no, skip to No.4, below.
If yes, check the appropriate response below; provide reasons for exemption in the space provided below; and then skip to No.9, below. Cite the CEQA Article, Section and Title of the CEQA exemption, if appropriate (statutory exemptions: http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines/art18.html , categorical exemptions: http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines/art19.html);

_____ Lead Agency has already filed a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk. (Attach copy of the NOE and, if applicable, a copy of the governing Board Resolution accepting the NOE)

_____ Lead Agency will file a NOE with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk. Provide estimated date: _____

_____ Lead Agency will NOT file a NOE with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk. If Lead Agency chooses not to file a NOE, sufficient documentation and information must be submitted to the Project Manager, along with this form, to allow DWR to make its own CEQA findings.

Reasons for Exemption:

4. If the project will require CEQA compliance, identify the Lead Agency.
CEQA Lead Agency: _____

CEQA Lead Agency: _____

5. Please check types of CEQA documents to be prepared:

- _____ Initial Study
- _____ Negative Declaration / Mitigated Negative Declaration
- _____ Environmental Impact Report

6. Please describe the status of the CEQA documents, expected date of completion, and estimated cost, if requesting DWR funds relating to CEQA compliance:

Status: _____

Date of Completion: _____

Estimated Costs: _____

7. If the CEQA document has been completed, please provide the title of the document and the State Clearinghouse number if available. Submit one hard copy and a CD of the CEQA document and any environmental permits listed in Question 8 to the contact listed in the Commitment Letter.

8. Please list all environmental permits you must obtain to complete the project. (attach additional pages as necessary). Submit a hard copy and a CD copy of any permits already completed.

Type of Permit	Permitting Agency

9. This Environmental Information Form was completed by:

Print or Type Name: _____ Agency: _____

Phone Number: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return the completed form to Jennifer Wong at jenwong@water.ca.gov or 818-500-1645.

For DWR Use Only.

- _____ DWR received environmental documents.
- _____ DWR made Findings.

Feasibility and Potential Benefits of the Proposed Amargosa Creek Recharge Project, Palmdale, California

Allen H. Christensen¹, Adam J. Siade², Peter Martin³, Victoria E. Langeheim⁴ and Rufus D. Catching⁵

To meet the growing demand for water in the Antelope Valley, the City of Palmdale has proposed the Amargosa Creek Recharge Project (ACRP), which comprises approximately 150 acres along the Amargosa Creek, approximately 2 miles west of Palmdale, California. The objective of this study was to determine the long-term suitability of recharging the Antelope Valley aquifer system by infiltrating surface water from the California State Water Project through ponds at the ACRP. The ACRP is located approximately 2 miles west of Palmdale, California, and comprises approximately 150 acres along the Amargosa Creek. Three multiple-well monitoring sites were constructed, and gravity, seismic, and resistivity surveys were done to define the thickness of valley-fill deposits, depth to water, and location of faults that might influence groundwater flow. Data collected from monitoring wells and the geophysical surveys identified three northwest-southeast trending faults in the study area, probably related to the San Andreas Fault Zone. Water-level data collected at the monitoring sites show water-level elevation differences of as much as 230 feet (ft) between the upgradient and downgradient sides of the faults, indicating that these faults are barriers to groundwater flow. Driller and geophysical logs indicated the presence of a coarse gravel and sand unit, extending from land surface to a depth of about 150 ft below land surface (bls), that does not appear to be disrupted by faulting. Potential effects of artificial recharge at the ACRP were tested with a local-scale, groundwater flow model. On the basis of geologic samples collected during drilling, the hydraulic conductivity of the porous medium above 150 ft bls was assumed to range from 10 to 100 feet per day (ft/d). Simulated water levels within the model were not allowed to rise to within 50 ft of land surface as a result of recharge, to constrain the potential for liquefaction from groundwater recharge at the ACRP. The hydraulic conductivity of the faults was estimated on the basis of water-level data and an estimate of natural recharge along Amargosa Creek. With the assumed hydraulic conductivities of 10 and 100 ft/d, the simulated maximum artificial recharge rates at the ACRP are 3,400 and 9,400 acre-ft/yr, respectively. These maximum recharge rates are limited primarily by the hydraulic conductivity of the top-most unit and by the liquefaction constraint. The monitoring of water-level rises during the proposed project will better define aquifer hydraulic properties, the effect of the faults on groundwater movement, and the overall recharge capacity of the ACRP.

¹ U.S. Geological Survey, 4165 Spruance Rd., Suite 200 San Diego, California 92101 619-225-6175, ahchrist@usgs.gov

² U.S. Geological Survey, 4165 Spruance Rd., Suite 200 San Diego, California 92101 619-225-6159, asiade@usgs.gov

³ U.S. Geological Survey, 4165 Spruance Rd., Suite 200 San Diego, California 92101 619-225-6127, pmartin@usgs.gov

⁴ U.S. Geological Survey, 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, California 94025, 650-329-5313, zulanger@usgs.gov

⁵ U.S. Geological Survey, 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, California 94025, 650-329-4749, catchings@usgs.gov

Allen H. Christensen: more than 20 years as a Hydrologist with the USGS. He has M.S. in Geology from San Diego State University.