TO: COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FROM: BRUCE BUEL BBB

DATE: NOV. 29, 2008

AGENDA ITEM 4

DECEMBER 1, 2008

DISCUSS DRAFT INITIAL STUDY, ADDITIONAL STUDIES AND DETERMINATION

ITEM

Discuss draft Initial Study, Additional Studies and Environmental Determination [Forward Recommendation to Board].

BACKGROUND

Attached is a Draft Expanded Initial Study for implementation of the 2008 Southland WWTF Master Plan assuming that the Board accepts AECOM's recommendations. As detailed in the Draft, this potential project could cause potentially significant Land Use, Population, Housing, Water, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Utility, and Cumulative Impacts. Doug Wood of Douglas Wood and Associates is scheduled to present the draft to the Committee. It should be noted that the draft project objectives set forth in Chapter III (Pages III-1 and III-2) were prepared by staff for inclusion in the Initial Study and have not been reviewed by the Board.

Also attached is a proposal from Fugro West regarding the geo-hydrological feasibility and water quality impacts of disposing treated wastewater at the Kaminaka property (Option 4A/B) and the Santa Maria Valley property (Option 2A/B). A second proposal regarding the Pasquini Property (Option 1A/B) is pending. Should any of these Options be selected for further consideration, then the research described in the attached proposal would be necessary prior to the Board making its Environmental Determination.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests Committee review of the Draft Expanded Initial Study, in general, and the Draft Objectives in particular with feedback to the Board regarding edits/corrections. Should the Board adopt the Master Plan as the Preferred Project for Environmental Review at its December 10, 2008 Meeting, then a revised Initial Study should be presented to the Board at its January 14, 2009 Meeting. Additionally, staff recommends that additional geo-hydrological research be performed on each selected disposal option that has not already been adequately analyzed.

ATTACHMENT

- Draft Expanded Initial Study
- Fugro Proposal

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NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

SOUTHLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS

EXPANDED INITIAL STUDY

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December, 2008

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I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

This Expanded Initial Study assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD or District) Southland Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements. The Nipomo Community Services District, as Lead Agency for this environmental document, has the responsibility for determining whether or not to approve the construction and operation of additional wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities within the District. These additional facilities include pipelines, upgraded treatment facilities, percolation ponds and other infrastructure.

As part of their decision-making process, the Nipomo Community Services District is required to review and consider the potential environmental effects that could result from this project. Together with any previously-prepared technical studies, pertinent correspondence or other environmental documents, this analysis will serve as the initial environmental review for the proposed project. This review is required by the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA) as amended (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines as well as Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA adopted by the Nipomo Community Services District.

The Nipomo Community Services District is preparing this Expanded Initial Study to assist in their consideration of whether to prepare a Negative Declaration, a Mitigated Negative Declaration or an Environmental Impact Report for this project. In the event that an EIR is required, this Initial Study will focus the EIR on the effects determined to be potentially significant, identify any impacts determined to not be significant, describe the anticipated extent of analyses within the EIR and to assist the public and other responsible agencies in their evaluation of the proposed project and their formulation of initial environmental concerns in response to the Notice of Preparation. This Expanded Initial Study will be the final environmental document for the proposed project pursuant to CEQA requirements if a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration is required.

This Expanded Initial Study has been prepared in a manner which provides complete and adequate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) coverage for all actions and approvals associated with the proposed project. These actions include review and approval of detailed plans for pipelines, upgraded treatment facilities, percolation ponds and other infrastructure, certification of the required environmental documentation and the required Mitigation Monitoring Program by the Nipomo Community Services District and permits from other various regulatory agencies.

This Expanded Initial Study begins with Section I. Introduction and Purpose, which provides an introductory discussion of the purpose and scope of the document. Section II. Summary summarizes the proposed project, lists the potentially significant

environmental impacts and provides guidance as to the appropriate environmental document to provide complete and adequate CEQA coverage for all actions associated with the proposed project.

Section III. Project Description provides a detailed description of the proposed NCSD Southland Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements. Section IV. Environmental Setting provides an overview description of existing environmental conditions within the project area.

Section V. Environmental Evaluation contains the environmental checklist required by Section 15063(d)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines. This checklist is intended to determine the nature and extent of various environmental effects of the proposed project followed by an explanation to justify the determination. Checklist items identified as "potentially significant" or "potentially significant unless mitigation incorporated" are discussed in greater detail. In many instances, project impacts are identified as "no impact" or "less than significant impact." The summary discussions following the checklist item provides the basis for these determinations. Section VI. Environmental Determination makes the final determination as to whether a Negative Declaration, a Mitigated Negative Declaration or an Environmental Impact Report is appropriate. Section VII. Certification provides the required Lead Agency Certification Statement.

Section 15150 of the State CEQA Guidelines permits an environmental document to incorporate by reference other documents that provide relevant data to the proposal currently being considered. In this case, the District's Water and Sewer Master Plan Update (dated December, 2007) as well as several other technical documents prepared on behalf of the Nipomo Community Services District provided the basis for several of the impact assessments within this Initial Study and are hereby incorporated by reference.

This Expanded Initial Study provides a full and objective discussion of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed NCSD Southland Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements. In preparing this document, the Nipomo Community Services District decision-makers, staff and members of the public will be fully informed as to the potential impacts associated with the proposed project. In accordance with Section 15021 of the State CEQA Guidelines, this document is intended to enable the Nipomo Community Services District, as Lead Agency for this environmental document, to evaluate these environmental impacts in their consideration of the proposed project. The Lead Agency has an obligation to balance possible adverse effects of the project against a variety of public objectives, including economic, environmental and social factors, in determining whether the project is acceptable and approved for development.

Pursuant to California Public Resources Code 21082.1, the Nipomo Community Services District has independently reviewed and analyzed the information contained in this Initial Study prior to its consideration and certification. The conclusions and discussions

contained herein reflect the independent judgment of the Nipomo Community Services District to those issues at the time of publication.

II. SUMMARY

This Expanded Initial Study assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed NCSD Southland Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements.

A. Project Summary

The proposed project involves the provision of additional facilities necessary to expand the treatment capabilities of the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility (WTF). The three basic elements of the proposed project involve additional collection facilities, upgraded treatment facilities and expanded disposal capabilities. Proposed collection facilities involve replacement of the existing 12-inch sewer trunk main which runs along South Frontage Road from Division Street to the Southland WTF with a 21-inch pipeline. Proposed treatment facilities improvements to the Southland WTF include upgrading the influent pump station, provision of headworks improvements, reconstruction of two of the existing treatment ponds and utilization of the two remaining treatment ponds for storage, decanting and disposal. These treatment facilities will be powered by a 500 kilowatt solar power generating station. These improvements will increase the treatment capacity of the Southland WTF from its current capacity of 0.9 million gallons per day to 1.4 million gallons per day. The District is evaluating several methods of disposal of remaining effluent after treatment including discharge into percolation ponds, discharge into subsurface disposal systems, surface irrigation, recycling to recreation/open space areas or deep underground injection. Biosolids generated from wastewater treatment will be disposed of through one or a combination of several methods including landfill disposal, land application or composting at a regional composting facility. The proposed project also involves regulatory and public education efforts aimed at reducing salt loading from regenerative water softeners within the District. (See Section III. Project Description, for additional details concerning the proposed project.)

B. Impact Summary

Provided below is a listing of all impacts identified as either "potentially significant" or "potentially significant unless mitigations incorporated" within this Initial Study (see Section V. Environmental Evaluation).

1. Land Use and Planning
2. Population and Housing
3. Water
4. Biological Resources
5. Aesthetics
6. Cultural Resources
7. Geology
8. Traffic

9. Noise
10. Air Quality
11. Mandatory Findings of Significance

C. Determination

This Expanded Initial Study has been prepared with the intent of identifying any potentially significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed project and assisting the District in their determination of the appropriate level of required environmental documentation. This Initial Study will also assist the public and other responsible agencies in their evaluation of the proposed project and its associated environmental impacts. According to Section 15065 of the State CEQA Guidelines, if a Lead Agency, in this case the Nipomo Community Services District, finds that a project may have a significant impact on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report is required. If the Lead Agency determines that all potential impacts associated with the proposed project are insignificant, a Negative Declaration can be prepared. If certain potentially significant impacts can, through the implementation of mitigation measures, be reduced to a level of insignificance, a Mitigated Negative Declaration is appropriate. Determination of the proper environmental documentation is made after consideration of the impact assessments within Section V Environmental Evaluations. The final determination as to whether a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or Environmental Impact Report is made in Section VI. Environmental Determination of this Initial Study.

III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD or the District) was formed in 1965 and currently provides water, wastewater, lighting and solid waste disposal services to approximately 12,000 residents of the Nipomo area. The Nipomo Community Services District is a California Community Services District organized pursuant to Government Code Sections 61000 et. seq. The NCSD's service area overlies the southern portion of the Nipomo area within the unincorporated portion of San Luis Obispo County. The Nipomo Community Services District's authority does not include legislative or executive powers over zoning or land use.

The Nipomo Community Services District owns and operates the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). This facility treats a combination of domestic and commercial wastewater from the community of Nipomo. The Southland WWTF has a permitted capacity of 900,000 gallons per day (gpd) based on its maximum monthly demand. Average annual flow is 600,000 gallons per day with a maximum monthly flow rate of 800,000 gallons per day.

On February 7, 2006, the District received a Notice of Violation from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for several effluent water quality violations reported during 2005. In response to this notice, the District prepared an Action Plan (dated May, 2006), a Technical Memorandum (dated July, 2006) and a Draft Wastewater Treatment Master Plan (revised February 19, 2007). These research efforts were intended to evaluate existing and future wastewater treatment demands of the Southland WWTF, identify required improvements to meet these demands and develop a capital improvements program to assist the District in planning and financing these facilities.

In addition, the District has prepared several hydrogeologic studies in order to evaluate the feasibility of a variety of wastewater disposal methods that would be required with an expansion of the existing wastewater treatment plant facilities.

B. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The basic objective of the proposed Nipomo Community Services District Southland Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements is to construct additional collection, treatment and disposal facilities necessary to serve both existing and future wastewater treatment demands generated within the Southland WWTF service area of the Nipomo Community Services District. In so doing, the project will also:

1. Provide reliable, high quality and cost effective wastewater capacity and services to existing and future customers within the District's Town Sewer Service Area.

2. Resolve the current and projected surcharge problems in the Division Street and South Frontage Road collection mains.

3. Respond to and remedy any water quality violations associated with prior and current operations of the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility.

4. Improve the water quality of treated wastewater to comply with current and projected State Discharge Order requirements and to minimize adverse impacts upon Nipomo Mesa groundwater.

5. Manage the average height and volume of the subsurface mound of treated wastewater under the Southland percolation basins over an annual period.

6. Assist in resolving the Nipomo Mesa water supply deficit by promoting the beneficial use of the treated wastewater to either offset current Nipomo Mesa non-potable water usage and/or, where feasible, to replenish productive Nipomo Mesa groundwater aquifers.

7. Minimize the release of additional greenhouse gases by offsetting project-related increased power utilization with solar energy.

8. Coordinate the timing of project construction to maximize coordination of off-site collection system improvements with South Frontage Road waterline installation proposed by the District's Waterline Intertie Project.

9. Improve the efficiency and reliability of operations of the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility.

C. PROJECT LOCATION

The Nipomo Community Services District encompasses approximately seven square miles southeast of the City of Arroyo Grande within the southern portion of San Luis Obispo County (see Figure 1, Regional Map). The proposed project extends from the existing wastewater transmission mains located on South Frontage Road south of Tefft Street and parallel to U.S. Highway 101 in Nipomo. This line leads to the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility located immediately south of the intersection of South Frontage Road and Southland Street. Proposed disposal sites will be located (at a precise location to be determined at a later date) on the Nipomo Mesa within five miles of the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility (see Figure 2, Vicinity Map and Figure 3, Aerial Photograph).

D. PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

The proposed project involves the provision of additional facilities necessary to expand the wastewater treatment capabilities of the existing Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility. The proposed project involves three basic elements related to the provision of additional facilities related to wastewater collection, treatment and disposal.

Collection

The existing 12-inch sewer trunk main which runs along South Frontage Road from Division Street to the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility at Southland Street and South Frontage Road will be replaced with a 21-inch pipeline.

Treatment

The existing Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) currently has a permitted capacity of 900,000 gallons per day (gpd) with an average annual flow of 600,000 gpd and a maximum monthly flow of 800,000 gpd. This facility treats a combination of residential and industrial wastewater utilizing four aeration ponds and on-site infiltration basins.

Proposed improvements to the WWTF are intended to increase the treatment capacity to 1.4 million gallons per day from the current capacity of 0.9 million gallons per day. This increased treatment capacity is intended to serve both existing and future wastewater treatment demands generated within the Southland WWTF service area of the Nipomo Community Services District.

Specific improvements to the Southland wastewater treatment facility include: 1) upgrading the influent pump station; 2) provision of headworks improvements utilizing screening and grit removal; 3) reconstructing two of the four existing treatment ponds with extended aeration capabilities and collection facilities for biosolids utilizing the Biolac wave oxidation system and 4) use of the two remaining treatment ponds for storage, decanting and disposal of biosolids.

The proposed project also includes provision of a 500 kilowatt solar power generating system as the primary power source for future treatment plant operations. A ground-mounted solar panel system would be installed adjacent to the existing aeration ponds within an area totaling approximately 155,000 square feet measuring 750 feet by 207 feet. Solar panels would be mounted on a single-axis tracking system in order to respond to changes in sun angle thereby maximizing energy production.

Disposal

The Nipomo Community Services District will expand the existing wastewater disposal capabilities in order to accommodate increased wastewater flows associated with the

proposed treatment facilities improvements. The District is evaluating several methods of disposal of remaining effluent after treatment including discharge into percolation ponds, discharge into subsurface disposal systems, surface irrigation, recycling to recreation/open space areas or deep underground injection.

Biosolids generated from wastewater treatment will be disposed of through one or a combination of methods including landfill disposal, land application or composting at a regional composting facility.

The proposed project also involves regulatory and public education efforts aimed at reducing salt loading from regenerative water softeners within the District. These efforts are intended to reduce salt loading at the Southland WWTF as well as at the off-site percolation ponds.

E. REQUIRED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

The proposed Nipomo Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Facilities involves a series of approvals and discretionary actions by the Nipomo Community Services District, as Lead Agency, and other involved regulatory agencies. The proposed project involves the following approvals by the Nipomo Community Services District:

1. Certification of environmental documentation for the proposed Nipomo Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Facilities.

2. Approval of the Mitigation Monitoring Program for the Nipomo Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Facilities.

3. Review and approval of detailed plans for pipelines, upgraded treatment facilities, percolation ponds and any other infrastructure for the proposed wastewater treatment facilities.

The proposed Nipomo Community Services District Waterline Intertie may also require the following approvals by other involved regulatory agencies including:

4. Section 404 Permits under the Clean Water Act from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, which regulates the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into the "waters of the United States."

5. Public Resources Code Sections 1601-1603 Streambed Alteration Agreements from the State of California, Department of Fish and Game, which regulates all diversions, obstructions or changes in the natural flow of a bed, channel or bank of any river, stream or lake which supports fish or wildlife.

6. A National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to comply

with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the State Water Quality Control Board.

7. A Section 401 Water Quality Certification and a General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

8. A Section 7 Consultation or Section 10(a) Permit from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service which allows the "taking" of an endangered species.

9. Easements secured from landowners in the Nipomo area or other entities for right-of-way and construction.

10. Any necessary construction and/or encroachment permits from the County of San Luis Obispo for equipment staging and construction operations.

F. PROJECT TIMING

The proposed project will be constructed within two phases requiring a total of approximately ten months. Phase 1 will involve construction of upgraded collection and treatment facilities. Construction of the upgraded collection facilities (upsized pipeline on Frontage Road) is anticipated to require two months while upgrades to the treatment plant are estimated to require a total of seven months. Phase 2 will involve construction of transmission mains and disposal site. Construction of transmission mains and the proposed disposal site will require one month. Phase I is anticipated to occur in 2010 while completion of Phase II facilities will require substantial additional study with no known timetable as of this date. Several of these construction activities may be performed concurrently. The project engineer recommends that the South Frontage Road pipeline and the upgraded influent pump station be constructed concurrently with the treatment plant headworks improvements.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The area encompassing the proposed Nipomo Community Services District Southland Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements extends from South Frontage Road adjacent to Highway 101 south of Tefft Street to the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility located south of the intersection of Southland Street and South Frontage Road. Potential wastewater disposal sites are located adjacent to the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility as well as at locations east, south and west of this facility within the area known as the Nipomo Mesa within South San Luis Obispo County.

- ***Topography***

The project area, located within the Nipomo Mesa, has a surface elevation of approximately 300 feet above mean sea level. Elevation changes are due to smoothly eroded hills and shallow linear valleys. To the north and east is nearly level to gently sloping terrain adjacent to Highway 101 with the southern extent of the Nipomo Mesa rising approximately 100 feet in elevation above the Santa Maria River to a relatively level bluff or mesa.

- ***Geology and Soils***

The Nipomo Mesa is underlain by massive sand dune deposits whose thickness ranges from 150 to 200 feet in depth at certain locations. The project area is located within the seismically-active Central Coast region. Should a major earthquake occur in the area, significant groundshaking is expected to occur. The San Andreas fault is considered the most likely to generate a major earthquake in the region in the near future. Such an earthquake is expected to produce moderate to strong ground shaking in the area.

- ***Drainage***

The project area is located within the Nipomo Creek watershed area which contains approximately 16,318 acres. The project area is characterized by open flat areas, linear valleys and hilly knolls, all with sandy soils. Slopes generally range between zero and five percent with some areas containing localized depressions. The project area lies outside the 100-year flood zone. Drainage in the project area is conveyed by streets and underground pipes in developed areas and via sheet flow at undeveloped locations.

- ***Biological Resources***

Areas on the Nipomo Mesa contain agricultural fields, open grassland vegetation and existing developed areas. Several vegetative communities occur in the project area including: California annual grasslands, eucalyptus, agricultural, ruderal, ornamental and developed. A total of 34 special status plant species are known to occur within the region. A total of 21 special status wildlife species have the likelihood to occur within the project area based upon the presence of suitable habitats.

- ***Land Use***

The project area contains a variety of land uses including low and medium density residential uses, agricultural farmlands, commercial uses and open space. To the north,

areas adjacent to and west of South Frontage Road contain a mix of residential and commercial uses with Highway 101 located to the east. Areas adjacent to the existing Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility include residential uses adjacent to Southland Street to the north and Highway 101 to the east beyond which are residential and agricultural uses. Areas to the south and west contain scattered residences, agricultural uses and vacant open space.

- ***Traffic and Circulation***

Primary access to the project area is provided via State Highway 101, a four-lane freeway served by interchanges at Hutton Road (Highway 166) and Tefft Street. The local circulation system serving the project area include Tefft Street, Southland Street, South Frontage Road, Orchard Road and Joshua Street. With the exception of the four lanes on Tefft Street, all of these local roadways are two lane paved roads.

- ***Noise***

Ambient noise levels in the project area range from the low-30 to mid-60 dBA. Noise sources include traffic on Highway 101, automobile and truck traffic on local roadways, occasional small aircraft and other less obtrusive non-urban noise sources.

- ***Climate***

The climate of the project area can be generally characterized as Mediterranean, with warm, dry summers and cooler, relatively damp winters. Inland areas are characterized by a wide range of temperature conditions. Maximum summertime temperatures generally reach the high 80's and 90's whereas minimum winter temperatures can range down to the low 20's.

- ***Public Services and Utilities***

Law enforcement services for the Nipomo area are provided by the County of San Luis Obispo, Sheriff's Department from their Arroyo Grande Substation located at the South Bay Regional Center in Arroyo Grande. Fire protection and emergency response services for the Nipomo area are currently provided by the Cal Fire / San Luis Obispo County Fire Department. The Nipomo Station 20, located at 450 Pioneer Street in Nipomo (at the corner of Oak Glen and Pioneer Streets near Tefft Street), would be the first station to participate in any fire or emergency response to the project area. This station is equipped with two wildland fire engines (used during the dry season), one Schedule A (on-road) fire engine and a CDF bulldozer.

The Nipomo area is situated within the service boundaries of the Southern California Gas Company for natural gas service and Pacific Gas and Electric Company for electrical service. Existing underground natural gas and electrical mains are located throughout the project area which provide utility services to developed land uses.

The project area is located within the Nipomo Community Services District which provides wastewater treatment, water supply, storm drainage, flood control and lighting services in select portions of the Nipomo area.

- ***Cultural Resources***

The Nipomo area contains more square meters of light density cultural deposits than any other area in southern San Luis Obispo County. Surveys conducted along the south, west and north sides of Nipomo Mesa have recorded many archaeological sites along the edge of the mesa but relatively few in the interior.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

The following pages contain a checklist based on the format presented in the State CEQA Guidelines. The checklist was used to identify physical changes in the environment which may result from implementation of the proposed project. Impact assessments result in the determination of either "No Impact," "Less-Than-Significant Impact," "Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated" or "Potentially Significant Impact." Substantiation for these determinations follows each checklist topic area. These discussions are intended to identify additional required research, available mitigation measures and which impacts remain potentially significant. These discussions will assist the Nipomo Community Services District in their determination of the appropriate level of required environmental documentation.

The determination of "No Impact" applies where the impact is not applicable to the project under consideration. For example, if the project site is not located proximate to areas of volcanic activity then the item asking whether the project would result in or expose people to potential impacts involving volcanic hazards should be marked as "no impact."

The determination of "Less-Than-Significant Impact" applies where the impact would occur, but the magnitude of the impact is considered insignificant or negligible. For example, a development which would only slightly increase the amount of surface water runoff generated at a project site would be considered to have a less-than-significant impact on surface water runoff.

"Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures may potentially reduce an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less-Than-Significant Impact." Possible mitigation measures are noted where appropriate within the summary discussion immediately following the checklist item. These impacts can be addressed within either an EIR or a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

The determination of "Potentially Significant Impact" applies where the project impact has the potential to cause a significant environmental impact and there are not sufficient mitigations available to reduce these impacts to a less than significant level. If there are one or more items on the checklist remaining as "Potentially Significant Impact," an EIR is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
I.	LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the proposal:				
	a) Conflict with general plan designation or zoning?	☒	☐	☐	☐
	b) Conflict with applicable environmental plans or policies adopted by agencies with jurisdiction over the project?	☒	☐	☐	☐
	c) Be incompatible with existing land use in the vicinity?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	d) Affect agricultural resources or operations (e.g., impacts to soils or farmlands or impacts from incompatible land uses)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	e) Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community (including a low-income or minority community)?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project involves the provision of additional facilities necessary to expand the treatment capabilities of the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility (WTF). The proposed project does not involve any required amendments to the South County Area Plan or any other Elements of the County General Plan and does not require any changes to existing zoning. Although the proposed project would not directly cause a change in zoning or an increase in the intensity of currently-designated land uses, the proposed project will increase the wastewater treatment capabilities of the Nipomo Community Services District and could represent a reduction or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development. Any increase in density or change of land use to the South County Area Plan within the areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project would first require a General Plan Amendment and zone change. A General Plan Amendment would study a variety of land use and environmental issues before being approved or denied including; community character and compatibility, existing land use policies, traffic and circulation impacts, the provision of public services, etc. This process involves significant public involvement and the implementation of CEQA.

Any future development within areas served by these additional wastewater treatment capabilities would also require a number of additional approvals including approval of a Specific Plan, Conditional Use Permit or tract map by the County of San Luis Obispo. These future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation pursuant to CEQA

requirements in order to address the potential land use and planning impacts of these future approvals.

b. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project would not directly conflict with any environmental plans or policies adopted by agencies with jurisdiction over the project area. Environmental plans which apply to the project area include the South County Area Plan and other Elements of the County General Plan, the Clean Air Plan (Air Pollution Control District), the Water Quality Control Plan – Basin Plan (Regional Water Quality Control Board) and the Regional Transportation Plan (San Luis Obispo Council of Governments). Since the proposed project would represent a reduction or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilites, it may indirectly conflict with these environmental plans and policies.

c. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The areas through which the proposed project facilities occur are devoted to a variety of land uses including residential, commercial and agricultural land uses. The proposed project may represent a short-term conflict with these existing uses during project construction activities. Impacts to adjacent land uses due to these temporary construction activities are considered to be short-term and subject to mitigation measures to reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.

d. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. Construction of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities could occur in areas adjacent to agricultural farmlands. The proposed project may represent a short-term disruption to agricultural-related traffic ingress/egress during project construction. Impacts to ongoing agricultural operations due to temporary construction activities are considered to be short-term and subject to mitigation measures to reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.

Any reduction or elimination of a constraint to development (such as the importation of additional water supplies) can potentially hasten the conversion of vacant or existing agricultural lands, agricultural preserves or areas containing prime agricultural soils to developed uses. Any development in areas served by the additional wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities associated with the proposed project beyond the uses currently allowed by the South County Area Plan will require approvals from the County of San Luis Obispo.

e. No Impact. The proposed project will not divide any established community.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
II.	POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the proposal:				
	a) Cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	b) Induce substantial growth in an area either directly or indirectly (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?	☒	☐	☐	☐
	c) Displace existing housing, especially affordable housing?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. No Impact. The proposed project will not directly generate any new population or housing thereby not exceeding any regional or local growth projections.

b. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project does not directly induce any significant population or housing growth in the area. The proposed project could, however, represent a reduction or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Any increase in residential density beyond that allowed by the South County Area Plan will require a General Plan Amendment and zone change as well as other subsequent approvals by the County of San Luis Obispo. These future discretionary approvals will require preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation pursuant to CEQA requirements in order to address the potential population and housing impacts of these future approvals.

c. No Impact. The proposed project will not displace any existing housing.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
III.	GEOLOGICAL PROBLEMS. Would the proposal result in or expose people to potential impacts involving:				
	a) Fault rupture?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	b) Seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	c) Seismic ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐

d) Seiche, tsunami, or volcanic hazard?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Landslides or mudflows?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Erosion, changes in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading, or fill?	☐	☒	☐	☐
g) Subsidence of the land?	☐	☐	☒	☐
h) Expansive soils?	☐	☐	☒	☐
i) Unique geologic or physical features?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. Less-Than-Significant Impact. The project area lies outside any fault rupture zones established by the Alquist-Priolo Act of 1972. Should a major earthquake occur in the area, significant groundshaking is expected to occur. Since the project area is not located within the boundaries of a special studies zone and no active faults are known to pass through the area, surface fault rupture in the areas devoted to the proposed project facilities is considered unlikely. As such, impacts due to fault rupture on the project area are considered to be less than significant.

b. Less-Than-Significant Impact. The San Andreas fault is considered the most likely source of a major earthquake in the region in the near future. Such an earthquake is expected to produce moderate to strong ground shaking within the project area. The application of standard construction techniques contained in the Uniform Building Code to the proposed project facilities will reduce potential seismic hazards to less than significant levels.

c. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Due to the seismic and geologic conditions as currently known, the potential for secondary seismic hazards in the project area is considered to be low. The Nipomo Mesa and adjacent coastal areas are underlain by massive sand dune deposits whose thickness ranges from approximately 150 to 200 feet in the project area. Given these conditions, liquefaction potential upon proposed project facilities is considered to be unlikely due to the grain size and density of natural soils and the anticipated compaction of the surficial soils. Potential liquefaction hazards are, therefore, considered to be less than significant.

d. No Impact. Tsunamis and seiches do not pose hazards due to the inland location and lack of bodies of standing water in the project area. No areas of known volcanic activity are in proximity to the project area. No impacts regarding seiches, tsunamis or volcanic hazards have been identified.

e. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Landslides within undeveloped portions of the project area are not considered to be likely due to the level to gently sloping topographic conditions. The proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities occur in areas of nearly level terrain thereby reducing the potential for landslides or mudflows to a less than significant level.

f. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The Natural Resource Conservation Service Soil Survey identifies the potential erodibility of soil types in the project area to be high. While the relatively gentle slopes of the project area reduce the potential occurrence of significant erosion and sedimentation impacts, construction of proposed project facilities may result in soil erosion or the loss of topsoil into local drainages. These potential impacts can be mitigated through the use of temporary berms, sedimentation traps, detention basins and the revegetation of disturbed soils.

g. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Due to the geologic conditions as currently known, the potential for secondary seismic hazards in the project area is considered to be low. The potential for seismically-induced settlement to impact proposed project facilities is low due to the density of underlying earth materials and the anticipated compaction of near surface soils during the construction of project facilities.

h. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Due to the geologic conditions as currently known, the potential for secondary seismic hazards in the project area is considered to be low. The potential for expansive soils to impact proposed project facilities is low due to the density of underlying earth materials and the anticipated compaction of surface soils during construction of project facilities.

i. No Impact. The area through which the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities occur does not contain any unique or geological features that will be impacted by development of the proposed project.

a.-i. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any geological resources, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact geological resources in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential geological resources impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
IV.	WATER. Would the proposal result in:				
	a) Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	b) Discharge into surface waters or other alteration of surface water quality (e.g., temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	c) Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	d) Changes in currents or the course or direction of water movements?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	e) Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawls, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations or through substantial loss of ground water recharge?	☒	☐	☐	☐
	f) Altered direction or rate of flow of groundwater?	☒	☐	☐	☐
	g) Impacts to groundwater quality?	☒	☐	☐	☐
	h) Substantial reduction in the amount of groundwater otherwise available for public water supplies?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Substantiation:

a. Less-Than-Significant-Impact. The proposed wastewater treatment facilities will not result in the addition of a significant amount of impervious surfaces nor do these proposed facilities result in a significant alteration of existing drainage patterns. Potential impacts related to changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff are considered to be less than significant.

b. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities will result in short-term landform alteration during project construction which could potentially alter the composition of surface runoff. Project construction activities may temporarily alter the composition of surface runoff through the grading of ground surfaces. This runoff could, without proper mitigation, contribute to the incremental degradation of downstream water quality. Erosion of graded areas and discharge of sediment to downstream areas will occur if project grading operations occur during the wet season or if adequate detention or erosion control facilities are not constructed. Under the authority of the Clean Water Act, the Federal Environmental Protection Agency created the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to control the amount and

concentration of pollutants in urban stormwater runoff which ultimately drain into the ocean, coastal wetlands or other surface waters. These regulations require that discharges of stormwater from construction activity of five acres or more be regulated thereby requiring a NPDES permit. These potential impacts can be mitigated through the provision of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) which requires provision of control measures at points of drainage discharge.

c. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Given the relatively small amount of area disturbed by the proposed project facilities, changes in the amount of surface water in any existing water body in the vicinity of the proposed project facilities are considered to be negligible. However, the proposed project may include the provision of percolation ponds at one of several potential effluent disposal sites thereby creating additional surface water. Percolation ponds may be created through the construction of earthen berms and graded cut slopes and will have an adequate depth for required storage and adequate surface area to allow for percolation. Additional studies are required to determine the selected effluent disposal alternative.

d. No Impact. Given the relatively small area disturbed by the proposed project, changes in the currents or the course or direction of water movement are considered to be negligible.

e. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project will not involve the withdrawal of groundwater or grading that would intercept any groundwater aquifers, thereby not affecting existing groundwater supplies. The proposed project will ultimately result in the increased percolation of treated wastewater effluent into the groundwater basin due to the increased treatment capability at the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility. This increased wastewater percolation will provide an additional source of water supply into the groundwater basin and may represent a significant but potentially beneficial impact. Since little in the way of impervious surfaces will be created by the proposed project facilities, loss of groundwater recharge is considered less than significant.

f. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project will not involve the direct withdrawal of groundwater. The direction or rate of flow of groundwater could be altered due to the introduction of additional water into the groundwater basin resulting from the increased percolation of treated wastewater effluent. With the increased treatment capacity at the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility, increased wastewater percolation will provide and additional source of water supply into the groundwater basin. This may represent a significant but potentially beneficial impact.

g. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project will not involve the direct withdrawal of groundwater. The introduction of treated effluent into the groundwater basin could potentially impact groundwater quality. The District has prepared several

hydrogeologic studies in order to evaluate the feasibility of a variety of wastewater disposal methods. These possible methods of disposal include discharge into percolation ponds, discharge into subsurface disposal systems, surface irrigation, recycling to recreation/open space areas or deep underground injection. Additional studies are required to determine the nature and extent of groundwater quality impacts due to the proposed percolation of treated effluent into the groundwater basin.

The proposed project also involves regulatory and public education efforts aimed at reducing salt loading from regenerative water softeners within the District. These efforts are intended to reduce salt loading at the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility as well as at the off-site percolation ponds.

h. Less-Than Significant Impact. The proposed project will not involve the direct withdrawal of groundwater which would otherwise be available for public use.

a.- i. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any water resources, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential water resources impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
V.	AIR QUALITY. Would the proposal:				
	a) Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	b) Expose sensitive receptors to pollutants?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	c) Alter air movement, moisture or temperature or cause any change in climate?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	d) Create objectionable odors?	☒	☐	☐	☐

Substantiation:

a. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. Temporary air quality impacts will result from project construction activities. Air pollutants will be emitted by construction of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities. Fugitive dust will be generated during grading required for construction of the proposed 21-inch sewer main along South Frontage Road, the transmission pipeline

leading to the selected effluent disposal site. Given the relatively small amount of area disturbed by project construction, the air pollutant emissions generated during grading are expected to be below the APCD significance thresholds. However, several mitigation measures including the use of watertrucks and sprinkler systems, spraying of dirt stockpiles, planting of exposed ground areas, restriction of construction vehicle speed and street sweeping may be required to reduce grading-related project emissions to an acceptable level. Project construction may also generate emissions for which mitigation measures related to the proper use of construction equipment could be required. Since traffic in the project area will not be significantly impacted, the potential for local air quality impacts (i.e. air pollutant concentrations near intersections) will also be less than significant.

A Greenhouse Gas Assessment may be necessary in order to fully identify the cumulative impacts of the generation of greenhouse gases upon global warming/climate change. Within this assessment, the existing emission inventories would be identified and the amount of greenhouse gas pollutants generated by the proposed project in terms of both short-term construction emissions and long-term project emissions would be calculated. Since there are no standards or significance thresholds established by the involved Air Pollution Control Districts or the California Air Quality Resources Board, significant impacts cannot be established at this time. Certain mitigation measures available to the NCSD, such as the currently-proposed use of a 500 kilowatt solar power generating system as the primary power source for future treatment plant operations can, however, be cited as a significant measure to reduce project-related energy use and greenhouse gas generation.

b. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Given the lack of significant short- or long-term air pollutant generation associated with the proposed project, the potential for exposure of sensitive receptors to air pollutants is considered to be less than significant.

c. No Impact. The proposed project will not alter air movement, moisture, temperature or cause a change in climate.

d. Potentially Significant Impact. The selected effluent disposal site has the potential to create objectionable odors that could significantly impact adjacent properties. Localized odors associated with other project construction activities will be confined to construction areas along existing roadways or are located well away from existing residential uses. Additional studies involving the precise design of the selected effluent disposal site should identify measures capable of controlling odors.

a.-d. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact air quality, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project.

Future development of these areas could adversely impact air quality in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential air quality impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
VI.	TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION. Would the proposal result in:				
	a) Increased vehicle trips or traffic congestion?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	b) Hazards to safety from design features (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	c) Inadequate emergency access or access to nearby uses?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	d) Insufficient parking capacity on-site or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	e) Hazards or barriers for pedestrians or bicyclists?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	f) Conflicts with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	g) Rail, waterborne or air traffic impacts?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities will generate a minor amount of traffic during construction activities. The traffic generated by project construction activities will involve automobile trips associated with worker commutes, haul trucks and construction equipment. These potential traffic and circulation impacts are considered to be short-term. Traffic flows will not be affected by the long-term operation of project facilities. However, project construction activities may result in the diversion of traffic creating short-term traffic congestion. These potential impacts can be mitigated through the provision of adequate signage, barriers or flagmen to insure a safe diversion of traffic.

b. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. Project construction activities may result in the short-term diversion of automobile traffic on certain local roadways, particularly along South Frontage Road which is the route of the proposed 21-inch sewer main and the route of the proposed transmission pipeline leading to the selected effluent disposal site. Project construction may also result in the diversion of farm equipment traffic from adjacent agricultural farmlands. These potential impacts which

represent a hazard to existing automobile traffic or to the ongoing use of farm equipment in adjacent areas can be mitigated through the provision of adequate signage, barriers or flagmen to insure the safe diversion of existing traffic and farm equipment.

c. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. Project construction activities will not block or impede emergency access but may temporarily impede access to adjacent properties. These potential impacts can be mitigated through the provision of adequate signage or flagmen to insure access to properties adjacent to roadways subject to project construction activities.

d. Less-Than-Significant Impact. The proposed project may result in the temporary loss of available parking on roadways subject to project construction activities. This loss of parking is considered to be short-term and less than significant.

e. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed project may result in the temporary blockage of pedestrian and bicycle routes on roadways which are subject to project construction activities. These potential impacts can be mitigated through the provision of adequate signage, barriers or flagmen to insure the safe diversion of pedestrians and bicyclists.

f. No Impact. The proposed project will not conflict with any adopted alternative transportation polices.

g. No Impact. The proposed project will not impact any existing rail, waterborne or air traffic operations.

a.-g. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any transportation/circulation facilities, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact transportation/circulation facilities in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential transportation/circulation impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
VII.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the proposal result in:				
	a) Endangered, threatened or rare species or	☒	☐	☐	☐

their habitats (including but not limited to plants, fish, insects, animals, and birds)?				
b) Locally designated species (e.g., heritage trees)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Locally designated natural communities (e.g., oak forest, coastal habitat, etc.)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Wetland habitat (e.g., marsh, riparian and vernal pool)?	☒	☐	☐	☐
e) Wildlife dispersal or migration corridors?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Adopted conservation plans and policies (e.g., Resource Management Plan)?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project facilities generally occur in areas containing agricultural fields, open grassland vegetation, developed areas and an existing wastewater treatment facility. Vegetative communities occurring in the project area include California annual grasslands, eucalyptus, agricultural, ruderal, ornamental and developed.

Several special-status plant and wildlife species could be potentially impacted by project construction and operation of proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities. A total of 34 special status plant species are known to occur in the region. A total of 21 special status wildlife species have the likelihood to occur within the project area based upon the presence of suitable habitats.

Biological field surveys are required in order to fully identify the nature and extent of potentially significant impacts of the proposed project upon plant and wildlife species found in the project area and any required mitigation measures. Such surveys would focus upon any special status or listed species which are found in areas impacted by the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities.

b. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed project may impact large eucalyptus trees throughout the area which may represent potential habitat for the Monarch Butterfly or nesting raptors. Avoidance of these areas may be required in order to reduce these potential impacts.

c. Less-Than Significant Impact. The proposed project is not expected to directly impact any natural habitat communities which are considered to designated as sensitive.

d. Potentially Significant Impact. The selected effluent disposal site may be constructed in areas known to contain vernal pools which provide habitat for California red-legged frog, a Federally-listed Threatened Species. The biological field surveys noted in Item a. above will determine whether the proposed project facilities

will impact the California red-legged frog or any other listed or special status plant or wildlife species.

e. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Given the relatively small amount of area disturbed by project construction, much of which are located adjacent to existing development and roadways, existing wildlife dispersal or migration corridors will not be significantly impacted.

f. No Impact. The proposed project does not conflict with any adopted conservation or wildlife management plans.

a.-f. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any biological resources, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact biological resources in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential biological resources impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII.	ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the proposal:				
	a) Conflict with adopted energy conservation plans?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	b) Use non-renewable resources in a wasteful and inefficient manner?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	c) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future value to the region and the residents of the State?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. No Impact. The proposed project will conform with all applicable State and local energy conservation requirements enforced by the County of San Luis Obispo as well as the Nipomo Community Services District. The proposed project includes the provision of a 500 kilowatt solar power generating system as the primary power source for future treatment plant operations. No impacts regarding any conflict with adopted energy conservation programs have been identified.

b. Less-Than-Significant Impact. As noted above, the proposed project includes the provision of a 500 kilowatt solar power generating system as the primary power source for future treatment plant operations. Operations of the selected effluent disposal site will require the use of electric powered pumps which will consume relatively small amounts of electricity. The proposed project is not anticipated to result in the use of non-renewable resources in a wasteful or inefficient manner. Impacts upon non-renewable resources are considered less than significant.

c. No Impact. There are no known mineral resources within the project area. The proposed project should have no impact regarding availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future value to the region and the residents of the State.

a.-c. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any energy or mineral resources, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact energy and mineral resources in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential energy and mineral resources impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
IX.	HAZARDS. Would the proposal involve:				
	a) A risk of accidental explosion or release of hazardous substances (including but not limited to: oil, pesticides, chemicals or radiation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	b) Possible interference with an emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	c) The creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	d) Exposure of people to existing sources of potential health hazards?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	e) Increased fire hazard in area with flammable brush, grass, or trees?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Substantiation:

a. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Current safety regulations governing the construction of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities

will reduce the risk of an accidental explosion or release of hazardous materials to a less than significant level.

b. No Impact. Given the relatively small amount of area disturbed by project construction, the proposed project will not interfere with any emergency response or evacuation plan.

c. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Current safety regulations governing the construction and operation of the proposed project facilities will reduce the potential for creation of health hazards to a less than significant level.

d. Less-Than-Significant Impact. The construction and operation of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities is not expected to expose people to existing sources of potential health hazards. Project construction is not expected to involve the release of any significant amounts of hazardous materials including oils, pesticides, chemicals or radiation thereby reducing the potential for exposure to health hazards to a less than significant level.

e. Less-Than-Significant Impact. The project will occur in areas of relatively low fire hazard (i.e. agricultural farmlands, residential uses, etc.) and away from areas containing significant flammable vegetation. Safety regulations governing project construction and operations in combination with these relatively low fire hazard conditions reduces potential fire hazards to a less than significant level.

a.-e. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly create any hazards, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could create hazards in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential hazards impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
X.	NOISE. Would the proposal result in:				
	a) Increases in existing noise levels?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	b) Exposure of people to severe noise levels?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Substantiation:

a. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The primary noise source associated with the proposed project which may impact adjacent land uses will be construction noise. Noise resulting from the long-term operation of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities is expected to be negligible. Construction noise represents a short-term impact upon ambient noise levels. Noise generating construction equipment includes trucks, graders, back-hoes and bulldozers. Grading and trucking activities typically represent the loudest potential sources of construction noise. Local control of construction hours to daylight hours represent the most effective method of controlling construction noise. The County of San Luis Obispo restricts construction activities to the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. Construction is not allowed on Sundays or holidays. Compliance with this policy as well as the use of proper noise mufflers can reduce these potential short-term construction noise impacts to a less than significant level.

b. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The County of San Luis Obispo has adopted noise standards of 60 CNEL for exterior land uses and an interior noise standard of 45 CNEL. While construction of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities is not anticipated to create noise levels that exceed these standards, measures related to maintaining an adequate distance between stationary noise sources and existing residences or the use of engine enclosures may be required.

a.-b. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly create any noise impacts, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could create adverse noise impacts in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential noise impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
XI.	PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the proposal have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered government services in any of the following areas:				
	a) Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	b) Police Protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒

c) Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Other governmental services?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. No Impact. The construction and operation of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities is not expected to have any impact upon fire protection services currently provided by the Cal Fire / San Luis Obispo County Fire Department.

b. No Impact. The proposed project is not expected to have any impact upon police protection services provided by the County of San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Department.

c. No Impact. Since the proposed project will not directly generate any school age children, no impacts to schools are anticipated.

d. Less-Than-Significant Impact. The proposed project will have a minor impact upon local roadways due to construction activities associated with the proposed pipeline construction along South Frontage Road and for the transmission pipeline leading to the selected effluent disposal site. Given the relatively small amount of area devoted to project construction activities, potential impacts upon the maintenance of public facilities are considered to be less than significant.

e. No Impact. The construction and operation of the proposed project will have no effect on any other governmental services.

a.-e. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any public services, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact public services in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential public services impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
XII.	UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the proposal result in a need for new systems or supplies or substantial alterations to the following utilities:				
	a) Power or natural gas?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	b) Communications systems?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	c) Local or regional water treatment or distribution facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	d) Sewer or septic tanks?	☒	☐	☐	☐
	e) Storm water drainage?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	f) Solid waste disposal?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	g) Local or regional water supplies?	☒	☐	☐	☐

Substantiation:

a. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Construction and operation of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities will require the minimal use of electrical power. The proposed project includes the provision of a 500 kilowatt solar power generating system as the primary power source for future treatment plant operations. Operations of the selected effluent disposal site will require the use of electric powered pumps which will consume relatively small amounts of electricity. This energy demand is not anticipated to be significant and falls within the anticipated service parameters of the involved service providers.

b. No Impact. The proposed project will not involve the use of communications systems.

c. Less-Than Significant Impact. The proposed project will not directly generate demand for water service. However, the proposed project involves regulatory and public education efforts aimed at reducing salt loading from regenerative water softeners within the District. These efforts are intended to reduce salt loading at the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility as well as at the off-site percolation ponds.

d. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project involves the provision of additional facilities necessary to expand the wastewater treatment capabilities of the existing Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility. As such, the proposed project can be viewed as accommodating future demands for wastewater treatment within the Nipomo Community Services District. However, the proposed project could also represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future

development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment facilities associated with the proposed project.

e. Less-Than-Significant Impact. The proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities will not result in the addition of a significant amount of impervious surfaces which would significantly increase storm water drainage flows.

f. Less-Than-Significant Impact. The proposed increase in wastewater treatment capacity will generate biosolids which will be disposed of through one or a combination of methods including landfill disposal, land application or composting at a regional composting facility.

g. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project will ultimately result in the increased percolation of treated wastewater effluent into the groundwater basin due to the increased treatment capacity at the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility. This increased wastewater percolation will provide an additional source of water supply into the groundwater basin and may represent a significant but potentially beneficial impact.

a.-g. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any utilities and service systems, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact utility and service systems in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential utility and service systems impacts of these future approvals.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII. AESTHETICS. Would the proposal:				
a) Affect a scenic vista or scenic highway?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Have a demonstrable negative aesthetic effect?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Create light or glare?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Substantiation:

a. Less-Than-Significant-Impact. Construction activities associated with the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities will result in short-term visual impact to views from adjacent roadways and developed land uses. None of the roadways adjacent to project construction activities have been designated as scenic

highways. Any impacts to scenic vistas due to the proposed project are considered to be less than significant.

b. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. Construction activities associated with the proposed project facilities will have a short-term visual impact upon adjacent roadways and land uses. The proposed 21-inch sewer main along South Frontage Road and the transmission pipeline leading to the selected effluent disposal site will not have significant visual impacts since they will be placed underground. The proposed improvements to the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility and the proposed effluent disposal site may impact views from adjacent areas. These potential impacts can be mitigated through the use of vegetative screening.

c. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed improvements to the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility and the proposed effluent disposal site may include the provision of security lighting which could result in potential light and glare impacts to adjacent areas. These potential impacts can be mitigated through the use of shielded light fixtures which are directed downward and located at the lowest possible level.

a.-c. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any visual resources, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact visual resources in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential aesthetics impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV.	CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the proposal:				
	a) Disturb paleontological resources?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	b) Disturb archaeological resources?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	c) Affect historical resources?	☐	☒	☐	☐
	d) Have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	e) Restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. *Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated.* Although surveys of the project area have yet to be completed, the possibility exists that paleontological resources may be unearthed during project grading. Field surveys are required in order to identify the nature and extent of potentially significant impacts of the proposed project upon paleontological resources in the project area and any required mitigation measures. These potential impacts to paleontological resources can be mitigated through the provision of a cultural resources workshop for construction personnel and requiring a qualified paleontologist to examine any unearthed resources.

b. *Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated.* Although surveys and records and literature checks have yet to be completed, the possibility exists that archaeological resources may be unearthed during project grading. Archaeological field surveys are required order to identify the nature and extent of potentially significant impacts of the proposed project upon archaeological resources in the project area and any required mitigation measures. These potential impacts to archaeological resources can be mitigated through the provision of a cultural resources workshop for construction personnel and requiring a qualified archaeologist to examine any unearthed resources.

c. *Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated.* Although no recorded or observed historical resources exist in the areas to be devoted to project facilities, potential impacts to historical resources due to the proposed project may occur. Field surveys may be required in order to identify the nature and extent of potentially significant impacts of the proposed project upon historic resources in the project area and any required mitigation measures. These potential impacts to historical resources can be mitigated through project redesign to insure avoidance of these resources.

d. *No Impact.* The proposed project is not anticipated to cause any physical changes which could affect unique ethnic cultural values.

e. *No Impact.* The proposed project is not anticipated to restrict any existing religious or sacred uses.

a.-e. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any cultural resources, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact cultural resources in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential cultural resources impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
XV.	RECREATION. Would the proposal:				
	a) Increase the demand for neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
	b) Affect existing recreational opportunities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Substantiation:

a. No Impact. The proposed project will not directly generate any new population or housing thereby not creating any demand for parks or other recreational facilities.

b. No Impact. The proposed project will not directly generate any new population or housing thereby not impacting any existing recreational opportunities.

a.-b. Although the proposed wastewater treatment facilities do not directly impact any recreation facilities, the proposed project could represent a reduction in or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development within areas to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project. Future development of these areas could adversely impact recreation facilities in these areas. Future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation to address the potential recreation impacts of these future approvals.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI.	MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.				
	a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important	☐	☐	☒	☐

examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects and the effects of probable future projects.)	☒	☐	☐	☐
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings either directly or indirectly?	☒	☐	☐	☐

Substantiation:

a. Less-Than-Significant Impact. Provided that sensitive resources are avoided and all recommended mitigation measures are implemented, the proposed project would not have a substantial impact on biological or cultural resources.

b. Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project involves the provision of additional facilities necessary to expand the treatment capabilities of the Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility thereby reducing or eliminating a potential constraint to future development within areas to be served by this additional wastewater treatment capability.

Although the proposed project would not directly cause a change in zoning or an increase in the intensity of currently-designated land uses, the proposed project will increase the wastewater treatment capabilities of the Nipomo Community Services District. As a result, the proposed project could represent a reduction or elimination of a potential constraint upon future development and has the potential to hasten the conversion of areas to more intense urbanized uses over those land uses currently allowed by the South County Area Plan. Any increase in density of change of land use to the South County Area Plan within the area to be served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project would first require a General Plan Amendment and zone change.

Any future development within areas served by these additional wastewater treatment capabilities would also require a number of additional approvals including approval of a Specific Plan, Conditional Use Permit or tract map by the County of San Luis Obispo. These future discretionary approvals will require the preparation and certification of additional environmental documentation (CEQA) to address the potential land use and planning impacts of these future approvals.

c. *Potentially Significant Impact.* The proposed project has the potential to foster growth or changes in land uses in areas served by the additional wastewater treatment capabilities associated with the proposed project particularly involving the conversion of agricultural lands. Potential growth-inducement involves a variety of factors including: removal of any impediments to growth such as the extension of roadways or utilities; the creation of development pressures in surrounding areas, particularly existing agricultural lands; growth-inducing impacts upon community services; and the establishment of any precedent-setting effects upon parcels within the South County/Nipomo Mesa area.

VI. ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.	☐
I find that although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described in this document have been added to the project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.	☐
I find that the project MAY have a significant effect on the environment and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.	☐
I find that the project MAY have a significant effect(s) on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on an earlier analysis. If the effect is a potentially significant impact or potentially significant unless mitigated, an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that need to be addressed.	☐
I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there WILL NOT be a significant effect in this case because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR pursuant to applicable standards and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, including project revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project.	☐

Nipomo Community Services District:

Signature_____ Date_____

Printed Name_____

VII. CERTIFICATION

I hereby affirm to the best of my knowledge, based on available information provided to me through specialist's technical reports, public documents and original research, analysis and assessments, the statements and information contained within this environmental document are true and correct to the degree of accuracy necessary for public disclosure purposes in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21003, 21061 and 21100.

_____

Bruce Buel
General Manager
Nipomo Community Services District

FUGRO WEST, INC.

660 Clarion Court, Suite A
San Luis Obispo, California 93401
Tel: (805) 542-0797
Fax: (805) 542-9311

November 25, 2008
Project No. 2008.435

Nipomo Community Services District
PO Box 326
148 S. Wilson Street
Nipomo, California 93444

Attention: Mr. Bruce Buel
General Manager

Proposed Scope of Work and Fee Estimate
Southland WWTF Disposal Alternatives Investigations
Nipomo, California

Dear Mr. Buel:

Fugro is pleased to submit this proposal for hydrogeologic investigations of two potential alternative disposal sites for the planned upgrade and expansion of the Nipomo Community Services District's Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). This proposal is provided at the request of your Board and the results of previous investigations. This proposal package presents our understanding of the proposed projects, a scope of work, fee estimates, and schedule to complete the work. A proposed scope of work and fee estimate for exploratory work on a third property will be submitted separately.

PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

It is our understanding that the District has an ultimate need to dispose of up to an additional 0.63 million gallons per day (MGD) of treated wastewater in supplemental percolation basins. This assumption is based on the ability of the existing Southland WWTF to accommodate about 0.57 MGD and various assumptions of future District build-out wastewater flow volumes. As the District plans for an upgrade and expansion of the facility to 1.2 MGD, a need was identified for assessment of alternative locations for effluent disposal. Previous Fugro studies have assessed the feasibility for effluent disposal at the so-called Mesa Road site, the Pasquini property, and various alternatives at the Southland WWTF site. This phase of work is intended to conduct similar feasibility-level investigations at the Kaminaka property and at the District's Bonita School Road property. A third proposal to perform more detailed investigations at the Pasquini site will be submitted separately.

SCOPE OF WORK

The feasibility level exploration of the Kaminaka and Bonita School Road sites, will be budgeted, conducted, and reported on as separate investigations; however, because the method of investigation for each task is identical they are described here together.

One option under consideration for the upgrade and expansion of the WWTF is to develop new sites for percolation ponds that will have sufficient capacity for increased loading. Feasibility level exploration programs are proposed to evaluate two separate properties, including the 40-acre Kaminaka lot between Pomeroy and Calle Caballo, and the District-owned Bonita School Road property in the Santa Maria Valley.

A screening level feasibility program will be conducted using Fugro's Cone Penetrometer Testing (CPT) rig to investigate subsurface conditions at both sites. The CPT is an excellent tool for this level of investigation because it pushes a small diameter probe into the subsurface materials, and measures tip resistance at the end of the probe to provide a rapid qualitative evaluation of soil properties, consistency of the materials, and spatial variability of materials. A series of CPT holes will be advanced on the both the Kaminaka and Bonita School Road properties. We anticipate advancing six CPT holes on the Kaminaka property and three CPT holes on the Bonita School Road site. It is our intent to conduct the CPT studies of both sites on consecutive days in order to incur a single mobilization/demobilization charge.

Although the CPT can be an effective tool for rapid delineation of soil properties and a valuable tool for site screening, it should be noted that there are potential limitations should the subsurface materials be particularly dense or hard. If a sufficiently thick clay layer (aquitard) is present, the CPT may not be able to penetrate the clay; however, such information is particularly informative for this type of study. Key issues to address in these investigations include percolation capacity, local geology and hydrogeology, depth to groundwater, and presence of near-surface retarding clay layers.

If the results of the feasibility level CPT screening program appear favorable, we will proceed directly with the drilling of two hollow-stem auger borings at each site. At the Kaminaka property, the borings will be drilled to a depth of approximately 120 to 150 feet to verify soil conditions, percolation capacity, and stratigraphy. At the Bonita School Road site, the borings will be shallower, probably to a depth of 40 to 60 feet. In all hollow-stem auger borings, undisturbed subsurface samples will be obtained and laboratory analyses run in order to obtain estimates of sustained infiltration rates based on laboratory-determined permeability values.

The results of the work effort for both tasks will be documented in separate, stand-alone summary reports, in which we will document the work performed, present findings and conclusions, and provide appropriate recommendations. The reports will provide summaries of the data, logs of the CPT and HSA explorations, and a series of cross sections showing the plotted data and interpreted subsurface conditions. An electronic (pdf) copy of each draft report will be submitted for review by the District. After receiving comments from District staff, we will prepare final reports. Four (4) hard copies and 1 electronic (pdf) copy of each final report will be submitted.

SCHEDULE

Initial planning of the project, scheduling of contractors, and initial permitting work can begin with two weeks of receiving a Notice to Proceed (NTP). However, the concentrated work efforts and field work will not start until the first week of January. We understand that time important for all these activities, so we are prepared to assign appropriate personnel to the tasks to accomplish the work as quickly as possible once we get started in January.

The work efforts will be partly dependent on CPT and drill rig availability. Typical backlog of the CPT rig is about one month. In the interim, however, work can proceed on gaining property access, permits, etc. Assuming that no difficulties are encountered with weather, weather-related site access, right-of-entry permits, and contractor availability, we estimate that approximately three months will be required to complete the work.

FEE

We will provide our services on a time and expense basis according to the attached fee schedule rates. Our anticipated fee for these efforts is shown on the attached Fee Estimate spreadsheets (Plate 1 and 2). As shown on Plates 1 and 2, the estimated fees are $54,600 for the Kaminaka property and $45,400 for the Bonita School Road property. The estimated fees shown here are similar in amount to, and actually slightly less than, the similar work previously conducted at the Mesa Road sites and the Pasquini property.

We appreciate the opportunity to continue working with you and the District on this project. Please contact us if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,
FUGRO WEST, INC.

Paul A. Sorensen, PG, CHg
Principal Hydrogeologist
California Professional Geologist
California Certified Hydrogeologist

Task	Office Assistant	GIS Operator	Illustrator	Staff I	Staff II	Project I - Nicely	Project II	Principal - Gardner	Principal - Sorensen	Total Hours	Total Cost
Rate/Hour (2008sc):	$55	$90	$85	$110	$115	$135	$145	$200	$200		
Geotechnical Services:											
1. Project Prep, Site Work and Permitting						16		8		24	$ 3,760
2. Cone Penetrometer Testing						25		4		29	$ 4,175
3a. HSA Drilling						35		8		43	$ 6,325
3b. Laboratory Tests					Unit rates as listed below						$ 3,660
4. Summary Report	4		24			40		4	16	88	$ 11,660
5. Project Management and Meetings								8	40	48	$ 9,600
Subtotal:	4	0	24	0	0	116	0	12	76	232	$ 39,180

Laboratory Costs (see fee schedule for additional tests)	Rate	No.	Other Direct Costs	Units	Rate	Billing Factor	ODC Costs
Moisture Content-Classification	$ 25	20	H.S.A. Rig Mob/Demob	2	$ 215	1.15	$ 495
Atterberg Limits	$ 150	0	H.S.A. Rig Rate (per hour)	20	$ 235	1.15	$ 5,405
Sieve Analysis	$ 100	10	Chase Truck (per day)	2	$ 215	1.15	$ 495
Sand Equivalent	$ 95	0	Crew Mob-demob	2	$ 215	1.15	$ 495
Compaction Curve, ASTM D1557, 4" Mold	$ 225	0		0	$ -	1.15	$ -
Direct Shear, CU 3 points, ASTM 3080	$ 420	0			$ -	1.15	$ -
Direct Shear, CU 3 points, residual ASTM 3080	$ 570	0		0	$ -	1.00	$ -
Percent Passing #200	$ 65	0	Backhoe with travel (per hour)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
UU Triaxial	$ 120	0	CPT Mobilization/Demobilization	0.5	$ 2,000	1.00	$ 1,000
Unconfined Compression	$ 100	0	CPT Soundings (per day)	2	$ 3,000	1.00	$ 6,000
Constant Head Permeability	$ 325	0	CPT Rig per diem (2 person)	2	$ 300	1.00	$ 600
Flex-wall Permeability ASTM D5084	$ 360	6	CPT Standby/Dissipation	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
Incremental Consolidation with UL-RL	$ 375	0	Shoring (per day)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
Sieve and Hydrometer	$ 170	0	Traffic control and flagging (per day)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
Expansion Index	$ 225	0	Bob Tail Dump Truck (per hour)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
R-value, Soil	$ 300	0	Concrete Cores, 10" (each)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
	$ -	0		0	$ -	1.15	$ -
	$ -	0	Pickup Truck (per day)	5	$ 115	1.00	$ 575
Soil Chemistry (pH, CL, SO4, R)	$ 240	0	Field Supplies	1	$ 200	1.15	$ 230
Sample Remold Charge	$ 80	0	Shipping, Overnight, Copies, etc.	1	$ 50	1.15	$ 58
						Subtotal ODC:	$ 15,351

Estimated Total for Hydrogeologic Services: $ 54,600

FEE ESTIMATE FOR HYDROGEOLOGIC SERVICES
Kaminaka Property Feasibility Investigation
Nipomo, California

PLATE 1

Task	Office Assistant	GIS Operator	Illustrator	Staff I	Staff II	Project I - Nicely	Project II	Principal - Gardner	Principal - Sorensen	Total Hours	Total Cost
Rate/Hour (2008sc):	$55	$90	$85	$110	$115	$135	$145	$200	$200		
Geotechnical Services:											
1. Project Prep, Site Work and Permitting						16		8		24	$ 3,760
2. Cone Penetrometer Testing						12		4		16	$ 2,420
3a. HSA Drilling						24		4		28	$ 4,040
3b. Laboratory Tests					Unit rates as listed below						$ 3,000
4. Summary Report	4		24			40		4	16	88	$ 11,660
5. Project Management and Meetings								8	40	48	$ 9,600
Subtotal:	4	0	24	0	0	92	0	12	72	204	$ 34,480

Laboratory Costs (see fee schedule for additional tests)	Rate	No.	Other Direct Costs	Units	Rate	Billing Factor	ODC Costs
Moisture Content-Classification	$ 25	16	H.S.A. Rig Mob/Demob	2	$ 215	1.15	$ 495
Atterberg Limits	$ 150	0	H.S.A. Rig Rate (per hour)	16	$ 235	1.15	$ 4,324
Sieve Analysis	$ 100	8	Chase Truck (per day)	2	$ 215	1.15	$ 495
Sand Equivalent	$ 95	0	Crew Mob-demob	2	$ 215	1.15	$ 495
Compaction Curve, ASTM D1557, 4" Mold	$ 225	0		0	$ -	1.15	$ -
Direct Shear, CU 3 points, ASTM 3080	$ 420	0			$ -	1.15	$ -
Direct Shear, CU 3 points, residual ASTM 3080	$ 570	0		0	$ -	1.00	$ -
Percent Passing #200	$ 65	0	Backhoe with travel (per hour)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
UU Triaxial	$ 120	0	CPT Mobilization/Demobilization	0.5	$ 2,000	1.00	$ 1,000
Unconfined Compression	$ 100	0	CPT Soundings (per day)	1	$ 3,000	1.00	$ 3,000
Constant Head Permeability	$ 325	0	CPT Rig per diem (2 person)	1	$ 300	1.00	$ 300
Flex-wall Permeability ASTM D5084	$ 360	5	CPT Standby/Dissipation	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
Incremental Consolidation with UL-RL	$ 375	0	Shoring (per day)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
Sieve and Hydrometer	$ 170	0	Traffic control and flagging (per day)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
Expansion Index	$ 225	0	Bob Tail Dump Truck (per hour)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
R-value, Soil	$ 300	0	Concrete Cores, 10" (each)	0	$ -	1.15	$ -
	$ -	0		0	$ -	1.15	$ -
	$ -	0	Pickup Truck (per day)	4	$ 115	1.00	$ 460
Soil Chemistry (pH, CL, SO4, R)	$ 240	0	Field Supplies	1	$ 200	1.15	$ 230
Sample Remold Charge	$ 80	0	Shipping, Overnight, Copies, etc.	1	$ 50	1.15	$ 58
						Subtotal ODC:	**$ 10,855**

Estimated Total for Hydrogeologic Services: $ 45,400

FEE ESTIMATE FOR HYDROGEOLOGIC SERVICES
Bonita School Road Property Feasibility Investigation
Nipomo, California

PLATE 2

FUGRO WEST, INC.

660 Clarion Court, Suite A
San Luis Obispo, California 93401
Tel: (805) 542-0797
Fax: (805) 542-9311

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 2008 FEE SCHEDULE FOR CONSULTING SERVICES

PROFESSIONAL STAFF	HOURLY RATE
Staff I Professional	$ 105
Staff II Professional	115
Project Professional I	135
Project Professional II	140
Senior Professional	155
Associate	175
Principal	200
Principal Consultant	225

TECHNICAL AND OFFICE STAFF	
Field Technician/Inspector - Non-Prevailing Wage, Straight Time	85
Field Technician/Inspector - Prevailing Wage, Straight Time	95
Construction Inspector	105
Construction Services Manager	115
Engineering assistant	105
Office Assistant	55
Word Processor/Clerical	70
Laboratory Technician	70
Technical Assistant/Illustrator	75
Illustrator II	85
CADD Operator	90
GIS Technician	90
HSE Manager	145

Overtime Rates for Technical and Office Staff:

a. Saturday or over 8 hours/day during weekdays ..... 1.3 x straight time
b. Sundays/holidays ..... 1.5 x straight time
c. Swing or graveyard shift premium ..... 1.3 x straight time

Fees for expert witness preparation, testimony, court appearances, or depositions will be billed at the rate of $325 per hour.

OTHER DIRECT CHARGES	
Subcontracted Services	Cost Plus 15%
Outside Reproduction	Cost Plus 15%
Outside Laboratory	Cost Plus 15%
Out-of-Pocket Expenses	Cost Plus 15%
Travel and Subsistence	Cost Plus 15%
Field Vehicle and Basic Sampling Equipment	115/day
Specialized Software Applications	25/hr

Report reproduction and data reporting costs per staff hourly rates
Fee Schedule is subject to revision periodically

LABORATORY AND SPECIALTY TESTING AND EQUIPMENT ..... See Separate Schedules