



**Department of Energy**  
Western Area Power Administration  
Sierra Nevada Customer Service Region  
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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
**Western Area Power Administration**

**Transmission Line and Interconnection to Contra Costa Water District's  
Alternative Intake Project, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California**

**Final**  
**Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**  
**and Floodplain Statement of Findings**

**Summary:** This notice provides Western Area Power Administration's (Western's) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) determination regarding Western's proposal to provide an electric transmission line and interconnection to Contra Costa Water District's (CCWD's) Alternative Intake Project (AIP) located in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, within San Joaquin and Contra Costa Counties, California. Under the Proposed Action, Western would provide electric service to the AIP power substation for operating AIP project facilities, including the new pump station on Victoria Canal, while minimizing costs and environmental effects.

The Proposed Action would make the AIP a new point of delivery on Western's system for delivery of project power for pumping a portion of CCWD's Central Valley Project (CVP) water supply from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), and also for delivery of power from third party providers under Western's Open Access Transmission Tariff for pumping of non-CVP water. This arrangement would be similar to CCWD's other intake facilities with Reclamation and Western, and would offset some of the existing power usage by CCWD at Old River Pump Station. The AIP would be a new point of delivery for project power. Western would be responsible for constructing, operating, and maintaining the Proposed Action.

Based on the analysis in the Environmental Assessment (EA), Western has determined that the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human and natural environment, within the meaning of NEPA. Therefore, the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

affecting the quality of the human and natural environment, within the meaning of NEPA. Therefore, the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required and Western is issuing this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The Proposed Action to install and maintain power poles and transmission lines within a 50-foot-wide transmission right-of-way (ROW) corridor would result in potential environmental effects that have been addressed through the incorporation of conservation measures into the Proposed Action.

The Proposed Action is located on Victoria Island which, except for its levees, is within the 100-year floodplain of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Therefore, a Statement of Findings is also included that there is no practicable alternative that would meet the purpose and need other than the Proposed Action of installing and maintaining the power poles and transmission lines within this floodplain, along State Route (SR) 4 and existing dirt roads.

***For Copies and Further Information, Contact:*** For copies of this FONSI or the EA, contact Ms. Cherie Johnston-Waldear, Project Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Regional Office, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, CA 95630-4710; telephone number (916) 353-4035; email [waldear@wapa.gov](mailto:waldear@wapa.gov).

***Supplementary Information and Findings:*** Western owns and operates seven transmission lines in the Sacramento Valley of California. The EA examines the impacts of installing and maintaining a transmission line and interconnection between Western's transmission system and CCWD's AIP.

NEPA regulations provide for the identification and elimination from detailed study the issues that are not significant or that have been covered by prior environmental review (40 CFR 1501.7[a][3]).

Based on Western's review of information obtained during initial scoping with the public and government agencies, and information obtained through literature review, agency correspondence, consultations, and field data collection, Western determined that the Proposed Action would not significantly affect the following four resources, which were not evaluated in detail in the EA:

**Mineral Resources:** The Proposed Action would not affect any known sand, gravel, natural gas, gold, or silver areas or result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource.

**Population and Housing:** The Proposed Action would not directly or indirectly result in population growth through the provision of new homes, new businesses, or in any other manner or displace existing housing or people.