

Sara Keeler - Re: Questions about Mariposa Energy Project

From: Krystal Hinojosa <Krystal.Hinojosa@dcd.cccounty.us>
To: Skeeler@energy.state.ca.us
Date: 9/29/2010 5:40 PM
Subject: Re: Questions about Mariposa Energy Project

Hello,

My comments to your questions are below. Hope this helps.

Krystal Hinojosa
 East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy
 Contra Costa County, Department of Conservation and Development
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Sara Keeler <Skeeler@energy.state.ca.us>

To <krystal.hinojosa@dcd.cccounty.us>

cc

09/28/2010 09:07 AM

Subject Questions about Mariposa Energy Project

Krystal,

As I mentioned in my voice mail, I would like to find out if the Mariposa Energy Project applicant needs to do anything with your agency in regards to constructing this water supply pipeline segment in Contra Costa County. In particular:

-- does this affect an area covered under the HCP/NCCP? It appears to be in the plan area.

-- does this work trigger any requirements in the HCP/NCCP that they would need to fulfill - approval, certification, permit, etc.

Although the water pipeline does extend into Contra Costa County and into the ECCC HCP/NCCP inventory area, based on reviewing the aerials photos of the site and site plans provided by CH2MHILL in a previous meeting, it appears that the waterline will be installed adjacent to bruins road, I think within the shoulder of the road. Based on the description of work I have heard and the information provided below this project will not be subject to coverage through the HCP/NCCP. Also, this project is part of a larger project which will be seeking mitigation for impacts associated with the whole project. I do not believe that just this segment of the project needs separate coverage, especially since it will be sited in what we consider urban areas that are ordinarily exempt (the road is paved or graveled and therefore exempt).

I've included the applicant's description of the water supply pipeline route, as well as a figure that shows general plan land designations. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Sara

From Application for Certification (2009) Land Use section:

5.2.1.6.1 Water Supply Line

Service water would be conveyed from a new pump station at Bruns Road and BBID Canal 45 to the new power plant by a buried pipeline. The new pump station and intake structure would be constructed near and on (respectively) the south bank of Canal 45, immediately adjacent to an existing BBID pump house. BBID will construct the water supply line. BBID will establish a temporary 1-acre laydown area during pipeline construction. This laydown will be sited in an existing, previously disturbed BBID development.

Canal 45 within the project area is disturbed. Concrete and asphalt rip rap armor the canal banks where wetland vegetation is precluded. Conditions further degrading the aquatic setting include routine maintenance, seasonal use, and various engineered controls including fish screen facilities, valve gates, and pump stations.

From the new pump station, the water supply pipeline would be buried under a BBID agricultural field, in the roadbed of Bruns Road, and under the Lee Property main access road. Along this alignment, the pipeline would cross four unnamed drainages (Figure 5.2-2) intersecting Bruns Road using the open-trench method. The intermittent drainages that traverse through the Byron Conservation Bank and under Bruns Road are considered particularly sensitive because California tiger salamander and California red-legged frog are known to occur upstream of the pipeline route. These drainages also may provide habitat for several state species of special concern. Preconstruction surveys for special-status species will occur in support of formal consultation with the USFWS (under Section 7) and CDFG.

The drainages are likely regulated by USACE, RWQCB, and CDFG. Mariposa Energy anticipates submitting a Preconstruction Notification (PCN) to the USACE to work under Nationwide Permit 12; filing an application for Section 401 water quality certification with the RWQCB; and a filing an application for streambed alteration with CDFG for project work in these four drainages.