

**ADDENDUM TO THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND FINAL  
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

**FOR THE**

**SOUTH COAST BEACH COMMUNITIES SEPTIC TO SEWER PROJECT**

**State Clearinghouse No. 2003071115**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The Carpinteria Sanitary District (District), as the project applicant and lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), prepared a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the South Coast Beach Communities Septic to Sewer Project. The District Board of Directors certified the FEIR at its regular meeting on September 7, 2004 through adoption of Resolution No. R-159.

The project involves elimination of on-site septic tanks and provision of public sanitary sewer service for several beachfront communities that are proximal or adjacent to the District's service area. Additional project objectives include annexation of the communities into the District's service area and formation of an assessment district (or districts) to provide a funding mechanism for the public improvements. The communities requesting public sewers include Rincon Point, Sandyland Cove, Sand Point Road and Padaro Lane. The Beach Club Road community was originally considered for septic to sewer conversion in the FEIR, but residents there do not currently desire sewer conversion and that geographic area has been removed from the project area.

Subsequent to FEIR certification, the District proposed certain design enhancements and project modifications, primarily within the Rincon Point community. In lieu of a conventional gravity sewer system, a low-pressure sewer system is proposed for this low lying area that is bisected by Rincon Creek. An alternative pipeline alignment to convey wastewater from the community to the District's existing collection system was also developed. The proposed project changes were evaluated through preparation of a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (FSEIR) which was circulated for public comment in the same manner as the original FEIR. The District Board of Directors certified the FSEIR and approved the project at its regular meeting on September 19, 2006 through adoption of a series of resolutions (Resolution Nos. R-185 to R-189).

The project modifications considered in the FSEIR resulted in reduced or eliminated environmental impacts. The low pressure sewer system approach in the Rincon Point community allowed for consolidation of two pump stations into one and relocation outside of flood hazard areas. It also replaced large diameter gravity sewers with small diameter force mains, primarily installed using trenchless construction methods. Impacts to cultural resources and general construction related impacts (hydrology, biology, water quality, noise, etc.) were sharply reduced. The FSEIR evaluated potential impacts associated with the addition of individual grinder pumps at each residence, which are required for the low pressure sewer system.

In 2006, the District updated the conceptual engineering design for the sewer systems intended to serve the Sandyland Cove and Sand Point Road communities. It was determined that project costs and construction-related impacts could be reduced by also utilizing a low pressure sewer system in these beachfront communities. It is now the District's intent to install a low pressure sewer system in these areas. This document describes the project modifications and evaluates the impacts associated with the change.

## **2. BASIS FOR ADDENDUM**

Section 21166 of the Public Resources Code (CEQA) and *CEQA Guidelines* Sections 15162, 15163 and 15164 outline the circumstances for preparing a subsequent EIR. More specifically, Section 15162 specifically states that when an EIR has been certified for a project, no subsequent EIR shall be prepared for that project unless the lead agency determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in the light of the whole record, one or more of the following:

1. Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects;
2. Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or
3. New information, which was not known and could not have been known at the time of the previous EIR was certified as complete, becomes available.

Section 15164 further states that an Addendum to a previously certified EIR may be prepared by the lead agency if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred. An Addendum need not be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the Final EIR.

The District has determined that an Addendum to the Final EIR for the South Coast Beach Communities Septic to Sewer Project is the appropriate CEQA document for the proposed project modifications affecting the Sandyland Cove and Sand Point Road communities. The project design changes effectively reduce project impacts and none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.

In accordance with CEQA, therefore, the purpose of this document is to make minor changes or additions to the FEIR and FSEIR for the South Coast Beach Communities Septic to Sewer Project. No changes to project mitigation measures are proposed; therefore no recirculation is required pursuant to Section 15088.5.

## **3. SUMMARY OF PROJECT CHANGES**

Specific modifications to the sewer infrastructure proposed to serve the Sandyland Cove and Sand Point Road communities are outlined in this section. The proposed design changes will result in reduced impacts during construction and a smaller project footprint with the elimination of four publicly owned pump stations.

Within the Sandyland Cove community, the design concept evaluated in the FEIR included the following components:

- 2,700 linear feet of 8-inch diameter gravity sewer
- 1,200 linear feet of 4-inch diameter force main
- 2 public pump stations
- 13 manholes and several cleanout assemblies
- An undetermined number of ejector pumps serving private homes
- 4-inch diameter gravity sewer laterals serving each residence

The proposed low pressure sewer system for Sandyland Cove would eliminate the infrastructure outlined above in favor of the following system components:

- 2,900 linear feet of 2-inch to 3-inch diameter low pressure force main
- Low pressure grinder pump and tank serving each residence
- 1.5-inch diameter low pressure sewer lateral serving each residence

Pipeline alignments for the low pressure system would follow those alignments previously considered in the FEIR with no additional impacts.

Because the low pressure system does not rely on gravity to convey wastewater, the pipeline depths can be held to a safe minimum depth and existing utilities can be avoided easily. Trenchless pipeline installation is also possible for pressure applications.

Within the Sand Point Road community, the design concept evaluated in the FEIR included the following components:

- 3,150 linear feet of 8-inch diameter gravity sewer
- 1,500 linear feet of 4-inch diameter force main
- 2 public pump stations
- 10 manholes and several cleanout assemblies
- An undetermined number of ejector pumps serving private homes
- 4-inch diameter gravity sewer laterals serving each residence

The proposed low pressure sewer system for Sand Point Road would eliminate the infrastructure outlined above in favor of the following system components:

- 3,000 linear feet of 2-inch to 3-inch diameter low pressure force main
- Low pressure grinder pump and tank serving each residence
- 1.5-inch diameter low pressure sewer lateral serving each residence

Pipeline alignments for the low pressure system would follow those alignments previously considered in the FEIR and no new environmental impacts or increases to existing impacts are associated with pipeline installation for the modified project.

Because the low pressure system does not rely on gravity to convey wastewater, the pipeline depths can be held to a safe minimum depth and existing utilities can be avoided easily. Trenchless pipeline installation is also possible for pressure applications. Generally,

construction equipment required to install low pressure sewers is smaller and less invasive than equipment required for gravity sewer installation. Dramatic reductions in earthwork quantities and truck trips for import/export are anticipated.

The proposed construction schedule would be shortened for the currently proposed project and reductions to construction related impacts would be expected as a result. Limitations on construction timing, to protect existing fauna, would be adhered to.

The low pressure sewer system approach will require each home to have a grinder pump to convey wastewater into the low pressure collection system. The tank would be located in a 270 gallon polyethylene tank, specifically designed for this application. A small diameter (1.5-inch) pipeline and appurtenant valves will also be constructed on each parcel. Abandonment of on-site septic systems would occur in the same manner as originally considered in the FEIR. The District proposes to provide ownership and maintenance of the grinder pump and associated equipment serving each home. Property owners would contact the District in the event of a failure or service interruption.

Refer to Section 2.0 of the FSEIR for a more complete discussion on the general differences, in terms of materials and construction methods, between a conventional gravity-based sewer system and a low pressure sewer system.

#### **4. REVISIONS TO IMPACT ANALYSIS**

The significant impacts and required mitigation measures identified in the Final Environmental Impact Report and the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the South Coast Beach Communities Septic to Sewer Project have not changed. Only minor changes or additions to a few impact areas are necessary to address the proposed project modifications within the Sandyland Cove and Sand Point Road Communities.

The revisions to the impact analysis for each section are as summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1: Revisions to Impact Analysis**

<b>Project Modifications - Sandyland Cove and Sand Point Road</b>	
<b>Class I – Significant Unavoidable Adverse Environmental Impacts</b>	
Growth Inducement	No Change
<b>Class II – Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts That Can Be Feasibly Mitigated or Avoided</b>	
Geology	Impacts reduced thorough use of shallower and narrower trenches and elimination of public pump stations. Mitigations GEO1 and GEO2 still apply.
Surface Water Hydrology and Water Quality	Certain impacts eliminated through deletion of pump stations adjacent to the Carpinteria Salt Marsh. Mitigation HYD4, regarding private pump stations remains applicable. All other mitigation measures remain applicable. Mitigation HYD5, related to required Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, remains in full effect.
Biological Resources	Impacts reduced thorough use of shallower and narrower trenches and elimination of public pump stations in proximity to the Carpinteria Salt Marsh. Mitigations BIO1, BIO3, BIO4 and BIO5 still apply.
Cultural Resources	Impacts reduced thorough use of shallower and narrower trenches and elimination of public pump stations. Mitigations related to protection of cultural resources remain in effect.

In summary, no new impacts or significant impacts not previously considered will result from the proposed project modifications. No previously identified impacts will increase in severity or duration. This Addendum document adequately addresses the project modifications.