

EMERGENCY STORAGE PROJECT
Lake Hodges Projects Update
Meeting Summary

DATE: Sept. 13, 2006

TIME: 7 p.m.

ORGANIZATION:

Del Dios Town Council

MEETING LOCATION:

Del Dios Fire Station, Escondido, California

ATTENDANCE:

3

PRESENTERS:

Alex Newton, SDCWA
Joe Bride, SDCWA
Kelly Rodgers, SDCWA
John McCullough, McCullough Environmental Consulting
Sean Menge, Kiewit Pacific Corporation
Mike Medford, Archer Western Contractors

STAFF RESOURCES:

Katz & Associates
Jessica Berlin
Jacobs Civil, Inc.
George Johnson

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Note: The project team showed a PowerPoint presentation with pictures of the current construction progress during this meeting. A copy of the presentation is attached to the end of the meeting summary.

Alex Newton, public affairs representative for the San Diego County Water Authority, welcomed everyone and introduced the project team. Joe Bride, construction administrator for the Lake Hodges Projects, discussed safety on the project site. He said there were some minor accidents and injuries on the site, but the goal is to have zero. Joe also said there has been vandalism of project signs and fences and we need the community's help to discourage this vandalism. The fences and the signs on the site are there to help protect the community and prevent injuries. He encouraged everyone to get the word out to the community to try to stop this vandalism.

Joe then introduced Sean Menge, project manager for the tunnel and pipeline project from Kiewit Pacific Corporation. Sean gave an update on the progress to date of the project. He said the excavation of the tunnel was completed on Aug. 1 and the tunnel has been tied into the stub tunnel (the 500-foot-long tunnel created from the Olivenhain Reservoir side before it was filled with water). Sean said the first section of steel liner pipe was delivered this morning. There are a total of 148 sections of pipe and installation of the pipe will start next week. Sean also explained that the shaft excavation was just completed and now the surge chamber within the shaft is being blasted. Kiewit is also in the process of getting final permits from the County to install the traffic signal at Rancho Drive and Del Dios Highway.

Mike Medford, project manager for the pump station project from Archer Western Contractors, reviewed the status of their project. He said they are currently excavating the hole that will be approximately 120 feet deep and about 100 feet by 100 feet wide. The pump station excavation is scheduled to be complete in early 2007. The material that is excavated is being processed on the project site. Mike said they are taking the two- to three-foot chunks of rock and processing them down into six-inch rock, which will fill the cofferdam cells. When the inlet-outlet structure is complete and Archer Western is ready to take out the cofferdam, they will take the six-inch rock out of the cells and use it as backfill around the pump station.

Mike also explained the cofferdam construction in detail. He said the cofferdam is about 10 to 15 percent complete. The cofferdam consists of 13 round cells that will be filled with rock (the six-inch rock discussed above) to form a barrier in the lake. Then the water from inside the cofferdam will be pumped out so they can construct the inlet-outlet structure. Once the cofferdam is complete, construction on the inlet-outlet structure will begin. An underground pipe will connect the pump station to the inlet-outlet structure in the lake, which will transmit water into and out of Lake Hodges.

Next, John McCullough, environmental consultant for the Water Authority's Water Resources Department, discussed the Lake Hodges Pump Station supplemental environmental impact report (SEIR). John stated that the original EIR indicated that the Water Authority would temporarily relocate a segment of the Coast to Crest Trail during construction of the pump station project. Due to safety concerns, the Water Authority subsequently determined that they could not relocate the trail through the construction site. The Water Authority also determined that re-routing of the trail around the project site was not feasible due to the steep topography, sensitive vegetation, time constraints, and property ownership issues. An SEIR was prepared to analyze deletion of a portion of a mitigation measure, and because the temporary recreational impact of closing the trail for two years during construction could not be mitigated. The SEIR only addresses the closure of the trail. The Water Authority board of directors will consider certification of the Final SEIR in November. *(Note: The public comment deadline for the draft SEIR was extended an additional week, from Oct. 11 to Oct. 18, 2006.)*

Joe Bride then discussed the answers to some of the questions the team received during the Del Dios Town Council board member tour of the project site. Someone had asked about the oak trees near the site that looked like they were dying. Joe said that the Water Authority hired an arborist to come to the site to look at the oak trees and he reported the die-back symptoms are not caused by construction dust. The die-back symptoms on the oak trees are being caused by a tree girdler, a naturally occurring pest. The tree girdler gets into the branches and kills some of the branches and leaves on the trees. The arborist said this is natural phenomenon for oak trees throughout the valley and it is not due to the construction. Tree girdler die-back is also occurring on the other side of the lake. When the team asked if they should spray the trees off, the arborist said no because the oak trees are not used to getting that much water during the summer months.

The next question from the board member tour was regarding leaving the Internet and electrical lines that the contractors are using on the site at the end of the project for possible future windsurfing building operations. Joe Bride stated this was one community member's request and

he'd like to hear a consensus from the community before they look into this option further. The community agreed to report back with a consensus on this issue.

The final question from the tour was regarding leaving the storage building on the project site at the end of the project, but Joe Bride said this would not be in compliance with the EIR, so the Water Authority cannot leave the building on the site. The community agreed

Finally, Kelly Rodgers, Lake Hodges project manager, discussed the update on the development of the landscape committee. She said the committee has four members from the community and meetings should begin next year after the Water Authority hires a landscape architect. Her goal is to hire the landscape architect by the end of the year. Kelly said that she would like to have the landscape architect involved in the landscape committee meetings so he/she can work with the community members directly to develop a landscape plan. Kelly also said that currently she does not have adequate renderings of the pump station, but it is planned that the pump station will be the same color as the Olivenhain Dam, desert varnish. A picture of the Olivenhain Dam is included in the PowerPoint presentation.

Questions and Comments During the Presentation:

Q. How many sections of pipe will be delivered a day?

A. In the beginning only one or two a day, but normally about five to eight pipe segments will be delivered each day.

Q. Is the inlet-outlet structure under water?

A. Yes.

Q. Because of the density of the granite in the ground, do you have to shore it up as you're excavating down for the pump station?

A. We dig in 10-foot lifts and use soil nails, based on the geography. Although this could change as we get down further.

Q. At the end of the pump station project, when you're taking apart the cofferdam, will there be construction traffic over the trail at that time?

A. There will still be work going on at that time, but we will open the trail as soon as it is safe to do so.

Q. Where will the trail be when it is restored?

A. Between the lake and the pump station building.

Q. Do we have to wait until the end of the pump station contract, or will you be able to open the trail before it's actually complete?

A. The trail will be open when safety permits

Q. Up until about March of this year, there was a fence up around the project and the trail was able to be open. Can that be put back up at the end of the project before the pump station is complete to allow the trail to be opened?

- A. At the end of the project there will still be a lot of work going on. For example, all of the rock will need to come out of the cofferdam cells and then be placed around the pump station as backfill. The trail will be open when safety permits
- C. I am concerned about the closure of the trail causing an increase in trail use at the other end of the parking lot. Everybody's parking at the other end of town now, not in the lot across from Hernandez Hideaway, because that portion of the trail is closed. There have been some near misses with pedestrians and cars and I think something needs to be done to help mitigate traffic at that end.
- A. This would a good thing to send in as a response to the SEIR, which is currently on the Water Authority's website (http://www.sdcwa.org/infra/esp-lakehodes_draftSEIRCoast.phtml). The 30-day comment period for the SEIR ends Oct. 11, 2006.
- Q. I am also concerned about the tailings issue, which is not a part of the trail closure, so it's not incorporated into this SEIR document. How was that handled?
- A. There were two CEQA addendums that handled this issue because it was determined that the tailings were not a significant impact. Addendums are not typically circulated documents, but we can provide a copy of them to the Town Council.
- Q. Are there more tailings being left on the site than were originally planned?
- A. Yes. As we have discussed at earlier Del Dios Town Council meetings, we did that to reduce the amount of export truck trips through the community.
- C. Those tailings will affect the land. I would like to see the addendums.
- A. We will get the Town Council a copy of the addendums.
- Q. Is the SEIR on the website?
- A. Yes. There is a link to the draft SEIR on the Water Authority's home page at www.sdcwa.org, or located here: http://www.sdcwa.org/infra/esp-lakehodes_draftSEIRCoast.phtml. Comments on the draft SEIR can be made until Oct. 11, 2006.
(Note: The public comment deadline for the draft SEIR was extended an additional week, from Oct. 11 to Oct. 18, 2006.)

Joe Bride and Alex Newton concluded the session by thanking everyone for attending.

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Lake Hodges Projects

*Del Dios Town Council Meeting
Project Update
September 13, 2006*



Tonight's Meeting

- Tunnel/Pipeline Project
- Pump Station Project
- Lake Hodges Pump Station SEIR
- General Project Updates
- Questions?



Tunnel/Pipeline Project



Tunnel/Pipeline Project



Tunnel/Pipeline Project



Pump Station Project



Pump Station Project



Lake Hodges Pump Station SEIR



Lake Hodges Pump Station SEIR



San Diego County Water Authority

**Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report
for the
Emergency Storage Project
Lake Hodges Pump Station**

State Clearinghouse No. 1993011028



*San Diego County
Water Authority*

**Prepared for:
San Diego County Water Authority
4677 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123**

September 2006



Jones & Stokes

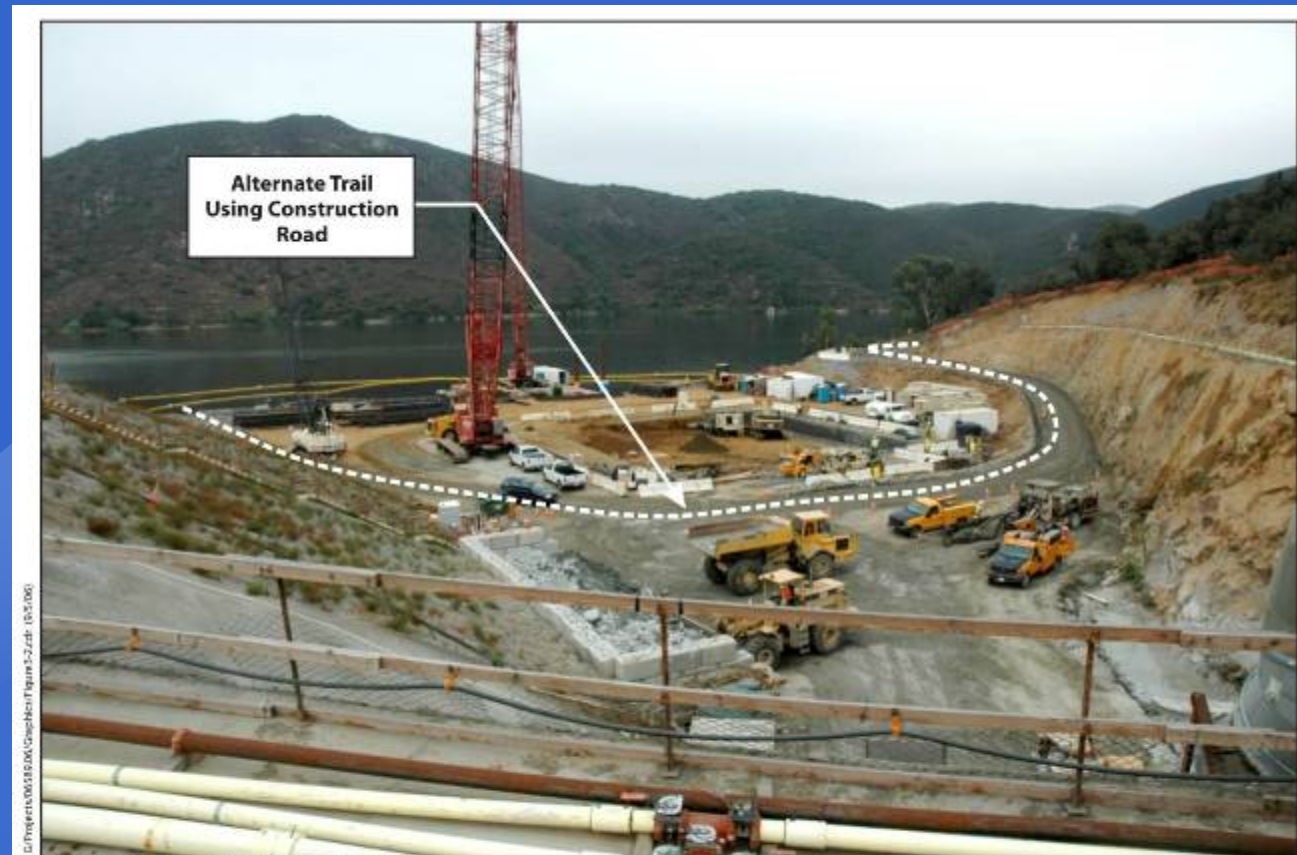
**Prepared by:
Jones & Stokes
9903 Businesspark Avenue
San Diego, CA 92131**



Emergency Storage Project

San Diego County Water Authority

Lake Hodges Pump Station SEIR



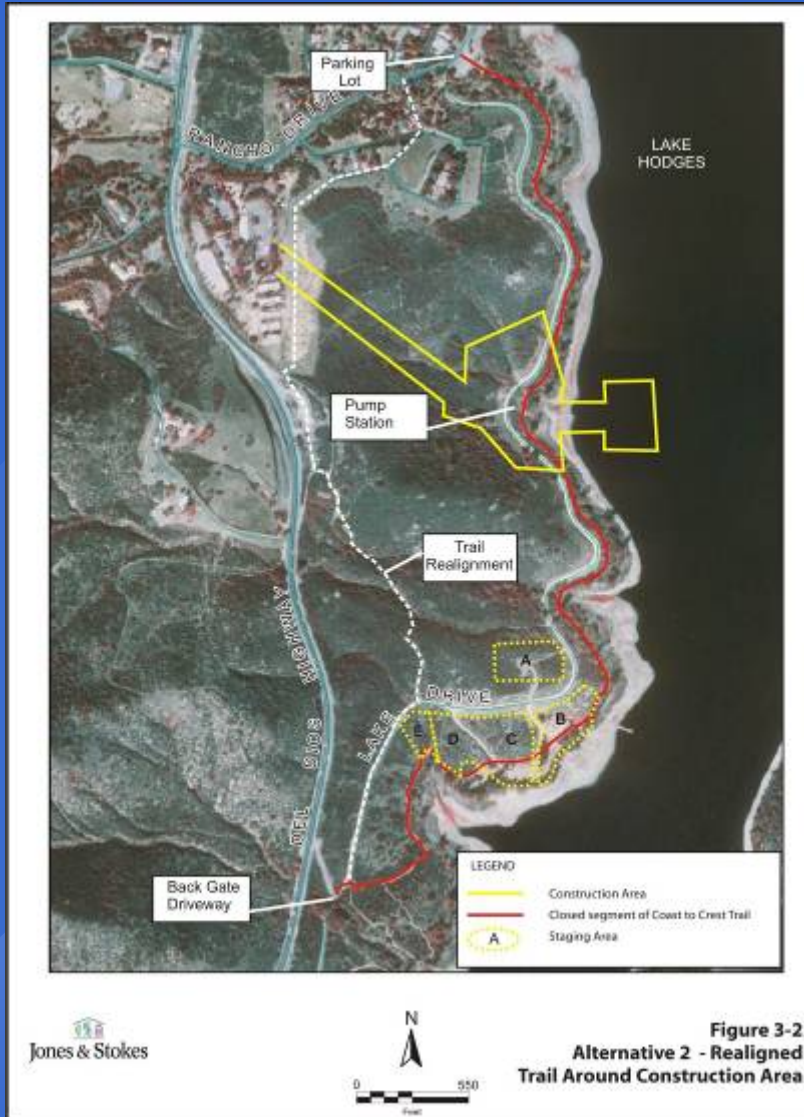
Source: McCollough Environmental Consultants



Figure 3-1
Alternative 1 - Realigned Trail
Through Construction Area



Lake Hodges Pump Station SEIR



General Project Updates

- Questions from DDTC Board member tour
- Landscape Committee Update



General Project Updates



Questions?

