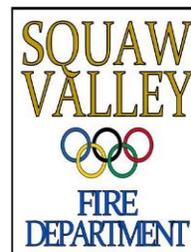




## SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT



### Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project

**DATE:** October 31, 2017  
**TO:** District Board Members  
**FROM:** Dave Hunt, District Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Stantec for Environmental Compliance and Permitting Support for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project

**BACKGROUND:** The Squaw Valley Interceptor (SVI) was constructed in 1978 as part of the larger Truckee River Interceptor (TRI) project. A part of the SVI is the District's Truckee River siphon. The siphon includes approximately 340 linear feet of 10-inch mortar lined and coated ductile iron pipe (DIP). The siphon pipeline begins on the west side of Highway 89 and extends across the highway and under the Truckee River, terminating at TRI manhole 43 on the east side of Highway 89 and the Truckee River. The Truckee River siphon conveys the entire sewage flow out of the Valley.

Recent inspections have indicated that this pipe is reaching the end of its useful life and the District is in the process of designing and permitting improvements necessary to replace the siphon in the summer of 2018.

**DISCUSSION:** The Board approved a PSAs with Farr West Engineering, Andregg Geomatics, and Holdrege & Kull for design, survey, and geotechnical engineering in April 2017. Results of the geotechnical investigation indicated that the siphon pipelines can be installed using the horizontal directional drilling (HDD) method, as compared to open excavation. Farr West recently completed a basis of design report 50% level design plans based on HDD.

With an understanding of the proposed construction methods, District staff has been working with Stantec to develop an environmental permitting and compliance strategy. As the project crosses multiple jurisdictions, including Highway 89 (Caltrans), the Truckee River, and U.S. Forest Service lands, state and federal permitting will be required.

Under their scope of services, Stantec will develop supporting technical studies for the District in a format that can dovetail into CEQA, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and environmental permit documentation.

The District has designed the Project to avoid impacts to the extent feasible and intends to file a CEQA Categorical Exemption, Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction (CEQA Guidelines 15302). It is anticipated that a NEPA Categorical Exclusion is feasible for the temporary impacts to USFS land. Other state and federal permits may include:

- Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) – California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification - Lahontan RWQCB

**ALTERNATIVES:** 1. Approval of the proposal from Stantec for environmental consulting services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project.

2. Do not approve the proposal from Stantec for environmental consulting services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project.

**FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACTS:** The replacement of the Truckee River siphon will be funded through a combination of Sewer Capital and Sewer FARF. The total project cost is estimated to be approximately \$2,000,000, which includes design and permitting, staff time, and construction.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Staff recommends approval of the proposal from Stantec for environmental consulting services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project and recommends the General Manager be authorized to execute Professional Service Agreements with Stantec in an amount not to exceed \$51,500. A 15% contingency is included in this budget to account for extra work that may be required based on unforeseen circumstances that may come about during the course of the project.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Proposal for Environmental Consulting Services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement, Placer County, CA (Stantec, October 25, 2017)

**DATE PREPARED:** October 19, 2017



October 25, 2017

**Attention: Dave Hunt, P.E.**  
Squaw Valley Public Service District  
305 Squaw Valley Road  
Olympic Valley, CA 96146

Dear Mr. Hunt,

**Reference: REVISED Proposal for Environmental Consulting Services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement, Placer County, CA**

We are pleased to submit this revised scope of services and fee estimate to Squaw Valley Public Service District (District) for Environmental Consulting Services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project (proposed Project) in Placer County, California.

Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) understands the District needs to replace an existing single sewer line with a double line. We understand the proposed Project entails approximately 350 feet of pipe just south of the Squaw Creek Bridge and pipe would cross California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) right-of-way (ROW), the Truckee River, private property, and approximately 100 feet of U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands. We understand the District will install the pipelines using horizontal directional drill (HDD) methodologies and plans to abandon the pre-existing pipe in place to minimize disturbance. The new pipelines will run approximately 10 feet (') north and parallel to the existing siphon, and up to 10'-15' below the river bottom and extend between the river banks for a linear distance of approximately 350' where it will connect to the Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency (TTSA) Truckee River Interceptor (TRI) on the east side of the river. We understand that the District intends to begin construction on the proposed Project in the summer of 2018.

For this Project, the District will be the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency with discretionary authority. The proposed Project entails a small footprint; however, the environmental compliance process has the potential to be complicated. This is because the proposed Project crosses multiple jurisdictions and requires permissions to leave the original pipe in place. As such, Stantec has conducted a permit streamlining analyses and will develop supporting technical studies for the District in a format that can dovetail into future CEQA, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and environmental permit documentation.

Based on Stantec's experience conducting biological, cultural, and wetland surveys in the proposed Project vicinity, discussions with District staff, a review of aerial photographs, environmental database searches, and a site visit, Stantec has confirmed that state and federal permitting will be required and that there may be several options for CEQA compliance. The District anticipates a CEQA Categorical Exemption (Cat Ex) may be applicable based on a preliminary review of potential environmental constraints. If the potential for significant impacts arise or a state agency requires it, a CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)

Design with community in mind



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**Reference: REVISED REVISED Proposal for Environmental Consulting Services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement, Placer County, CA**

may be necessary. As such, we have developed a scope for the initial phases of the environmental compliance process to further develop the environmental compliance strategy and baseline data collection, all of which will be useful during the future CEQA and permitting processes.

Regarding NEPA, we estimate that due to the intersection with a small portion of USFS property, a NEPA Categorical Exclusion (also termed a Cat Ex) may be feasible. This will be confirmed during preliminary agency meetings. We assume the District will coordinate the USFS meetings and be responsible for the USFS cost recovery program agreements. We also assume that the USFS will complete the NEPA documentation and associated federal consultations for work on USFS lands.

We understand the District aims to efficiently address environmental compliance and therefore has requested the following services to initiate the process.

## **SCOPE OF SERVICES**

At the request of the District, this revised scope of services includes the finalization of the Project Description, agency coordination, technical reporting, and environmental permitting support. The intent of this scope is to provide the District with technical resource-specific support and work as a seamless extension of District staff in coordinating and delivering environmental compliance documentation/permit applications.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE TASKS**

### **TASK 1: PROJECT DESCRIPTION FINALIZATION**

Stantec, in coordination with the District, has developed responses to USFS inquiries about Project details. Under this Task, Stantec will work closely with the District to finalize a complete Project Description including project location, purpose and need, Project components, Project construction techniques, and construction schedule. Stantec GIS staff have coordinated with the District to develop project overview figures, which will be incorporated into the Project Description. The Project Description can be used for a future CEQA or NEPA document, and future permitting applications. We understand the District will continue to provide the majority of the technical information to complete the Project Description and Stantec will provide permit-specific template information and one round of quality review services.

**Task 1 Deliverables:** Final Project Description.



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**Reference: REVISED REVISED Proposal for Environmental Consulting Services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement, Placer County, CA**

## **TASK 2: AGENCY COORDINATION**

Under this Task, Stantec has allotted 24 hours for regulatory meetings and coordination support. The purpose is to begin discussions regarding the proposed Project and to aid in the development of CEQA, NEPA, and permitting applications for the proposed Project. Stantec hours for these meetings will be utilized at the discretion of District staff to facilitate coordination with the District, Caltrans, USFS, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and Native American representatives, if feasible.

Under this Task, Stantec will assist the District to advocate and confirm the most streamlined permitting approach with respect to the following regulations, to the extent feasible:

- NEPA – Categorical Exclusion
- CEQA – Categorical Exemption
- National Historic Protection Act (NHPA) Section 106 – Support documentation
- Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 – Avoidance via Horizontal Direction Drill
- CWA Section 401 – Water Quality Certification
- Federal Endangered Species Act – Confirmation of No Effect (or No Adverse Effect)
- California Endangered Species Act – Not Applicable
- CDFW Fish and Game Code Section 1602 – Streambed Alteration Agreement including permissions for abandonment of the existing pipeline.

**Task 2 Deliverable:** Meeting Minutes Documenting Permit Strategy Confirmations by the Regulatory Agencies

## **TASK 3: TECHNICAL STUDIES**

In support of future environmental regulatory permitting required for crossing the Truckee River, CEQA and NEPA compliance triggered by the District, USFS, Caltrans, CDFW, and RWQCB discretionary actions, Stantec has conducted the field surveys required for the required technical studies described below. The results of the studies will be presented in such a way so they can be adapted to meet the needs of CEQA, NEPA, and regulatory permit applications. This Task entails two Subtasks:



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**Reference: REVISED REVISED Proposal for Environmental Consulting Services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement, Placer County, CA**

### **SUBTASK 3.1: FIELD SURVEY REPORTING**

Biological, wetlands, and cultural resource field surveys have been completed using methods and protocols that will yield resource reports suitable to meet CWA Sections 401 and 404, CDFW Department Fish and Game (CFG) Code 1602, California Endangered Species Act, Federal Endangered Species Act, and NHPA Section 106 standards. Specifically, Stantec biologists have conducted reconnaissance-level wildlife and botanical habitat assessment and an Aquatic Resource Delineation (previously termed a Wetland Delineation). A Stantec archeologist has conducted a reconnaissance-level survey to inform compliance with CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106 of the NHPA. Under this Subtask, Stantec will produce the following deliverables based on the above described surveys.

#### **Subtask 3.1 Deliverables:**

The following reports will form the basis for environmental permitting and a District conducted Initial Study, if deemed necessary.

- Cultural Recourse Baseline Memo (assume the USFS will conduct Native American consultations and finalize the NHPA Section 106 Compliant Report);
- Aquatic Resources Delineation Report; and
- Biological Resource Evaluation Report

### **SUBTASK 3.2: TECHNICAL MODELING AND REPORTING – NOT ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED.**

Based on our past experience for similar work in the County, we assume this project will not entail exceedances of air quality standards, due to the short duration and minimal equipment requirements. As such, we have not included an analysis of air quality and greenhouse gas impacts. If the District would like a file copy of the construction and operational air quality assessment of project-level and cumulative impacts using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod), we can provide this under a separate scope.

**Subtask 3.2 Deliverable:** None.

### **TASK 4: CEQA CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION – DISTRICT REQUESTED**

The District has designed the Project to avoid impacts to the extent feasible and potentially qualify for a CEQA Categorical Exemption, Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction (CEQA Guidelines 15302). The Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced, including but not limited to, (c) Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.



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Under this Task, Stantec will develop a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the proposed Project and submit it to the District for review prior to submission to the California State Clearinghouse (SCH). Categorical Exemptions have some restrictions and it is our understanding the District's legal counsel and staff reviewed the legal applicability of this approach for a replacement project and based on current information found it preferred. As such, Stantec will develop the CEQA Cat Ex form and facilitate submittal to the State Clearinghouse. If an IS/MND is required, we can perform these services under a separate scope.

**Task 4 Deliverable:** One (1) Word and PDF electronic copy of the CEQA Notice of Exemption

#### **TASK 5: ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING SUPPORT**

It is our understanding that the District will draft the permit applications based on agency meetings, design footprints, and proposed construction methods. Under this Task, Stantec will provide the District with review and/or support in finalizing the following permit applications:

**SUBTASK 5.1:** Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) Application and CDFW coordination.

**SUBTASK 5.2:** CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application and follow up coordination with Lahontan RWQCB.

**SUBTASK 5.3:** Federal Endangered Species Informal Consultations for Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog (*Rana sierrae*) and Lahontan cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi*) (assumes informal consultations are feasible), including a Biological Assessment and coordination with USFWS, to document *no effect* or *not likely to adversely affect* findings.

**SUBTASK 5.4:** NHPA Section 106 compliance support including State Historic Preservation Officer submittal support and coordination.

**SUBTASK 5.5:** USFS NEPA support (assumes NEPA Categorical Exclusion is feasible for temporary impacts to approximately 100 feet of USFS land). Under this Subtask, the Stantec Project Manager will be available to provide support documentation, developed under separate tasks to the USFS in response to inquiries or data needs.

CWA Section 404 Nationwide 12 Permit Application is assumed not applicable due to the use of HDD methodologies and avoidance of work within Waters of the U.S. We have also allotted four hours of agency follow-up for each permit to help accelerate the permitting process.



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**Reference: REVISED REVISED Proposal for Environmental Consulting Services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement, Placer County, CA**

## **TASK 6: PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

Under this Task, Stantec will communicate the environmental service project plan, facilitate and communicate safety considerations, and conduct document review with the District. We have included one meeting or site visit with the District.

### **ASSUMPTIONS**

- Stantec assumes that the Project will be Categorically Exempt for CEQA compliance. If a CEQA document is found to be required, Stantec can provide services upon request and with an additional Task Order to this Scope.
- We assume the District will continue to provide the majority of the technical information to complete the Project Description that Stantec can adapt for the purposes of CEQA compliance and environmental permitting, etc.
- We assume the District will coordinate the USFS meetings and be responsible for the USFS cost recovery program agreements. We also assume that the USFS will complete the NEPA documentation and associated federal consultations for work on USFS lands.
- Stantec assumes the District will provide all access and use agreements and verifications as needed.
- Stantec assumes that the Biological Resources Tech Memos will be sufficient documentation to complete the CDFW LSAA application.
- We assume a CWA Section 404 Nationwide 12 Permit Application will not be applicable due to the use of HDD methodologies and avoidance of work within Waters of the U.S.
- Stantec has completed the desktop research and reconnaissance-level biological and cultural resource field surveys for the proposed Project; therefore, we assume no additional field surveys will be required to complete CEQA or environmental permitting process. We also assume that no additional and/or protocol-level surveys will be required. However, if the Project entails a potential to adversely affect protected species, and this cannot be avoided, Stantec can provide an additional Task Order to this Scope to facilitate additional compliance as needed.
- We assume no cultural resources, tribal cultural resources, or built environment resources will be within the proposed Project area or within view of the proposed Project area.
- We assume the USFS will draft letters to the federally recognized tribes to facilitate NHPA



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Section 106 compliance. If the CEQA strategy changes for any reason, under a separate scope Stantec, can support (drafting letters on District letterhead with a District representative's signature) the Consultation with federally recognized and unrecognized tribes in compliance with AB 52.

- We assume the District will secure the special use permit/clearance for archeological surveys on USFS lands.
- We assume the District will draft the LSAA application and Stantec will provide the applicable Biological Resource Evaluation.
- Stantec assumes the District will be responsible for all applicable permit fees and cultural resource Information Center records search fees.
- We assume the District will provide estimates of the construction equipment types and use durations to facilitate the air quality impact assessment and modeling.
- Stantec will provide all GIS support, including figure compilation for CEQA and Project Permits, as well as associated geographic analysis (e.g., acreage calculations, measurements, etc.) to complete deliverable documentation. If additional GIS support (e.g., agency request for additional figures or GIS analysis) that is not outlined in CEQA guidelines or Permit documentation standards, Stantec can provide these services under an additional Task Order to this Scope.
- We assume Federal Endangered Species Informal Consultations are feasible for Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog and Lahontan cutthroat trout.
- We assume CDFW and the regulatory agencies will permit abandonment in place for the original siphon. If an agency requires the old siphon be removed, Stantec can provide permitting services under a separate scope.
- Stantec assumes a NEPA Categorical Exclusion is feasible for temporary impacts to approximately 100 feet of USFS land.



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## **ESTIMATED SCHEDULE**

Stantec will initiate the finalization of the Project Description and can be available for agency meetings as well as conduct field surveys immediately upon receipt of a signed contract. We assume the District will secure all property access.

Stantec will develop permit applications within three months of the project kick-off. Then the Regulatory Agency review and permitting processes can take between three months and one year, longer in the unlikely event the USFWS determined the proposed Project was likely to adversely affect Lahontan cutthroat trout or Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog.



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**FEE ESTIMATE**

This scope of work will be conducted on a time and materials basis with a not to exceed amount of **\$44,839**. The Fee Estimate is based on the District staff recommended scenario of a CEQA Categorical Exemption and submittal of the required permit applications. The fee would increase as disclosed in the table below, if the District Board determines a Categorical Exemption is not viable for this project.

A complete cost summary is included in Table 1 below.

**TABLE 1:** Fee Estimate for Environmental Consulting Services for the Truckee River Siphon Replacement Project, Placer County, California.

Environmental Consulting Services	Fee Estimate
<b>Environmental Compliance Tasks</b>	
Task 1: Project Description Finalization	<b>\$3,596</b>
Task 2: Agency Coordination and Meetings	<b>\$5,396</b>
Task 3: Technical Studies (Biological, Cultural Resources, Waters of the US)	<b>\$11,676</b>
Subtask 3.1: Field Survey Reporting	\$11,676
Subtask 3.2: Technical Modeling and Reporting	N/A
Task 4: CEQA Categorical Exemption	<b>\$2,193</b>
Task 5: Environmental Permitting Support	<b>\$17,818</b>
Subtask 5.1: CDFW LSAA Application and Coordination	\$5,466
Subtask 5.2: Clean Water Act Section 401 Application and Coordination	\$3,232
Subtask 5.3: Federal Endangered Species Act (Informal Consultations Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog and Lahontan cutthroat trout)	\$4,036
Subtask 5.4: NHPA Section 106 Compliance support and Coordination	\$2,830
Subtask 5.5: USFS NEPA Support	\$2,254
Task 6: Project Management	<b>\$4,160</b>
<b>Fee Estimate Total</b>	<b>\$44,839</b>



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Stantec can begin work on this Project with the District once a signed contract has been finalized. If you have any questions regarding this scope of services and fee estimate for the proposed Project, please feel free to contact Emily C. Eppinger or Bernadette Bezy at the phone numbers or emails listed below. We look forward to supporting you on this project.

Sincerely,

**Stantec Consulting Services**

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Emily C. Eppinger

Wildlife Biologist, Project Manager,  
Environmental Compliance Specialist  
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- c. Andrea Williams, Senior Wildlife Biologist, Environmental Compliance Specialist, Stantec  
Meredith Parkin, JD, CEQA/NEPA, MWH, now Stantec