

APPENDIX D

INITIAL STUDY FOR THE SECONDARY TREATMENT AND
PLANT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

The following Environmental Checklist and discussion of potential environmental effects were completed in accordance with Section 15063(d)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines to determine if the project may have any significant effect on the environment.

A brief explanation is provided for all determinations. A "No Impact" or "Less than Significant Impact" determination is made when the project will not have any impact or will not have a significant effect on the environment for that issue area based on a project-specific analysis.

CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM AND INITIAL STUDY

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Project Title: | Full Secondary Treatment Project |
| 2. Lead Agency Name and Address: | Orange County Sanitation District
10844 Ellis Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708 |
| 3. Contact Person and Phone Number: | Jim Herberg
714-593-7310 |
| 4. Project Location: | Huntington Beach, CA |
| 5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: | Orange County Sanitation District |
| 6. General Plan Designation: | treatment plant |
| 7. Zoning: | public facility |
| 8. Description of Project: | Construction of new treatment facilities. |
| 9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: | Surrounding land uses include residential property and the Santa Ana River. |
| 10. Other agencies whose approval is required: | |
| City of Huntington Beach | coastal development permit |
| SCAQMD | air emissions permit |

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” as Indicated by the checklist on the following pages:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance | |

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by lead agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

For

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
--	---	--	---	----------------------

I. AESTHETICS -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES:

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland.

Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or

Potentially Significant Impact
 Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation
 Less Than Significant Impact
 No Impact

air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Attainment Plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (Continued) -- Would the project:

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
--	---	--	---	----------------------

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on strata or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS --
Would the project:**

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
---	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

**VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
(Continued) -- Would the project:**

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY --

Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
---	-------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY (Continued) -

Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there should be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation of seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural communities' conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

X. MINERAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XI. NOISE -- Would the project result in:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XI. NOISE (Continued)-- Would the project result in:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport of public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES –

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES (Continued) –

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XIV. RECREATION –

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

XV. TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume-to-capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Substantially increase hazards to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

XV. TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC (Continued) -- Would the project:

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS --
Would the project:**

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):

- a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulative considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 3.0 DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

I. AESTHETICS

- A. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?**
- B. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?**

No Impact

No scenic vistas as designated by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) under the California Scenic Highways Program¹ or state designated scenic highways² exist in Fountain Valley or Huntington Beach. No impacts are anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

- C. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?**

Potentially Significant Impact

The project would include the construction of large above-ground structures. The structures could be visible from nearby residences and could modify the existing view from the surrounding area. Architectural designs and landscape plans may be required to mitigate the potential impact.

- D. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?**

Less than Significant Impact

The project would be constructed within an industrial setting that is currently operating 24 hours per day. Nighttime lighting at the plants could be modified. The mature landscaping and visual obstructions currently block nighttime lighting from neighboring residential areas. Although nighttime lighting at each plant would be modified, the new projects would be subject to existing constraints concerning neighboring land uses. The impact would not be considered a significant impact of the project.

II. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

- A. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?**
- B. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?**

¹ Southern California Association of Governments, *Regional Transportation Plan*, 2001.

² *Ibid.*

- C. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?**

No Impact

The project would not affect any farmland or agricultural activities. No impact would result from the project.

III. AIR QUALITY

- A. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Attainment Plan?**

No Impact

The proposed project would be consistent with the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) prepared by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). No impacts to the AQMP are anticipated.

- B. Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?**
- C. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?**
- D. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?**

Potentially Significant Impact

Construction-related activities would add air pollutants to the regional air basin which is already in violation of state and federal air quality standards. Construction emissions could exceed thresholds of significance. In addition, new equipment such as odor control facilities and back up generators would require air emissions permits from the SCAQMD.

- E. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?**

Potentially Significant Impact

The project would replace existing sewage treatment facilities. The new facilities include substantially upgraded odor control equipment. Nonetheless, odors could be generated during construction and tie in of facilities. Permits from SCAQMD would be required to operate the new odor control facilities.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- A. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?**

- B. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?**
- C. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?**
- D. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?**
- E. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?**
- F. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?**

No Impact

The proposed project would be located within previously developed areas. No biological resources would be affected by the project.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

- A. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?**

No Impact

The project would not remove historic structures. No impact to historic resources would result.

- B. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?**
- C. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?**
- D. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?**

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation

Excavation activities could unearth previously unknown cultural artifacts. Implementation of mitigation measures identified in the PEIR would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- A. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:**
 - i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.**
 - ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?**
 - iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?**

iv) Landslides?

B. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Potentially Significant Impact

The project site would not be located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone³. Seismic activity on any faults within the region could cause considerable ground shaking in the project area. Both plant sites are located within liquefaction hazard zones. The project would be designed to comply with building codes for the region. Site specific geotechnical information would be necessary to ensure compliance with applicable building codes. Impacts from seismic hazards would be considered potentially significant.

C. Be located on strata or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

D. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property?

Potentially Significant Impact

The proposed project sites could be underlain by unstable or expansive soils. Implementation of mitigation measures identified in site-specific geotechnical evaluations would be necessary to reduce this impact to less than significant levels.

E. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

No Impact

The proposed project would not involve the use of septic tanks. The nature of the proposed project does not necessitate the need for septic tanks. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

A. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

B. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

C. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

D. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation

³ California Division of Mines and Geology, Special Publication 42, 1997.

The proposed project would increase the volume of chemicals stored at both treatment plants. Compliance with District hazardous materials handling and storage procedure would reduce the potential for spills. Excavation could encounter contaminated soils. Implementation of mitigation measures identified in the PEIR would avoid these potential hazards.

- E. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?**
- F. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?**
- G. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?**
- H. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?**

No Impact

The project site is not located within the immediate vicinity of any airport or private airstrip. The nearest airport to the project site, John Wayne International Airport, is located over five miles southeast of the project site. The proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for the people working in the project area or visiting the project site.

The proposed project is not located adjacent to wildlands or near a substantial amount of dry brush that could expose people to wildfire risks. No impacts are anticipated.

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

- A. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?**

Less than Significant Impact

The project would result in improved quality effluent being discharged to the ocean. The discharge would be subject to interim and final permit limitations. The new treatment facilities would have a beneficial impact on water quality.

- B. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there should be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?**
- C. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?**
- D. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?**
- E. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems?**

- F. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?**
- G. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?**
- H. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?**
- I. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?**
- J. Inundation of seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?**

No Impact

The project would not require dewatering following completion of construction. The proposed project would not deplete or interfere with potable water sources. No impacts to groundwater are anticipated.

The project would not alter the drainage patterns in the area. The project site is not located within an area designated as 100-year or 500-year flood plain.⁴ Construction and operation activities associated with the proposed project would not subject people or structures to flooding, dam failure, tsunami, mudflow, or seiche wave impacts. No impacts are anticipated.

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING

- A. Physically divide an established community?**

No Impact

The proposed project would be constructed entirely within the District’s treatment plant property and would not physically divide an established community.

- B. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?**

No Impact

The project would be upgrading and expanding an existing facility. No changes to land use designations would be necessary.

- C. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural communities’ conservation plan?**

⁴ U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency, *Federal Emergency Management Agency National Flood Insurance Program Map No. 06059C0054F*. Revised January 3, 1997. Washington D.C.: U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency.

No Impact

The proposed project would not conflict with any habitat conservation plan or natural communities' conservation plan.

X. MINERAL RESOURCES

- A. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?**
- B. Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?**

No Impact

The proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of any mineral resource that would be of future value⁵; therefore, there is no potential for impacts.

XI. NOISE

- A. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?**
- B. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?**
- D. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?**

Potentially Significant Impact

Construction activities associated with the project, particularly pile driving activities, would generate noise. Local sensitive receptors could be affected by the construction noise. The significance of the impact would depend on construction methods, duration, and proximity of sensitive receptors.

- C. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?**

No Impact

The project would not subject people to substantial permanent increases in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project.

- E. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport of public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?**
- F. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?**

⁵ Orange County General Plan, Resources Element, 1995.

No Impact

The project would not subject people to excessive noise or be located within two miles of an airport. No impact is anticipated.

XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING

- A. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?**
- B. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?**
- C. Displace substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?**

No Impact

The proposed project would expand the treatment plant as evaluated in the 1999 PEIR. The project would not result in additional impacts not already evaluated in the 1999 PEIR.

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES

- A. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:**
 - Fire protection?**
 - Police protection?**
 - Schools?**
 - Parks?**
 - Other public facilities?**

No Impact

The project would replace an existing facility entirely within OCSD's treatment plant property. No impacts to fire or police services, schools or other public facilities are anticipated.

XIV. RECREATION

- A. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?**
- B. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?**

No Impact

The proposed project would not increase demand for neighborhood or regional parks. No negative impacts to recreation are anticipated.

XV. TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC

- A. Cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume-to-capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?**
- B. Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?**

Potentially Significant Impact

Both construction and operation of the project could result in an increase in traffic trips that could alter level of service at local intersections. Traffic would include construction worker commute, delivery trucks, and soil haul trucks.

- C. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?**
- D. Substantially increase hazards to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?**
- E. Result in inadequate emergency access?**
- F. Result in inadequate parking capacity?**
- G. Conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?**

No Impact

The project would not alter air traffic patterns. The project would not alter the current roadway designs or affect emergency access. The project would increase the need for worker parking during the construction period, but parking would be made available on the project site. The project would not conflict with adopted City policies supporting alternative transportation. No impact would be anticipated.

XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

- A. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?**
- B. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**
- C. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**
- D. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?**

- E. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?**
- F. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?**
- G. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?**

No Impact

The project would not require new water supplies or increased capacity at the treatment plant, or increase solid waste capacity needs. Therefore, the project would not adversely impact regional utilities.

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

- A. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?**
- B. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulative considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?**

No Impact

The project would upgrade and expand existing treatment plants. The sites do not support wildlife. No significant cultural resources are known to exist at the plant locations. No impact is expected. The project would not result in individual or cumulative impacts not addressed in the 1999 PEIR.

- C. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?**

Less than significant Impact

The project enhances the reliability of existing infrastructure. Construction impacts to noise, air quality and traffic could affect nearby residents.

