

Lead Agency/ Applicant: Irvine Ranch Water District

***NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE TO IRWD BOARD OF DIRECTOR
MEETING DATE TO MARCH 31, 2008 AT 6 P.M.***

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

(State Guidelines §15072)

The Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) has prepared a Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the South Orange County Interconnect Phases B, C and D project. The Final MND consists of the Draft MND (December 19, 2007), along with response to comments received on the Draft MND. Comments from members of the public and other interested parties on the Draft MND were received by IRWD from December 19, 2007, through January 19, 2008. Based on public comments received, no text modifications to the Draft MND were deemed necessary. The Mitigated Negative Declaration which was previously noticed for March 24, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. will now be considered for approval or disapproval by the Board of Directors of the District at its meeting to be held on March 31, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the following location: 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA. Copies of the initial study, checklist and discussion of impacts are available for review at the address shown below.

Irvine Ranch Water District
Attn: Natalie Likens
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.
Irvine, CA 92618

County of Orange Clerk-Recorder
12 Civic Center Drive Plaza
Santa Ana, CA 92701

IRWD Website
www.irwd.com

Project Location: Project components are regionally located in the Cities of Irvine and Lake Forest, Orange County, California

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: Southern Orange County (SOC) water agencies rely primarily on imported water supply from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). In an effort to address vulnerability during outages for SOC water agencies, IRWD is proposing to implement Phases B, C and D of the South Orange County Interconnect Project. The South Orange County Interconnect Project would convey excess supply within IRWD's water system to SOC water agencies in the event of a planned or emergency outage of the MWD imported water supplies. No new water supply would need to be developed in order to implement this project.

Presence of Property On Any List Enumerated Under Section 65962.5 Of The Government

Code: A government records search conducted by Environmental Data Resources (EDR) in August 2007 determined that the Phase B, C, and D project sites are not included on the list of hazardous waste sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65963.5. However, hazardous waste sites were identified within the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standard search radius. Mitigation measures are provided to ensure that excavation would not result in mobilization or exposure to the public of existing contamination.

Potential Environmental Effects: An Initial Study has been prepared that describes the potential environmental effects of the proposed action and determined that the effects on the environment can be mitigated so that no significant effects would occur.