CITY OF ESCONDIDO
PLANNING DIVISION
201 NORTH BROADWAY
ESCONDIDO, CA 92025-2798
(760) 839-4671

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The City of Escondido Planning Division, along with the Bureau of Indian Affairs has prepared an Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed San Pasqual Undergrounding Project (proposed project) described below. Environmental review conducted under CEQA determined that there will be no significant environmental effects from the project because of either avoidance, design specifications, permit conditions, or performance standards. Specific mitigation measures related to aesthetics, biological resources, cultural resources, noise, and traffic and transportation will be implemented by the applicants (City of Escondido and Vista Irrigation District).

CASE NO.: **ENV 15-0016** **DATE ISSUED:** **August 16, 2016**

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: **August 16, 2016 to September 14, 2016**

LOCATION: The proposed project area is located on the San Pasqual Reservation and on San Diego County land in the community of Valley Center, approximately 5 miles northeast of Escondido.

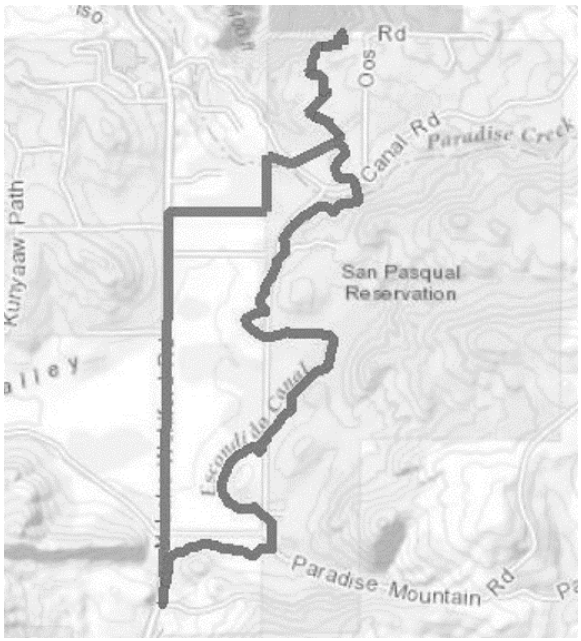
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is an integral component of the San Luis Rey Indian Water Rights Settlement Agreement (January 30, 2015), which includes federal, tribal and local entities. The proposed project would remove, relocate, and restore about two miles of the Escondido Canal that crosses the San Pasqual Reservation, see figure below. The proposed action of the Bureau of Indian Affairs is the granting of a right-of-way easement on trust lands of the San Pasqual Indian Reservation which is necessary for the implementation of the proposed project. The proposed pipeline would run generally from north to south within the existing Escondido Canal right-of-way and to the extent feasible along existing roads, primarily North Canal Road, South Canal Road, North Lake Wohlford Road, and Paradise Mountain Road. A new desilting basin and access road would be constructed at the northern/upstream end of the proposed pipeline to remove sediment from the canal water prior to discharge into the new underground pipeline. The proposed pipeline would begin at the proposed new desilting basin northeast of North Canal Road (Segment 2 pipeline) and continue in a southwesterly direction and connect to the existing underground pipeline at a location south of Paradise Mountain Road (Segment 1 pipeline). The proposed pipeline would include a 100-foot construction corridor (50 feet on each side of pipeline alignment) for the entire 2-mile length. The proposed project includes reclamation of the land occupied by the portion of the Escondido Canal to be replaced by Segment 1 pipeline by means of demolition, grading, restoration/revegetation, and any associated mitigation of environmental impacts that may be required.

APPLICANTS: City of Escondido and Vista Irrigation District

The review and comment period will end on September 14, 2016. A copy of the environmental Initial Study and the Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file and available for public review at:

Escondido Planning Division
201 North Broadway
Escondido, CA 92025
Online under "Projects" at.
http://www.escondido.org/planning.aspx

Bureau of Indian Affairs
Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825



During the public review period, written comments on this Environmental Assessment/Mitigated Negative Declaration may be provided to Bill Martin at the Escondido Planning Division, 201 North Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025, bmartin@escondido.org or John Rydzik at Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825, john.rydzik@bia.gov.

Written comments relevant to environmental issues will be considered if submitted to the City of Escondido Planning Division or Bureau of Indian Affairs on or before **5:00 p.m., September 14, 2016**.

Please refer to **Case No. ENV 15-0016**

Bill Martin, AICP
Director of Community Development
City of Escondido

DATED: August 15, 2016