

Staff Report

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Tina Haenny, Hydroelectric Compliance Analyst

DATE: September 11, 2024

SUBJECT: FERC Yuba-Bear Project Relicensing CEQA Support Services -
Sole Source (Consent)

HYDROELECTRIC

RECOMMENDATION:

Award a sole source agreement in the amount of \$317,298 to HDR Engineering, Inc. for consulting services related to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Yuba-Bear Project Relicensing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance and authorize the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

BACKGROUND:

Relicensing of the Yuba-Bear Hydroelectric Project began in 2008 to prepare for the expiration of the 50-year license in 2013. A Draft License Application was submitted in 2010, followed by a Final License Application in 2011, and an Amended License Application in 2012. Since expiration in 2013, NID has been operating under the 1963 original License conditions on annual continuation granted by FERC until a new license is issued. HDR Engineering, Inc. has assisted NID throughout the licensing process, negotiations, and continues to provide vital support in the Relicensing process.

NID is a local government agency and subject to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). NID is the CEQA lead agency for acceptance of the new license because it will carry out and implement the terms and conditions in the new license (CEQA Guidelines Section 15051).

To initiate the CEQA process, the HDR team has already completed public noticing of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to inform CEQA responsible and trustee agencies and other interested parties about NID's CEQA compliance plan for relicensing of the Project and its intention to prepare a CEQA Supplemental Analysis to FERC's FEIS, which will follow the general CEQA Initial Study format. Further, Assembly Bill (AB) 52 tribal outreach letters have been sent to the Native American tribes that may have

interests in the proposed Project. Both activities were completed under a separate HDR contract task order.

Staff is recommending award of a sole source contract to HDR Engineering, which is a well-established consulting firm with specialized knowledge in FERC Relicensing and holds a long relationship and understanding of the Yuba-Bear Hydroelectric Project, the relicensing process that began in 2008, and the CEQA process that must be completed. HDR Engineering, Inc. is currently under contract with the District for Yuba-Bear Project Relicensing. The subject contract is a continuation of the work already in progress. HDR Engineering's prior knowledge and expertise will result in a cost and time savings when compared to other potential consultants. HDR Engineering's proposal demonstrates good project approach and the cost of services appears to be reasonable.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

The 2024 Hydroelectric Department Budget includes \$775,000.00 for Hydroelectric Administrative compliance-related consultant fees. The contract amount of \$317,298.00 is within the budgeted amount.

Attachments: (1)

- HDR Proposal



August 14, 2024

Via Electronic Mail
haennyc@nidwater.com

Tina Haenny
Hydroelectric Compliance Analyst
Nevada Irrigation District
28311 Secret Town Road
Colfax, CA 95713

**Subject: Yuba-Bear Hydroelectric Project California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
Support Proposal**

Dear Tina,

HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) submits this proposal to assist the Nevada Irrigation District (NID) in California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance related to NID's ongoing Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing efforts for the Yuba-Bear Hydroelectric Project. HDR proposes Linda Fisher as the CEQA Project Manager and both Chuck Vertucci and Jim Lynch as the Senior FERC Advisors, both of whom have supported NID for many years. Other technical staff familiar with the project will be integrated as needed.

NID owns and operates and maintains the Yuba-Bear Hydroelectric Project (Yuba-Bear Project or Project) pursuant to the license issued by FERC (FERC Project No. 2266). This multi-purpose Project provides flood control in the Middle Yuba, South Yuba, and Bear rivers; helps to meet NID and Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) water demands; improves recreation and enhances environmental resources in the Middle Yuba, South Yuba, and Bear rivers; and provides clean, renewable energy to California. To continue operation and maintenance of the Project, NID must obtain a new federal license from FERC. NID has applied to FERC for a license with a 50-year term, and FERC has issued, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), a final environmental impact statement (FEIS) on December 19, 2014, that contains FERC staff's recommendation with mandatory conditions for terms to be included in the new license.

In support of ongoing relicensing processes, the District requests that HDR provide support in completing an environmental review of the proposed relicensing activities in compliance with CEQA. Additional Project permitting is not included in this proposal but can be appended under separate scope and fee.

To initiate the CEQA process, the HDR team has already completed public noticing of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to inform CEQA responsible and trustee agencies and other interested parties about NID's CEQA compliance plan for relicensing of the Project and its intention to prepare a CEQA Supplemental Analysis to FERC's FEIS, which will follow the general CEQA Initial Study format

(i.e., Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines). Further, Assembly Bill (AB) 52 tribal outreach letters have been drafted and sent to the Native American tribes that may have interests in the proposed Project. Both activities were completed under a separate HDR task order and are not included in this scope.

Proposed Scope of Services

Task 1 – General Project Management, Support, and Meetings

This task encompasses overall work management including monthly budget tracking, status reporting, invoicing, strategic meetings and conference calls with the District and their agents, coordination of HDR team efforts, and management of shared work products.

Key Assumptions:

- HDR assumes planning, meetings, and work products are based on a CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) schedule and process.
- HDR assumes a 12-month CEQA schedule with monthly virtual one-hour meetings from project description to final adoption of the CEQA document and submittal of Administrative Record to the District. An additional virtual one hour for meeting preparation ahead of each meeting is included in budget.
- HDR assumes up to four additional resource-specific or technical area strategic meetings (conference calls) with the District and their agents. HDR technical staff relevant to the discussion would be included in the strategic meetings, in addition to appropriate HDR Project Management (PM) staff. An additional hour for meeting preparation is included in budget.
- A public meeting for the Draft CEQA Supplemental Analysis (IS/MND) is not required or included in the scope or budget.

Deliverables:

- Monthly invoicing documentation, as outlined in contracting.
- Meeting agendas for calls and meetings scheduled by HDR.

Task 2 – Project Description, Agency Coordination, and Tribal Notification

CEQA Guidelines Section 15221 provides that when a project will require compliance with both CEQA and NEPA, a California local agency should use the federal EIS rather than preparing an EIR under CEQA if: 1) the EIS is prepared before an EIR was completed; and 2) the EIS complies with the CEQA Guidelines. (See also Cal. Pub. Res. Code §§ 21083.5, 21083.7.)

Further, where the federal agency circulated the EIS in a way that satisfies California requirements for notice and public comment, the CEQA lead agency may use the EIS without recirculating for public review. Prior to using the EIS in this situation, the lead agency must give notice (NOI) that it

will use the EIS in the place of an EIR and that it believes that the federal document meets the requirements of CEQA. The notice shall be given in the same manner as a notice of the public availability of a draft EIR. (CEQA Guidelines § 15225.)

Under direction of the District, HDR prepared and distributed a NOI to give public notice to interested agencies and parties of its intent to rely on the FEIS for the Yuba-Bear relicensing activities, in combination with a supplemental analysis (in the format of an IS, using Appendix G of the CEQA guidelines as a template), to meet the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21083.7 and CEQA Guidelines sections 15221 and 15225.

HDR will prepare a complete, draft project description as required by CEQA. The draft project description will provide the background for the Project, NID's goals and objectives of the Project, and the location and boundaries of the Project area and related activities, which will be shown on one or more figures based on existing maps from the FEIS. The draft project description will also provide a general description of the FERC Staff Alternative with Mandatory Conditions. The draft project description will include information regarding the Project schedule and sufficient information to assess the Proposed Project's potential impacts on the environment. HDR will submit the draft project description electronically to NID for review. Upon receipt of NID's comments, HDR will revise the draft project description to incorporate NID's comments and will prepare a final project description. HDR will conduct a quality control review of the draft and final project description.

AB 52, which added Section 21080.3.1 to the California Public Resources Code (PRC), requires separate tribal notification whenever a CEQA process is initiated. The purpose of tribal consultation under PRC Section 21080.3.1, as part of the CEQA review process, is to evaluate whether tribal cultural resources, as defined in PRC Section 21074, are present within the Proposed Project area, and if so, whether the Proposed Project would significantly impact those resources. HDR requested an updated contact list from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and prepared a Native American outreach list generated from the NAHC list and the previous consultation efforts. HDR drafted and distributed letters notifying California Native American tribes who have previously requested such notification of their opportunity to consult on the project. This task order includes assisting with preparation for and attendance at up to three consultation meetings and preparing a summary of AB 52 consultation results for incorporation into the CEQA document.

Key Assumptions:

- The project description will be largely based on pre-existing information from the Final License Applications and the 2014 FERC FEIS. This scope assumes no substantial changes to the Project and the FERC Staff Alternative with Mandatory Conditions since the 2014 FERC FEIS that would require new analysis.
- It is assumed that once the NOI and project description are reviewed by the District and revised by HDR, and assessment of the potential for resource effects has started, no changes to this description will occur.

- Supporting information to be provided by the District will be transferred to HDR prior to completion of the draft project description. HDR has current access to the Final License Applications, the 2014 FERC FEIS, and analysis and filings related to the relicensing, so these do not require transfer from the District.
- Coordination with FERC on matters related to the relicensing is not included and will be done under separate Task Orders, if required.
- No Notice of Preparation or scoping will be completed for this project. If heightened interest is noted or if an EIR is deemed necessary, these will be included in a renegotiated scope and fee estimate.
- The project description will be based on information provided by the project team and NID at the initiation of the project or readily available information. The project description and document outline will be reviewed and agreed upon before initiating the technical analysis.
- HDR has scoped up to 84 hours to complete the required tribal consultation, on the District's behalf, to meet the compliance requirements of PRC Section 21080.3.1. If additional time is needed, additional scope may be required.
- Filing fees and payments to regulatory agencies that may be required are the responsibility of the District. HDR will support the District in developing materials required for postings, filings, and public announcements.

Deliverables:

- Microsoft (MS) Word and Adobe Acrobat PDF copy of draft and final project description for review and approval by NID.
- Meeting agendas and notes for tribal consultation meetings.
- Summary report of tribal consultation for AB 52.

Task 3 – Administrative Draft IS/MND

NEPA does not require a separate discussion of some environmental resources and issues that are required under CEQA. Therefore, these points of analysis, if missing from the FEIS, must be added or supplemented before the FEIS can be used to satisfy CEQA (CEQA Guidelines Section 15221(b)). Section 15221 authorizes a California local government agency to prepare a CEQA supplement to add and supplement points of analysis before the EIS will be used for CEQA compliance.

Consequently, HDR intends to prepare a CEQA Supplemental Analysis pursuant to Section 15221(b) to add and supplement, among other things, the following CEQA considerations that were not addressed or fully covered in the FEIS: 1) air quality and greenhouse gas effects; 2) noise effects; 3) climate change; 4) Native American tribal consultation, including outreach requirements

required by Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1 (adopted by AB 52); 5) growth-inducing impacts; and, 6) a separate discussion on mitigation measures, including a program for monitoring or reporting on mitigation measures. While preparing the Supplemental Analysis, HDR may identify other CEQA considerations that will be included.

Following the CEQA Guidelines, HDR will evaluate the Project's potential impacts on the environmental resources defined in the Appendix G environmental checklist. The environmental checklist will be formatted as an Initial Study and will utilize the 2014 FERC FEIS and other available materials. HDR will provide environmental review and analysis that, coupled with the 2014 FEIS, will evaluate those resource topics to the level of detail required for an IS level of assessment in accordance with CEQA.

For each resource topic, HDR will evaluate available data, including the previously drafted license applications and supporting studies, 2014 FERC FEIS, and other publicly available materials and other data provided by the District, to evaluate whether there is substantial evidence that the Proposed Project may have a significant effect on the environment. Mitigation measures will be identified for those impacts found to be potentially significant and the discussion of each measure will explain how implementation of the mitigation measure would reduce the related environmental impacts to a less than significant level. If no significant effects are identified, then the IS would lead to and support the adoption of a MND.

If there are impacts that are found to be significant and unavoidable (that is, no mitigation is available to reduce the impact to below the level of significance as defined by CEQA), HDR will consult with the District on availability of additional studies or data that should be considered in the effects evaluation. If there is no additional data to be considered, HDR will consult with the District to determine the appropriate level of CEQA environmental documentation that is needed to supplement the FEIS (that is, an IS/MND [as scoped here] or an EIR). If, after consultation with the District, an EIR level analysis is determined to be necessary, additional scope and budget would be negotiated.

HDR's approach to cultural resources will be designed to identify and evaluate, to the extent possible, previously recorded and/or newly discovered archaeological sites and historic built environment resources that may now meet criteria since preparation of the 2014 FERC FEIS. The cultural resources study will be conducted to satisfy the requirements of CEQA. HDR will request an archaeological records search from the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at Sonoma State University and BLM to identify previously conducted studies and previously recorded archaeological sites and built environment resources. Fees for record searches are included in this budget.

It is anticipated that the project would generate air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions during Project activities. As a result, HDR will evaluate potential air quality and GHG project-related emissions in the Project area. HDR will review the federal and state ambient air quality standards

for the Project area as well as the local Air Quality Management District's regulatory requirements for construction projects in the project area.

Air quality and GHG emissions modeling for construction of the Project facilities would be conducted utilizing the construction details and information provided by NID. The projected air quality and GHG emissions will then be evaluated against the applicable area thresholds to determine if they will exceed any daily thresholds in the Project area. If construction air quality and GHG emissions will exceed thresholds, HDR will recommend options to reduce construction air quality and GHG emissions and/or measures that could be taken to offset effects. It is expected that once the Project is operational there would be limited air quality and GHG emissions generated for maintenance activities and therefore, operational emissions would not be estimated or modeled. The air quality and GHG emissions analysis and modeling results will be incorporated into the Administrative Draft IS/MND.

It is anticipated that the Project would generate noise during Project activities; however, construction noise would be limited and temporary and the sources of construction noise would vary and be scattered around the Project area. Nonetheless, HDR will evaluate potential noise effects in the Project area. HDR will review both the Nevada County and Placer County General Plans Noise Elements and the County Codes to determine the regulatory requirements for construction projects in the Project area. HDR will not obtain existing noise measurements and thus it is assumed that ambient noise levels in the Project area are consistent with the local land uses and within those ranges identified in the local County Codes.

Therefore, for the purposes of this analysis, project-related construction noise will be estimated and evaluated qualitatively. Construction noise will be estimated based on the construction details provided by NID. The construction noise estimates will then be evaluated against the local County Codes and thresholds to determine if they will exceed daytime and nighttime thresholds for noise in the Project area. If construction noise will exceed thresholds, HDR will recommend options to reduce construction noise levels and/or measures that could be taken to offset noise effects during construction. It is expected that once the project is operational there would be occasional minor instances of noise generated for maintenance activities and therefore, operational emissions would not be estimated or evaluated. The noise analysis will be incorporated into the Administrative Draft IS/MND.

HDR will conduct a review of habitats and special-status species that may utilize or inhabit the Project area as part of the Biological Resources section of the IS/MND. The review of habitats and special-status species will rely on the 2014 FERC FEIS and information from the license applications. HDR will identify the potential for rare plants and wildlife resources in the Project study area, and also develop maps of general land cover/habitat types. Research for the biological resources section will include querying of standard resource databases to provide up-to-date documentation on the potential for special-status species to be present in the Project study area and a reconnaissance survey of the site.

For special-status species, a table listing the special-status plants and animals that could occur in or near the Project study area and their potential to occur in the Project study area will be developed. For each special-status species with the potential to occur, the biological resources analysis and section of the Administrative Draft IS/MND will describe the species ecology and potential habitat in the Project study area. The biological resources analysis and section of the Administrative Draft IS/MND also will include key regulatory issues, common wildlife that may use the Project study area, and potential wildlife movement corridors in the Project study area.

The Administrative Draft IS/MND will include:

- A description of the Proposed Project (Task 2).
- An overview of the general environmental setting as relevant to the resources required for assessment by the CEQA Guidelines;
- Disclosure of potential environmental impacts by resource area and mandatory findings of significance, as required by the CEQA Guidelines; and,
- Identification of proposed measures to mitigate potential significant environmental impacts to below a level of significance, as necessary and appropriate.

The Administrative Draft IS/MND will be submitted to the District for review.

Key Assumptions:

- The project description will be reviewed by the District and agreed upon before initiating the technical analysis.
- The level of effort included in this scope assumes that an IS/MND will be adequate to comply with CEQA regulatory requirements. As such:
 - No alternatives will be considered as a part of this environmental review;
 - The scope of work does not include preparation or issuance of a Notice of Preparation;
 - The scope of work does not include public scoping meetings; and
 - The scope of work does not include individual responses to comments or a Comments/Response matrix, although comments received during the public review period would be considered for updates in the Final IS/MND and during Board IS/MND certification and project approval processes (see below).
- The Environmental Settings for the IS/MND will be largely adapted from pre-existing studies and documentation.

- It is assumed that the previous studies completed as part of the relicensing process for NEPA compliance, including aquatic and fisheries studies, recreation studies, wildlife and botanical studies, water quality and temperature modeling, cultural resources studies, historic records searches, historic properties management plan, aquatic resources delineation, and modeled flows analysis are complete and will not be modified further. These will be incorporated directly into this CEQA analysis.
- If additional biological resources analyses are required to meet CEQA requirements (e.g., newly listed federal species and/or state-listed species of concern not previously covered under NEPA), a desktop review will be conducted. Other than one two-day, three-staff field verification of project footprint to update/confirm information from the 2014 FERC FEIS, no other biological field surveys are included in this scope and budget; if it is determined by the District that additional field work is required, a contract modification will be necessary. A summary of findings from the two-day field verification effort will be incorporated into the IS/MND.
- No cultural or other resource-related field surveys are included in this scope; if it is determined by the District that such field work is required, a contract modification will be necessary. A new archaeological record search will be conducted through both BLM and the appropriate Information Center of the CHRIS; record search is anticipated to cost \$1,200 and is included in proposed budget.
- If it is determined that a quantitative assessment for emissions is required, the CalEEMod model will be used to calculate construction/operations emissions commensurate with available project-specific information.
- GHG emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), a key GHG identified in AB 32, and other major GHGs such as methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) from construction and operations activities will be calculated using CalEEMod. HDR will calculate the emissions commensurate with available project-specific information. Emissions of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) will be calculated and compared to the area emission levels.
- Besides the CalEEMod modeling defined for Air Quality and GHG analysis, no other modeling is considered in this scope and budget; if it is determined by the District that other modeling is required, a contract modification will be necessary. Further, no stand-alone technical reports are included in this scope of work.
- HDR submittals of draft and final documents to the District will be in electronic (PDF and MS Word) format. HDR will use the existing District SharePoint site for document sharing and editing between HDR and the District.
- There will be one review cycle for each of the documents described above; the District will consolidate comments and provide one set of comments to HDR electronically in a single tracked-changes MS Word document for each deliverable.

Deliverables:

- MS Word and PDF copy of Administrative Draft IS/MND for review by NID.

Task 4 – Public Draft IS/MND

After receiving one consolidated set of comments from NID on the Administrative Draft IS/MND, HDR will incorporate the comments on the Administrative Draft IS/MND and prepare a Public Draft IS/MND that will be circulated for a 30-day public review period as required by CEQA. As part of this process, HDR will provide NID with an electronic copy of a screen check Public Draft IS/MND to review and determine if their comments have been appropriately addressed. The screen check Public Draft IS/MND will include the NOI to adopt an MND.

Once NID reviews and approves the screen check Public Draft IS/MND, HDR will finalize the Public Draft IS/MND and prepare a Notice of Completion (NOC). On behalf of NID, HDR will submit the Public Draft IS/MND to the State Clearinghouse on CEQAnet along with the NOC transmittal form and summary form. NID will be responsible for developing the distribution list for interested parties and agencies. HDR can assist with distributing (emailing) the Public Draft IS/MND to those on the distribution list and noticing the availability of the Public Draft IS/MND for review and the Notice of Intent to adopt a MND (i.e., newspaper or direct mailer). HDR will assist NID with posting the NOI to adopt a MND with the County Clerk Recorders as required by CEQA and paying any associated fees (allowable expenses). HDR will also facilitate printing and distributing of up to three hardcopies of notices with the Public Draft IS/MND attached for placement at two local library/public halls and one at the District office (allowable expenses).

Key Assumptions:

- Other than the three hardcopies to be printed for public review purposes, HDR submittals of draft documents to the District will be in electronic (PDF and MS Word) format. The Public Draft IS/MND submittal will include appendices and will meet CEQA accessibility requirements.
- There will be one review cycle for the screen check Public Draft IS/MND as described above; a consolidated set of the District' comments will be provided to HDR electronically in a single tracked-changes MS Word document for each deliverable.
- Filing fees and payments to regulatory agencies that may be required are the responsibility of the District and can be paid by HDR for reimbursement. HDR will support the District in developing materials required for postings, filings and public announcements. HDR will pay the County Clerk Recorders processing fees for reimbursement: \$50/clerk.
- Advertising expenses with the local newspaper, if the District chooses to notice the Public Draft IS/MND this way, will be the responsibility of the District.

- A public meeting is not included in this scope of work, as it is not required by CEQA for the supplemental analysis. Although the NID Board meeting may be publicly attended and the HDR PM will attend the NID Board meeting for release of the Public Draft IS/MND. If NID determines that a public meeting is necessary, HDR will negotiate a supplemental task order.

Deliverables:

- MS Word and PDF copy of screen check Draft IS/MND for review by NID.
- MS Word and PDF copy of Public Draft IS/MND for NID.
- Draft and final versions of NOC and summary form for the District's review prior to submittal to CEQAnet.
- Submittal by HDR of the Public Draft IS/MND to CEQAnet and facilitation of public posting of noticing at up to three locations, including the County Clerk offices, will occur under guidance from the District.
- Three hardcopies of the Public Draft IS/MND for posting at up to three public locations, including the District office, per guidance from the District.

Task 5 – Draft Final and Final IS/MND, Administrative Record, Board Approval Materials and MMRP

Upon completion of a 30-day public review period, HDR will work with NID via teleconference to consider comments received. HDR will prepare an Administrative Final IS/MND that will include and respond to the public and agency comments received on the Public Draft IS/MND. HDR will review comments received on the Public Draft IS/MND and prepare draft responses to these comments. HDR will include a Responses to Public Comments Appendix in the Final IS/MND.

Due to the uncertainties associated with the level of effort needed to respond to comments, HDR has provided a contingency estimate of 48 hours for this effort. HDR assumes no changes to the project description, technical analyses, or substantial modifications will be necessary for preparation of the Administrative Final IS/MND. It is also assumed that recirculation of the Draft IS/MND will not be required due to the public and agency comments received. The Administrative Final IS/MND may include minor corrections, changes, or revisions to the Public Draft IS/MND as result of comments and as appropriate. HDR will submit the Administrative Final IS/MND electronically to NID for review. Upon receipt of NID comments, HDR will revise the Administrative Final IS/MND to incorporate comments and will prepare a Final IS/MND. HDR will submit the Final IS/MND electronically to NID for approval.

HDR will prepare a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) plan to include necessary mitigation measures required to reduce potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level for the Proposed Project, as required, in accordance with CEQA. The MMRP will specify the Project impacts to be mitigated, initiation/timing of mitigation, monitoring frequency, responsibility for

verification of compliance, performance criteria, and the anticipated date when compliance will be completed. The MMRP will be reviewed by the District and the Project team to verify feasibility and appropriateness of commitments prior to finalizing; one consolidated set of review comments will be provided by the District to HDR for finalization.

HDR will prepare a presentation regarding the Supplemental CEQA Analysis and the IS/MND process and conclusions for the NID Board. HDR will also assist NID staff with the Draft and Final Board resolution statement and statement of decision for presentation to the NID Board. HDR Staff will attend and support the District at the NID Board meeting for approval of the Project and adoption of the MMRP, if requested.

Assuming that the Project is approved by the NID, HDR will prepare a Notice of Determination (NOD) and Summary Form for submittal to CEQAnet. HDR will submit the NOD and Summary Form to NID for review and signature. Upon receipt of the signed NOD, HDR will assist NID with filing the NOD with the County Clerk offices and the State Clearinghouse on CEQAnet. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) filing fees for adoption of an IS/MND must accompany the NOD when filing it with the County Clerks.

Once the NOD is filed with the County Clerks and the CDFW filing fees are paid, HDR will submit the NOD, receipts of acceptance of the NOD by the County Clerks, and receipt of payment of the CDFW filing fees to the State Clearinghouse on CEQAnet for compliance with CEQA. HDR assumes that NID will be responsible for paying all filing fees but can assist NID for reimbursement.

This task also includes preparation and management of the Project Administrative Record. A compiled, electronic Administrative Record will be provided to the District within one month of completion of the Project.

Key Assumptions:

- No new modeling, field work, change in project definition, new alternatives, or substantial analysis will be required as a result of public comments.
- It is assumed that up to 40 comments will be received on the Public Draft IS/MND and responses to comment will take approximately 48 hours.
- HDR submittals of draft documents to the District will be in electronic (PDF and MS Word) format.
- There will be one District review cycle for each deliverable as described above; consolidated District comments will be provided to HDR electronically in a single tracked-changes MS Word document for each deliverable.

- Filing fees and payments to regulatory agencies that may be required are the responsibility of the District and can be paid by HDR for reimbursement. HDR will support the District in developing materials required for postings, filings and public announcements. HDR will pay the County Clerk Recorders processing fees for reimbursement: \$50/clerk.
- NID will be responsible for paying the CDFW filing fees for the MND: \$2,916.75.
- The HDR PM and principal-in-charge will attend the NID Board meeting.

Deliverables:

- MS Word and PDF copy of Administrative Final IS/MND for review by NID.
- MS Word and PDF copy of Final IS/MND for NID.
- MS Word and PDF copy of MMRP for review and approval by NID.
- Draft and final versions of NOD and summary form for the District's review prior to submittal to CEQAnet.
- Three hardcopies of the Final IS/MND for posting at up to three public locations, including the District office, per guidance from the District.
- Draft and final Board resolution statement and statement of decision.
- Draft and final Board presentation; HDR attendance at the District Board decision meeting.
- Final Administrative Record to be submitted electronically to the District.

Anticipated Schedule

The work will begin as soon as a contract is executed by both parties and end by December 31, 2025. Specific task schedules will be developed by HDR and NID within this contract period.

Compensation

HDR proposes to perform this scope of work on a time-and-materials basis with a not-to-exceed value of \$317,298. HDR will obtain NID's prior approval should additional funding be needed. The budget is a "good faith" estimate based on the scope of services, previous documentation, assumptions, and schedule provided above.

Task	Cost
1.0 Project Management	\$61,077
2.0 Project Description and AB52 Compliance	\$36,532
3.0 Admin Draft IS/MND	\$136,072
4.0 Public Draft IS/MND	\$20,981
5.0 Final IS/MND; MMRP; Admin Record; Board materials	\$60,350
Allowable Direct Costs - records search, printing, filing fees	\$2,285
Total	\$317,298

HDR appreciates the opportunity to provide continued support to NID. If you have any questions regarding this submittal or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Linda Fisher at 916.817.4962 or Linda.Fisher@hdrinc.com.

Sincerely,
HDR Engineering, Inc.



Holly L.L. Kennedy, PE (CA)
Senior Vice President



Linda Fisher
Project Manager

10405912/LF/MT