

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT for the North Bay Water Recycling Program

Attention: Federal, State, and Local Agencies, and Interested Individuals

Project Title: North Bay Water Recycling Program (NBWRP), also known as the North Bay Restoration and Reuse Project

Project Abstract: The North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA) has prepared a joint Final Environmental Impact Report/ Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environment Policy Act (NEPA) for the proposed North Bay Water Recycling Program or NBWRP (also known as North San Pablo Restoration and Reuse Project). As contract administrator for the NBWRA, the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) is acting as the Lead Agency under CEQA and the Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation is acting as the federal Lead Agency under NEPA.

NBWRA is exploring “the feasibility of coordinating interagency efforts to expand the beneficial use of recycled water in the North Bay Region thereby promoting the conservation of limited surface water and groundwater resources.” This Final EIR/EIS responds to comments received on the Draft EIR/EIS that described the potential environmental, social, and economic effects of the North Bay Water Recycling Program. The NBWRP would provide increased recycled water supply to urban, agricultural and environmental uses in the North San Pablo Bay region. The Draft EIR/EIS described three alternatives (i.e., Alternatives 1, 2, and 3) and the Phase 1 Implementation Plan under Alternative 1. The alternatives represent a range of recycled water reuse and regional facility integration.

Review Period: Pursuant to Section 15088 of the CEQA Guidelines, the Final EIR/EIS is being made available to the commenters for a minimum 10-day period prior to its consideration by the CEQA Lead Agency for certification. Following consideration of CEQA certification by SCWA, each Member Agency will consider approval of the Phase 1 Implementation Plan under Alternative 1. Each Member Agency will consider approval of the projects identified under the Phase 1 Implementation Plan that are within its jurisdiction.

During the review period, the document will be available at: Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Regional Office Library (Sacramento), Sonoma County Water Agency (Santa Rosa), the NBWRA member agencies’ offices, and local libraries in Marin, Sonoma, and Napa Counties. For additional information, contact Marc Bautista by calling Sonoma County Water Agency (707) 547-1923.

The Bureau of Reclamation will continue its NEPA project approval process and it is anticipated that a separate Notice of Availability for the Final EIS establishing a 30-day public comment period will be circulated in early 2010.