



Topic: **Authority Board Agenda Item 7-2**

2019 May 20

Subject: **Environmental Analysis & Permitting –2019
Geotechnical Evaluations**

Requested Action:

Consider approval of a delegation to the Reservoir Committee’s Ad Hoc Environmental & Permitting Work Group to approve and publish the revised Draft Initial Study and related permit applications for the North of Delta Off-stream Storage/Sites Reservoir Feasibility Geotechnical Investigation.

Consider approval of the expenditure of funds needed to submit the necessary permit applications for the North of Delta Off-stream Storage/Sites Reservoir Feasibility Geotechnical Investigation.

Detailed Description/Background:

Update to the April 2019 staff report. Staff have coordinated with Reclamation to the geotechnical evaluations of soil and bedrock characteristics that are important to reduce uncertainties in the cost estimates in the federal Feasibility Report. Locations for these geotechnical evaluations have been selected to provide additional information at key Sites Project facilities while avoiding and minimizing impacts to environmental and cultural resources, as well as current agricultural and wildlife refuge practices. This includes the locations where access must be granted by the current landowner and to existing right-of-way easement lands. Access to the majority of testing locations would be on existing improved (paved or gravel) roads. Access to more remote locations would be on existing unimproved roads or by helicopter.

Preparation of the Draft Initial Study (and parallel Environmental Assessment) and permit applications are nearly complete. The Environmental Work Group has completed a review of these documents. A recommendation from that Work Group will be provided at the Reservoir Committee meeting. Additional AB52 consultation with potentially affected tribe has been initiated.

With approval to release the Draft Initial Study and related permit applications for the North of Delta Off-stream Storage/Sites Reservoir Feasibility Geotechnical Investigation for public comment, permit applications will also be submitted along with the required fees; which are listed as follows:

CDFW 1600:	\$ 13,155.00
RWQCB 401 NOI:	\$ 1,638.00
State Lands Commission:	\$ 5,025.00

Prior Authority Board Action:

Initial information report – March and April 2019.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

None.

Staff Contact:

Rob Thomson/Kevin Spesert

Attachments:

None.