

Chapter 17. Utilities

This chapter discusses potential impacts on utilities, including water, solid waste, wastewater, and electricity and gas. It includes descriptions of existing utilities, regulatory frameworks, and potential impacts on each utility resulting from implementation of the CWP.

17.1 Existing Setting

17.1.1 Water

San Mateo is supplied with water primarily by the CalWater, an investor-owned water utility. The City is located within Cal Water's Mid-Peninsula District, which includes the cities of San Mateo and San Carlos and adjacent unincorporated areas of San Mateo County. A small part of eastern San Mateo receives water service from the Estero Municipal Improvement District. These agencies procure water supply and own and maintain the delivery infrastructure, including potable water pipelines and pump stations.

17.1.2 Solid Waste

The South Bayside Waste Management Authority, also known as RethinkWaste, is a joint powers authority of 12 public agencies in southern and central San Mateo County that provide solid waste, waste reduction, and recycling services to member agencies.

Recology San Mateo County (Recology) is the franchise waste hauler for the City of San Mateo (RethinkWaste, 2015a). Recology provides recycling, compost, and garbage collection services to residences and businesses in the City. Garbage, recyclables, and compost are picked up once a week. South Bay Recycling (SBR) provides recycling services for materials collected in San Mateo (RethinkWaste, 2015b). SBR operates the Shoreway Environmental Center, a recycling and transfer station facility in San Carlos, under contract with Rethink Waste. Shoreway serves as a regional solid waste and recycling facility for the receipt, handling, and transfer of refuse, recyclables, and organic materials collected from the RethinkWaste service area, including the City of San Mateo. Residential and commercial solid waste recyclables and organic materials collected by Recology are taken to the Shoreway Environmental Center for consolidation by type and then loaded into large transfer trailers for shipment to either a landfill or recycling facilities (RethinkWaste, 2015c).

Solid waste for landfill disposal is sent to Ox Mountain Sanitary Landfill located off SR-92 in Half Moon Bay; this is the only active landfill in San Mateo County. Construction and demolition waste and other types of construction materials are sent to the Zanker Road recycling facility in San José. Compostable materials such as yard trimmings and food scraps are sent to the Newby Island and Grover composting facilities in San José and near Tracy, respectively (Rethink Waste, 2015c).

The City's WWTP generates biosolids as a by-product. Biosolids not used for land application are transported to either Ox Mountain Sanitary Landfill or to Potrero Hills Landfill in Suisun City. On average, the WWTP generates approximately 180 to 200 tons of biosolids per week that are loaded into approximately eight to nine 50-cubic-yard trailers for transfer.

The Ox Mountain Sanitary Landfill is operated by Republic Services. As of May 2011, the landfill had a remaining capacity of approximately 26.9 million cubic yards out of a permitted capacity of 60 million cubic yards (CalRecycle, 2015a). The remaining capacity is expected to last through 2018. The owner of the landfill has a permit for expansion of the landfill. When the existing permit expires in 2016, either the existing landfill will be expanded further or nearby Apanolio Canyon will be opened for fill (City of San Mateo, 2009).

As of January 2006, the remaining capacity of Potrero Hills Landfill was approximately 13.8 million cubic yards out of a permitted capacity of 83.1 million cubic yards (CalRecycle, 2015b).

17.1.3 Wastewater

Existing wastewater collection and treatment in San Mateo is provided by the WWTP, located at 2050 Detroit Drive near J. Hart Clinton Drive at Marina Lagoon. The WWTP is described further in Chapter 1.

17.1.4 Energy – Electricity and Natural Gas

Electrical and natural gas service in San Mateo is provided by PG&E. In 2012, PG&E's power mix consisted of non-emitting nuclear generation (21 percent), renewable resources including solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, and small hydroelectric (19 percent), large hydroelectric facilities (11 percent), natural gas/other (27 percent), and unspecified/untraceable (21 percent) (PG&E, 2015a). The total electricity generated and procured by PG&E in 2014 was 74,547 gigawatt-hours (PG&E, 2015b).

PG&E is continuing to add renewable energy to its power mix, with a goal of 33 percent renewables by the end of 2020 (PG&E, 2015a). PG&E can also purchase power from customers who install eligible renewable generation up to 1.5 megawatts in size. PG&E is also continuing to invest in conventional generation facilities such as combined cycle natural gas power plants.

17.2 Regulatory Framework

17.2.1 Federal Regulations

17.2.1.1 Clean Water Act Section 405

Section 405 of the Clean Water Act regulates the land application and land disposal of sludge, the solid, semisolid, or liquid untreated residue generated during treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment facility.

17.2.1.2 Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 503

Provisions for sludge quality, application rates, and environmental conditions for permitting are provided in 40 CFR 503. The regulations also specify sludge management methods, monitoring, and record keeping requirements for disposal facilities and land application facilities. Sewage sludge can be disposed of in landfills and lagoons, it can be incinerated, or it can be applied to the land as a soil enhancer or fertilizer. Land application of sewage sludge is often done at parks, golf courses, abandoned mines, and during construction site restoration. It can also be applied to crops, including crops for human consumption.

17.2.2 State Regulations

17.2.2.1 California Water Code

The California Water Code requires all urban water suppliers that provide water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers (or supply more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually) to prepare urban water management plans at least every 5 years. The plans describe and evaluate sources of supply, reasonable and practical efficient uses, reclamation, and demand management activities. Components of a plan may vary according to individual community or area characteristics and its capability to efficiently use and conserve water. The plans address measures for residential, commercial, governmental, and industrial water demand management.

17.2.2.2 California Integrated Waste Management Act

The California Integrated Waste Management Act, also known as Assembly Bill 939, required each jurisdiction in the state to divert 25 percent of its solid waste from landfill or transformation facilities by 1995 and 50 percent by 2000. Accepted diversion methods include source reduction, recycling, and composting activities. The act also required each county to prepare a Countywide integrated waste management plan, which is the main planning document for solid waste management in each county.

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, which regulates wastewater discharges to surface waters, including San Francisco Bay, through the NPDES program. Wastewater generators must obtain a permit that contains specific requirements to limit the pollutants in their discharges and monitor their wastewater to

ensure that it meets all requirements. Wastewater dischargers must maintain their treatment facilities, and treatment plant operators must be certified and routinely inspected.

17.2.3 Local Regulations

Title 15 of the Municipal Code (City of San Mateo, 2015) provides requirements and procedures for applicants seeking a franchise for electric or gas transmission or distribution (City of San Mateo, 2015).

The San Mateo City Council passed an ordinance amending the Municipal Code to require that certain construction and demolition projects achieve waste diversion rates of up to 60 percent. The ordinance requires that a construction and demolition recycling and waste reduction plan and a security deposit be submitted as a condition of a building permit. The City provides a list of construction salvage and recycling centers to support construction waste diversion. The ordinance also requires that documentation of compliance with the required diversion rate be submitted upon completion of the final inspection as a condition of refunding the deposit. Specific diversion requirements include the following:

- A minimum recycling rate of 60 percent is required for all new construction and demolition projects.
- A minimum recycling rate of 50 percent is required for alteration projects covered by the ordinance.
- For all projects, at least 25 percent of diverted material shall come from waste that excludes soil, concrete, asphalt and other non-structural debris.

Several of the goals and policies in the General Plan (City of San Mateo, 2010) are applicable to the provision of utilities, including the following:

GOAL 4a: Facilities. Seek to provide a safe and predictable supply of water, and provide storm drainage, sewer and flood control facilities adequate to serve existing needs, the projected population and employment growth and to reduce the associated life safety and health risks to acceptable levels.

LU 4.4: Water Supply. Seek to ensure a safe and predictable water system for existing and future development by taking the following actions:

- As a high priority, work with California Water Company and Estero Municipal Improvement District and adjacent jurisdictions to develop supplemental water sources and conservation efforts.
- Strongly encourage water conservation by implementing pro-active water conservation methods, including requiring all new development to install low volume flush toilets, low-flow shower heads, and utilize drip irrigation while promoting high-efficiency washing machines and establishing an education program to improve water conservation practices.
- Investigate the feasibility of developing capacity to use recycled wastewater, stormwater runoff, graywater and ground water that will enable reuse of water for irrigation purposes, freeing comparable potable water supplies for other uses.

LU 4.28: Peakload Water Supply. Seek to ensure that the CalWater and the Estero Municipal Improvement District provide and maintain a water supply and distribution system which provides an adequate static pressure to deliver a minimum fire hydrant flow of 2,500 gallons per minute to all areas of the City, except where a lesser flow is acceptable as determined by the Fire Chief. Ensure that new development does not demand a fire flow in excess of that available.

LU 4.31: Solid Waste Disposal. Continue to support programs to reduce solid waste materials in landfill areas in accordance with State requirements.

LU 4.32: Recycling. Support programs to recycle solid waste in compliance with State requirements. Require provisions for on-site recycling for all new development.

PA 4.7: Wastewater Treatment Plant. Maintain the WWTP as designated in Policy LU-4.5.

LU 4.5: Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion. Provide adequate waste water treatment for the projected 2030 service area population, employment and development. Require that any future expansion of the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) be designed to be compatible with the adjacent parks, school, and low-density residential areas by screening views of the WWTP with extensive and tall landscaping and reducing the height of all new structures to the maximum practicably feasible. Any future expansion of the WWTP shall take into account the possible rise in sea level.

LU 4.6: Inter-Agency Coordination. Coordinate future expansion or modification of the Wastewater Treatment Plant with the other users of the plant including the Estero Municipal Improvement District (Foster City), the Crystal Springs County Sanitation District, Hillsborough and Belmont.

LU 4.7: Sewer System. Provide a sewer system which safely and efficiently conveys sewage to the wastewater treatment plant. Implement the Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) to ensure proper maintenance, operations and management all parts of the wastewater collection system.

1. Comprehensive Sewer System Study. As a high priority maintain the comprehensive sewer system study to assess the efficiency and integrity of the sewer lines and facilities, and develop a Capital Improvement Program to make any necessary improvements.
2. Sewer Requirements for New Development. Require new major multifamily and commercial developments to evaluate the main sewer lines in the project vicinity which will be utilized by the new development and make any improvements necessary to convey the additional sewage flows.

17.3 Assessment Methods and Thresholds of Significance

Thresholds of significance are based on Appendix F and Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. Impacts on utilities in the City may occur if the CWP would:

- Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the RWQCB
- Require the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects
- Require the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects
- Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the CWP from existing entitlements and resources, or new or expanded entitlements needed
- Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it does not have adequate capacity to serve the CWP's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments
- Be served by a landfill with insufficient permitted capacity to accommodate CWP solid waste disposal needs
- Not comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste
- Result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy

17.4 Environmental Impacts

Potential impacts of the CWP on ~~cultural and paleontological resources~~utilities are summarized in Table 17-1 and described in subsequent sections.

TABLE 17-1

Summary of Utilities Impacts*Programmatic Environmental Impact Report, City of San Mateo Clean Water Program*

Impact	In-System Storage Program	Full Conveyance Program	New Headworks Project	Primary Clarifier Project
Impact 17-1. Implementation of the CWP would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.	Less than significant impact No significant impacts			
Impact 17-2. Implementation of the CWP includes the construction of additional wastewater treatment facilities and the expansion of existing facilities.	Less than significant impact No significant impacts			
Impact 17-3. Implementation of the CWP may require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities.	Less than significant impact			
Impact 17-4. Implementation of the CWP could affect water supplies.	Less than significant impact			
Impact 17-5. Implementation of the CWP could affect wastewater treatment capacity.	Less than significant impact			
Impact 17-6. Implementation of the CWP could affect solid waste disposal.	Less than significant impact	Less than significant impact No significant impacts	Less than significant impact No significant impacts	Less than significant impact No significant impacts
Impact 17-7. Implementation of the CWP would increase energy use.	Less than significant impact No significant impacts			

Impact 17-1. Implementation of the CWP would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.***In-System Storage Program***

One of the objectives of the In-System Storage Program is to upgrade the WWTP to meet regulatory requirements, including requirements of the RWQCB. The In-System Storage Program would improve the quality of discharged water and the reliability of the WWTP to meet discharge requirements. No significant impacts would occur.

Full Conveyance Program

One of the objectives of the Full Conveyance Program is to upgrade the WWTP to meet regulatory requirements, including requirements of the RWQCB. The Full Conveyance Program would improve the quality of discharged water and the reliability of the WWTP to meet discharge requirements. No significant impacts would occur.

New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project

The New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project are necessary projects of the WWTP upgrade. They would be part of the treatment train that would improve the quality of discharged water and the reliability of the WWTP to meet discharge requirements. No significant impacts would occur.

Impact 17-2. Implementation of the CWP includes the construction of additional wastewater treatment facilities and the expansion of existing facilities.***In-System Storage Program***

Wastewater treatment service for the entire Service Area would be maintained during construction of the In-System Storage Program. No additional wastewater treatment facilities would be required during construction to maintain service.

The current permitted capacity of the WWTP is 15.7 mgd; the permitted capacity would not change with implementation of the In-System Storage Program. The current ADWF is approximately 11 mgd, and is expected to increase to 13.9 mgd by 2035, based on the modest growth anticipated in the service area (Carollo Engineers, Inc., 2014). The In-System Storage Program would enable the WWTP to continue to serve the existing permitted average dry weather capacity. In addition, the In-System Storage Program would increase the flow capacity of the WWTP to address wet weather flows. The potential impacts of the In-System Storage Program are discussed throughout this Draft PEIR. No additional or expanded wastewater treatment facilities are expected to be needed after the In-System Storage Program is complete. No significant impacts would occur.

Full Conveyance Program

The impacts of the Full Conveyance Program would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. No significant impacts would occur.

New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project

The impacts of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. The capacity of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be sufficient to meet the permitted average dry weather capacity. No significant impacts would occur.

Impact 17-3. Implementation of the CWP may require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities.***In-System Storage Program***

Pipeline and pump station projects of the In-System Storage Program would include belowground facilities; after construction, the ground surface would be returned to preconstruction conditions. For the In-System Storage Program, one or more in-system equalization storage basins would be constructed as belowground facilities, with a minor aboveground structure to provide access. Depending on the site(s) selected, portions of the ground surface above the basin(s) could be paved. This could result in an increase in impervious surface and stormwater runoff, depending on the condition of the site(s) prior to construction. However, the site(s) would encompass no more than approximately 2.4 acres, a minor change in the amount of pavement in the City. Existing stormwater collection systems would be adequate.

New WWTP facilities would be constructed on the Detroit Drive parcel. Currently, the majority of this parcel is vegetated. Construction of new WWTP facilities would result in conversion of vegetated land to impervious surfaces (pavement and facilities). This could increase stormwater runoff from the Detroit Drive parcel. However, the In-System Storage Program includes construction of stormwater infrastructure within the WWTP with appropriate capacity to collect and convey stormwater to the sewage treatment system. The impacts of the stormwater infrastructure are evaluated in this Draft PEIR. No new or expanded storm water facilities would be needed after implementation of the In-System Storage Program.

Full Conveyance Program

The impacts of the Full Conveyance Program would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. The site for the new Dale Avenue Pump Station is currently vegetated, and would remain so following construction. The impacts of the stormwater infrastructure are evaluated in this Draft PEIR. No

new or expanded storm water facilities would be needed after implementation of the Full Conveyance Program.

New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project

The impacts of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. These projects would be constructed on the Detroit Drive parcel. Construction of stormwater infrastructure within the WWTP would have the appropriate capacity to collect and convey stormwater to the sewage treatment system. The impacts of the stormwater infrastructure are evaluated in this Draft PEIR. No new or expanded storm water facilities would be needed after implementation of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project.

Impact 17-4. Implementation of the CWP could affect water supplies.

In-System Storage Program

Construction of the In-System Storage Program may require the use of water for dust control and for certain types of pipeline construction. However, the amount of water needed would be minor and would be met with existing water supplies. Construction impacts would be less than significant.

Operation of the In-System Storage Program, with the increased treatment levels, would create an opportunity for use of recycled water, which could offset the use of potable water and result in a net increase in potable supply. This would be a beneficial impact.

Full Conveyance Program

Construction of the Full Conveyance Program may require the use of water for dust control and for certain types of pipeline construction. However, the amount of water needed would be minor and would be met with existing water supplies. Construction impacts would be less than significant.

Operation of the Full Conveyance Program, with the increased treatment levels, would create an opportunity for use of recycled water, which could offset the use of potable water and result in a net increase in potable supply. This would be a beneficial impact.

New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project

Construction of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project may require the use of water for dust control. However, the amount of water needed would be minor and would be met with existing water supplies. Construction impacts would be less than significant.

Operation of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project, with the increased treatment levels, would support creation of an opportunity for use of recycled water, which could offset the use of potable water and result in a net increase in potable supply. This would be a beneficial impact.

Impact 17-5. Implementation of the CWP could affect wastewater treatment capacity.

In-System Storage Program

One of the objectives of the In-System Storage Program is to increase the capacity of the collection and treatment system to handle expected wet weather flows. After implementation of the In-System Storage Program, the collection and treatment system would have adequate capacity to handle up to 98 mgd during wet weather flows, and would more reliably meet the treatment requirements for average dry weather flows.

Minor disruptions in sewage or treatment service may occur during construction. During pipeline construction, sewage service to specific locations may need to be suspended for up to a few hours when laterals are being disconnected and connected to a pipeline project. In addition, the existing WWTP may occasionally be shut down for a night when an existing treatment facility needs to be taken offline. These

service interruptions would be infrequent and short in duration (up to a few hours). No significant impacts would be expected.

Full Conveyance Program

The impacts of the Full Conveyance Program would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. No significant impacts would be expected.

New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project

The impacts of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. The New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be sized to support the appropriate wet weather flows. No significant impacts would be expected.

Impact 17-6. Implementation of the CWP could affect solid waste disposal.

In-System Storage Program

Implementation of the In-System Storage Program would result in the generation of construction and demolition waste, including concrete, asphalt, used sewage pipes, soil, and used equipment. Construction and demolition projects in San Mateo are required to achieve a minimum recycling rate of 60 percent. Several construction salvage and recycling centers are located around the Bay Area to support construction waste diversion (see Figure 2-3). Construction waste would go to landfills with sufficient permitted capacity. Hazardous materials generated during construction would be disposed of at an appropriate licensed facility (see Chapter 9).

Operation of the In-System Storage Program would continue to generate biosolids; the volume would increase slightly with the increasing capacity of the facility. Existing land application opportunities and landfill capacity are expected to be sufficient.

Full Conveyance Program

The impacts of the Full Conveyance Program would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. No significant impacts would be expected.

New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project

The impacts of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. No significant impacts would be expected.

Impact 17-7. Implementation of the CWP would increase energy use.

In-System Storage Program

Implementation of the In-System Storage Program would result in the use of energy for construction, primarily the use of gasoline and diesel fuel to power construction equipment. Construction activities would occur over a 10 to 20 year period. As described in Chapter 16, at a maximum, it is estimated that concurrent construction activities would generate up to 409 daily trips and 110 peak hour trips. However, these peaks would not be continuous through the overall construction period. **Mitigation Measure 4-1 Implement BAAQMD construction emission control measures** includes measures such as reduced idling times, which would reduce energy use by construction equipment and conserve fuels. With implementation of **Mitigation Measure 4-1**, impacts of the use of energy during construction of the In-System Storage Program would be less than significant.

Implementation of the In-System Storage Program would result in the use of energy for operation, through electricity use for wastewater conveyance and treatment. Electricity use would increase approximately 12 percent compared to current use, primarily as a result of the increased level of treatment, as well as the modest increase in ADWF. However, the highly treated effluent would be available for recycled water use, potentially offsetting energy use to treat and pump water from potable sources. In addition, the In-System

Storage Program would include new equipment such as pumps and interior facility lighting that would be more energy efficient than existing equipment. The use of automation would also increase energy efficiencies. The new facilities and pipelines would significantly reduce the needed level of maintenance and repair and the associated energy use compared to current conditions.

PG&E is continuing to invest in renewable and conventional energy production and future energy supplies would be expected to be sufficient to meet the increased In-System Storage Program energy use. As shown in Table 8-4, the maximum energy use of the In-System Storage Program would be 14,382.49 megawatt hours per year, less than 0.00002 percent of PG&E's current generation and procurement. Impacts of the use of energy during operation of the In-System Storage Program would be less than significant.

The increased use of energy by the In-System Storage Program could require new or improved electric transmission infrastructure such as a new substation. Such infrastructure would be expected to be located primarily on the WWTP Site and would be incorporated in facility design.

Full Conveyance Program

The impacts of the Full Conveyance Program would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. With implementation of **Mitigation Measure 4-1 Implement BAAQMD construction emission control measures**, impacts of the use of energy during construction of the Full Conveyance Program would be less than significant. Impacts of the use of energy during operation of the Full Conveyance Program would be less than significant.

The increased use of energy by the Full Conveyance Program could require new or improved electric transmission infrastructure such as a new substation. Such infrastructure would be expected to be located primarily on the WWTP Site and would be incorporated in facility design.

New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project

The impacts of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be the same as described for the In-System Storage Program. With implementation of **Mitigation Measure 4-1 Implement BAAQMD construction emission control measures**, impacts of the use of energy during construction of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be less than significant. Impacts of the use of energy during operation of the New Headworks Project and Primary Clarifier Project would be less than significant.

17.5 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure 4-1 Implement BAAQMD construction emission control measures is described in Chapter 4.

17.6 References

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