

Attachment 11F(1)

Explanatory Note for the Bureau of Reclamation May 3, 2010

Attached is the NEPA report for Bureau of Reclamation's (BR) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Projects covering project status through March 31, 2010. As of March 31, 2010, BR reported \$596,425,874 obligated. This is an increase in almost \$73,000,000 since the last report. In addition, there is a decrease in pending NEPA actions from 63 (32 percent) in the December 31, 2009, report to 31 (16 percent) pending in this report. Some projects include a combination of multiple phases and activities that are individually analyzed under NEPA but may be tracked under a single project number. This results in a greater number of NEPA actions than the number of ARRA funded projects reported. Explanations and additional clarification of information contained in the report are provided below.

NEPA Actions vs. ARRA Projects

The number of NEPA actions is not directly related to the number of ARRA actions for the following reasons:

- Rows 120-123: The activity description indicates there are several anticipated activities. Consequently, the individual activities starting on row 166 are the individual ARRA projects with their corresponding NEPA actions.
- Rows 195, 197, and 198 each have several ARRA projects that are grouped together under one NEPA action because the actions are very similar in nature.

Pending CEs

There are 4 projects with pending CEs in this report. Additional information about these projects is provided below.

- **Infrastructure Reliability & Safety, Yuma Area Projects – Lower Cibola Bridge Deck Repair, #12.000** (row 70) – The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be handling all the environmental compliance. An Inter-agency Agreement (IA # R10PG30R04) was signed on November 30, 2009 and the funds will be used by FHA to complete the environmental documentation. The agreement with FHWA specifies that FHWA will complete the NEPA analysis.
- **Infrastructure Reliability & Safety, Upgrade Water Del.-New Melones, #85.000** (row 80) – completion is expected the first of April.
- **Infrastructure Reliability & Safety, Lake Berryessa, #72.000** (row 82) – awaiting surveys.
- **Challenge Grants, Water Resources Sustainability Enhancements in Peoria, AZ, #27.101** (row 153) – the grant is being revised with an expected completion date of 30-Apr-2010.

Completed CEs with Other Federal Reviews/Documents Pending

There is one project in this report with a completed CE that we are still waiting for additional federal environmental reviews or documents to be complete.

- **Meet Future Water Needs, Title XVI - Rosemead Extension Project, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, #1.116** (row 141) – The CE was completed based on a conversation with the SHPO office that a “no effect” letter has been drafted and will be submitted shortly.

Pending EAs

There are 26 pending EAs which cover 34 ARRA projects . Additional information about each of these projects is provided below.

- **Title XVI project - Lake Cachuma Water and Sewage Treatment Plants, #87.000** (row 81) – NEPA compliance is pending final cultural resources and ESA reviews. Public review tentatively scheduled for April 12, 2010.
- **Leavenworth Water Delivery System, Leavenworth Fish Hatchery, Intake Facilities, #11.000 (11.1)** (row 87) is a sub-project of **#11.000** (row 19) – the CE for the Intake Facilities will be completed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) when final designs are completed. It is anticipated this will be the last report this project will be listed as pending.
- **Environment/Ecosystem Restoration, Native Fish Habitat, #23.107** (row 104) – awaiting CWA section 404 completion.
- **Environment/Ecosystem Restoration, Isleta Reach Habitat Restoration, Middle Rio Grande Project, #97.000** (row 112) – awaiting biological opinion. Biologic assessment submitted to FWS on April 1.
- **Title XVI - South Bay Advanced Recycled Water Treatment Facility, #1.118** (row 143) and **Title XVI - South Santa Clara County Recycled Water Master Plan Implementation, #1.119** (row 144) – project description has changed – the addendum needs to be reviewed and approved to determine if additional NEPA compliance work is needed.
- **Title XVI, Tuscany Recycled Water System, #1.122** (row 147) and **Title XVI, Wildomar Recycled Water System, #1.127** (row 152) – NEPA on hold due to outstanding federal debts.
- **Challenge Grant, Calloway Canal to Lerdo Canal Intertie, #27.106** (row 158) – awaiting final archeological survey report from district to begin SHPO consultation.

The following EAs are for projects to provide emergency drought relief to Native American lands – all were awaiting additional information from the tribe. The necessary information has now been provided and the EAs are currently being prepared:

- **Emergency Drought Relief Projects 28.101, 28.102, 28.103, 28.108, 28.110, 28.114, 28.119, 28.120, 28.121, 28.122, 28.127** (rows 171, 172, 173, 176, 178, 180, 183-186, 189)

- **Emergency Drought Relief Project 28.105** (row 175) – awaiting project description from the tribe.
- **Emergency Drought Relief Project 28.125** (row 188) – received SHPO concurrence letter awaiting public review.
- **Emergency Drought Relief, Volta Wildlife Refuge, #28.129** (row 190) – awaiting BiOp from FWS in mid-April; FONSI expected to be adopted by April 30.

The following projects are awaiting final consultant selection for EA preparation:

- **Emergency Drought Relief, New Well Installation, Region 4, #28.132** (row 193)
- **Emergency Drought Relief, New Well Installation, Region 1, #28.131, 28.104, 28.107, 28.112** (row 195)
- **Emergency Drought Relief, New Well Installation, Region 3, #28.111, #28.126, 28.115, 28.116** (row 197)
- **Emergency Drought Relief, New Well Installation, Region 2, #28.118, 28.124, 28.117** (row 198)

Completed EAs with Other Federal Reviews/Documents Pending

There are 4 projects in this report with completed EAs waiting for additional federal environmental reviews or documents to be complete. Additional information about these projects is provided below.

- **Meet Future Water Needs, Title XVI – City of Oxnard Groundwater Recovery Enhancement and Treatment Phase 1, #1.104** (row 129) – awaiting completion of NHPA Section 106 process.
- **Meet Future Water Needs, Title XVI – Recycled Water System Pressurization and Expansion Project, Eastern Municipal Water District, #1.111** (row 136) – awaiting completion of SHPO clearance.
- **Meet Future Water Needs, Title XVI – Upper Mojave River Groundwater Regional Recharge and Recovery Project, Mojave Water Agency, #1.124** (row 149) – awaiting completion of NHPA Section 106 process.
- **Challenge Grant – Oro Grande Wash Groundwater Recharge Project, Mojave Water Agency, #27.105** (row 157) – awaiting completion of NHPA Section 106 process.

Withdrawn Projects/Activities

There are currently 16 projects that have been withdrawn. Six of these are new projects that have been withdrawn in this reporting cycle.

- **Infrastructure Reliability & Safety, American with Disabilities Act, San Felipe Division, #43.000** (row 24) – delays in project scope and design. The project could not be done in ARRA time frame.
- **Infrastructure Reliability & Safety, American with Disabilities Act, West San Joaquin Division, #42.000** (row 26) – delays in project scope and design. The project could not be done in ARRA time frame.

- **Infrastructure Reliability & Safety, American with Disabilities Act, Delta Division, #45.000** (row 29) – delays in project scope and design. The project could not be done in ARRA time frame.
- **Environmental/Ecosystem Restoration, Repair Spring Creek Powerplant Intake (Whiskeytown Lake) Temperature Curtain, #99.000** (row 103) – Could not be completed within ARRA time frame
- **Power plant station service breakers, Elephant Butte, NM UC Region. #92.000**(row 96) – could not be completed within ARRA time frame
- **Meet Future Water Needs, Title XVI – San Jose Water Reclamation and Reuse Project Phase 1C – San Jose Hedding Extension Rose Garden, #1.117** (row 142) – not being funded by ARRA funds.

The other 10 projects were withdrawn in previous reporting cycles and include the following:

- **San Carlos, AZ.** (row 7); **Yakima River Basin** (row 106); and **Sheeny Springs, AZ** (row 111) were withdrawn by partner request due to impacts to their costs and schedules.
- **Retrofit project in Ventura California project 44.000** (row 28) was withdrawn due to loss of critical personnel and increased workload resulting from their own ARRA projects, Forest Service will not be able to utilize ARRA funding for ADA projects in the Casitas Open Space within a reasonable timeframe.
- **Friant Paint**, (row 31), was withdrawn due to health and safety issues with lead paint.
- **Riverton Powerplant, WY.** (row 52); and **CBT - Green Mountain, CO.** (row 60) were withdrawn due to construction costs and extended schedules that would prevent the projects from being completed in time to apply ARRA funding.
- **Construction of the Blue River Fish Barrier project 96.000** (row 110) has been withdrawn from ARRA funding because project construction could not meet the ARRA schedule. It will be funded by other means in the future.
- **Pittsburg Recycled Water Project 1.110** (row 135) sponsor requested cancellation of project funding due to changes in construction schedules so project has been withdrawn.
- **Power plant/Generator 15Kv Breakers, NM UV Region. #93.000**

Projects Added Since Last Report

The following project has been added since the last reporting cycle.

- **Hungry Horse Project, #106.504** (row 213) – project provides for safe access to facilities at Hungry Horse Reservoir, Montana.

Clarifications

Row 18, Title XVI projects, are listed further down in the spread sheet individually, starting on row 201, with individual NEPA compliance status. This row was maintained as a space holder so the row numbers do not change.

Row 120 – Salinity Control. The activity description indicates there are several anticipated activities. The individual activities are identified starting on row 166. This item is retained as a space holder so the row numbers do not change.

The same comment applies to rows 122 and 123, only those descriptions already indicate what rows to see for the individual action status.

Rosemead Extension Project 1.116 (row 141) - The CE was completed based on a conversation with the SHPO office that a “no effect” letter has been drafted and will be submitted shortly. 5 Spreadsheet row 91//Line 70 (project 12.000) – we have re-submitted the NHPA 106 information and waiting for a response from SHPO.

With regards to the Lower Cibola Bridge, row 70, the status remains that we are intending to withdrawal it and Federal Highways is doing and tracking the NEPA. The Federal Highway Administration (FHA) will be handing all the environmental compliance. An Inter-agency Agreement (IA # R10PG30R04) was signed on November 30, 2009 and the funds will be used by FHWA to complete the environmental documentation. This project is proposed for withdrawal by Reclamation. Row 18, Title XVI projects, are listed further down in the spread sheet individually, starting on row 201, with individual NEPA compliance status. This row was maintained as a space holder so the row numbers do not change.

Rows 120 – 123: The activity description indicates there are several anticipated activities. The individual activities are identified starting on row 166. This item is retained as a space holder so the row numbers do not change.

No benefits related specifically to the NEPA process have been identified.

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