



Topic: Authority Board Agenda Item 6-2

2019 August 26

Subject: Environmental Analysis & Permitting – NODOS  
Geotechnical Progress Report

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**Requested Action:**

No action requested. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding progress of the **North of Delta Offstream Storage/Sites Reservoir Feasibility Geotechnical Investigations** permit applications.

**Detailed Description/Background:**

Staff have been coordinating with Reclamation to develop a grouping of geotechnical evaluations of soil and bedrock characteristics that are important to Reclamation to reduce uncertainties in the cost estimates in the federal Feasibility Report. The Authority filed a Notice of Exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act with the Clerk-Recorder Offices in both Colusa and Glenn counties on July 8, 2019. Refinements to the project activities have continued, generally reducing the scope and extent of the project. These refinements are now finalized. Reclamation anticipates submitting a Biological Assessment to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the necessary cultural resources consultation information to the State Historic Preservation Officer any day now. Once these two consultation actions are completed, Reclamation plans to complete a Categorical Exclusion to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act.

The remaining permit applications are underway and are anticipated to be submitted in the coming weeks.

**Prior Authority Board Action:**

CEQA: Based, in part, on the Reservoir Committee’s recommendation, at their June 24, 2019 meeting, the Authority Board of Directors authorized the General Manager to approve the North of Delta Offstream Storage/Sites Reservoir Feasibility Geotechnical Investigations. The Board of Directors also authorized the General Manager to release a Notice of Exemption consistent with comments from the Environmental Work Group, Reservoir Committee recommendations and concurrence from the Sites Project Authority’s Coordination Committee.

Permit Applications: Based, in part, on the Reservoir Committee’s recommendation, at their May 20, 2019 meeting, the Authority Board of Directors approved the expenditure of funds needed to submit the necessary permit applications.

**Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:**

Status:	Subject to Change	Preparer:	Forsythe	Phase:	2	Version:	A
Purpose:	Sites Authority Board Staff Report	QA/QC:	Watson	Date:	2019 August 26		
Caveat:	Informational	Authority Agent:	Forsythe	Ref/File #:	12.221		
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Permit fees would need to be included with applications. Staff is currently confirming permit fees for each permit necessary. Total permit fees are estimated to not exceed \$40,000.

**Staff Contact:**

Ali Forsythe

**Attachments:**

None.