

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration For the Proposed DERWA Tank R-200 Project

The Dublin San Ramon Services District • East Bay Municipal Utility District Recycled Water Authority (DERWA) proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the DERWA Tank R-200 Project. The project includes constructing a new 4.5-million gallon reservoir tank, and installing approximately 0.5 mile of new pipeline to connect the reservoir tank to a future DERWA transmission main. The DERWA Tank R-200 project is part of the San Ramon Valley Recycled Water Program (SRVRWP), which will supply recycled water to portions of the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) service areas in the San Ramon Valley. The DERWA Board of Directors approved and certified a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) on the SRVRWP in December 1996. The DERWA Tank R-200 project was evaluated at a program-level of detail in that EIR. Consistent with Section 15152 of the *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines*, the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study (MND/IS) for the Proposed DERWA Tank R-200 Project tiers off of the Program EIR.¹

The MND and Initial Study describe the proposed Project, analyze whether any potential significant environmental impacts would result from the Project, and describe mitigation measures that would avoid or lessen any such potential impacts. DERWA elected to prepare an MND because the proposed Project does not meet requirements for preparing a subsequent EIR.

LOCATION: The proposed DERWA Tank R-200 site is in the City of San Ramon, approximately ¾ mile north of Bollinger Canyon Road and 1500 feet west of Dougherty Road, adjacent and to the north of the Bridges at Gale Ranch subdivision. The site occupies a saddle between two hills to the east and west. Refer to the figure on the back of this notice. The project site is on property currently owned by Shapell Industries. EBMUD has an agreement with Shapell Industries to allow development of the property as a water storage facility.

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS: In order to receive comments on this MND/IS, public workshops will be conducted on Wednesday, March 26 from 12:00 – 1:30 PM at the San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Boulevard, San Ramon and Thursday, March 27 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM at the Golden View Elementary School, 5025 Canyon Crest Drive, San Ramon. You are invited to attend these meetings; copies of the MND will be available at the meetings.

DEADLINE: DERWA will be accepting comments on the MND/IS from **March 14 through April 14, 2003**. Written comments may be sent to the attention of Robert Baker, DERWA Authority Manager, 7051 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, CA 94568.

The DERWA Board of Directors anticipates considering approval of the MND at its meeting on May 27, 2003. The MND and all associated documents are available for public review during regular business hours at the DERWA Administrative Office, located at 7051 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin. Additionally, the MND/IS is available for review on line through the DSRSD website (www.dsrsd.com), DERWA website (www.derwa.org) or EBMUD website (www.ebmud.com), or at the following locations:

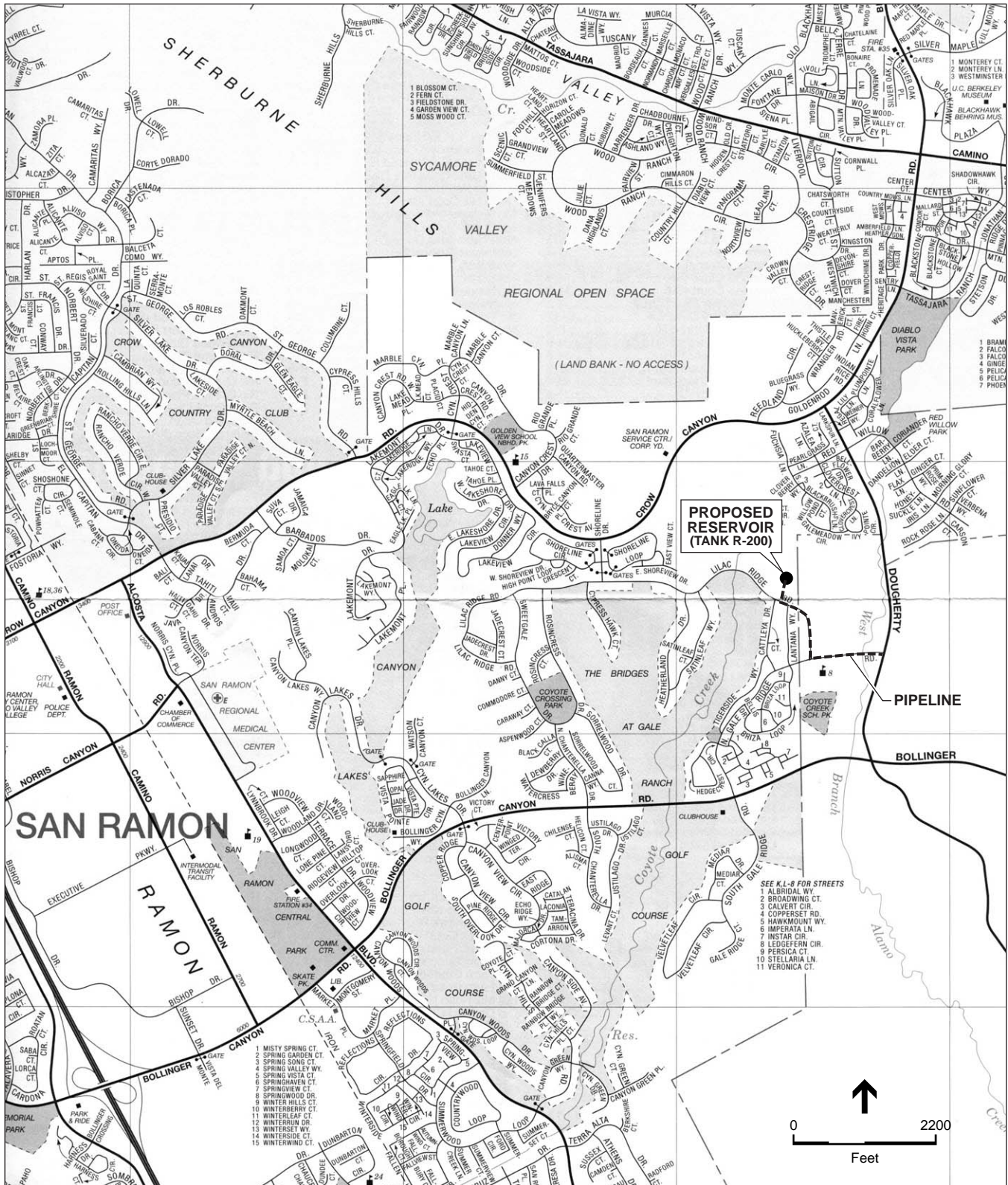
Alameda County Library
7606 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin

Contra Costa County Library
825 Hartz Way, Danville

Contra Costa County Library
100 Montgomery, San Ramon

EBMUD Office of Water Recycling
375 Eleventh Street, Oakland

¹ “Tiering” refers to using the analysis of general matters contained in a broader EIR with subsequent EIRs or Negative Declarations on narrower projects, incorporating by reference the general discussions from the broader EIR and concentrating the later environmental document solely on the issues specific to the subsequent project.



SOURCE: California State Automobile Association; Environmental Science Associates

DERWA Tank R-200 / 990067

Project Location

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SECTION 1.0

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

DERWA (DSRSD • EBMUD Recycled Water Authority) is a Joint Powers Authority formed in 1995 between the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) and the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD). The San Ramon Valley Recycled Water Program (SRVRWP) will supply recycled water to portions of the DSRSD and EBMUD service areas in the San Ramon and Dougherty valleys. The DERWA Board of Directors approved and certified a Program Environmental Impact Report on the SRVRWP in December 1996. The approved SRVRWP project is based on serving up to 8,210 acre-feet per year (AFY)¹ of recycled water to urban retail water customers of EBMUD and DSRSD that are either developed or are approved for development.

DERWA will provide recycled water from the Pleasanton Wastewater Treatment Plant through SRVRWP transmission facilities to EBMUD and DSRSD for distribution to customers that can use recycled water for irrigation. EBMUD supplies retail water service in the northern part of the area within its service area boundary. DSRSD provides retail water service in the southern part of the area.

The project evaluated in this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) will serve Pressure Zone 2² of the DERWA system. The complete DERWA system will have three other pressure zones that will extend the service area to the south and southeast from Tank R-200, with an ultimate annual average capacity of approximately 5.7 million gallons per day. The DERWA Tank R-200 project specifically consists of constructing a new reservoir tank (Tank R-200) with a capacity of approximately four and one-half million gallons and installing a 2,700-foot-long pipeline to connect the reservoir tank to DERWA's future transmission mains.

This IS/MND was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (as amended) and the CEQA Guidelines. The SRVRWP EIR evaluated the DERWA Tank R-200 project in a general, program-level manner. This IS/MND tiers off of that EIR and incorporates by reference specific analyses as indicated in the attached Initial Study.³

¹ An acre-foot/year is equal to 325,851 gallons/year.

² A pressure zone is an area within a specified elevation range (e.g., 250-450 feet) where storage and distribution facilities are designed to deliver water at a pressure range suitable for customer use.

³ "Tiering" refers to using the analysis of general matters contained in a broader EIR with subsequent EIRs or Negative Declarations on narrower projects, incorporating by reference the general discussions from the broader EIR and concentrating the later environmental document solely on the issues specific to the subsequent project.

1.2 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The DERWA Tank R-200 project would further the objectives of the SRVRWP by providing distribution storage capacity for Pressure Zone 2. The primary objective of the SRVRWP is to maximize the amount of recycled water delivered in the study area to offset irrigation demand for drinking water, while recovering costs. Numerous existing parks, athletic fields, roadway medians, golf courses, and similarly vegetated areas within the study area are currently irrigated with potable water. Planned parks, commercial areas, athletic fields, and golf courses in the study area also will require irrigation. These water users will be the primary customers for recycled water.

The DERWA SRVRWP furthers the objectives of the two participating Districts with regard to water recycling. In 1992, DSRSD adopted Water Recycling Policies (Resolution No. 42092) that are intended to encourage the following actions:

- Promote, produce, sell, and deliver recycled water to retail and wholesale customers;
- Manage the SRVRWP on an equitable and self-supporting basis;
- Work with others to develop ordinances and guidelines to encourage the use of recycled water;
- Develop local regulations and standards to ensure the safe and beneficial use of recycled water; and
- Conduct public information and customer service programs to ensure that the public has an appropriate understanding of recycled water, including the benefits of using recycled water.

In addition, as part of its Urban Water Management Plan adopted in February 2001, DSRSD has expressed its commitment to developing recycled water supplies, and includes recycled water as a component of its water supply planning. The Urban Water Management Plan contains a chapter on recycled water, which references the SRVRWP and other water recycling efforts DSRSD is pursuing.

In October 1993, EBMUD established water recycling as an important component of its updated Water Supply Management Program (WSMP). The WSMP identified recycled water as a key component in meeting long-range EBMUD water supply needs. The WSMP's water recycling goal is to achieve an additional eight million gallons per day of supply (annual average) by 2020 by providing recycled water to major irrigators and industrial users in lieu of potable water. The largest projects are anticipated to be located in the San Ramon Valley and the Oakland/Berkeley area.

Both Districts also have signed the statewide Memorandum of Understanding for Urban Water Conservation in California (December 1991), which calls for water and wastewater districts to support water recycling wherever technically and economically reasonable. EBMUD'S mandatory use policy (Policy 73) requires that customers use nonpotable water for nondomestic purposes when it is of adequate quality and quantity, available at reasonable cost, not detrimental

to public health and not injurious to plant life, fish and wildlife. DSRSD also has a similar mandatory use policy (Ordinance No. 280).

1.3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

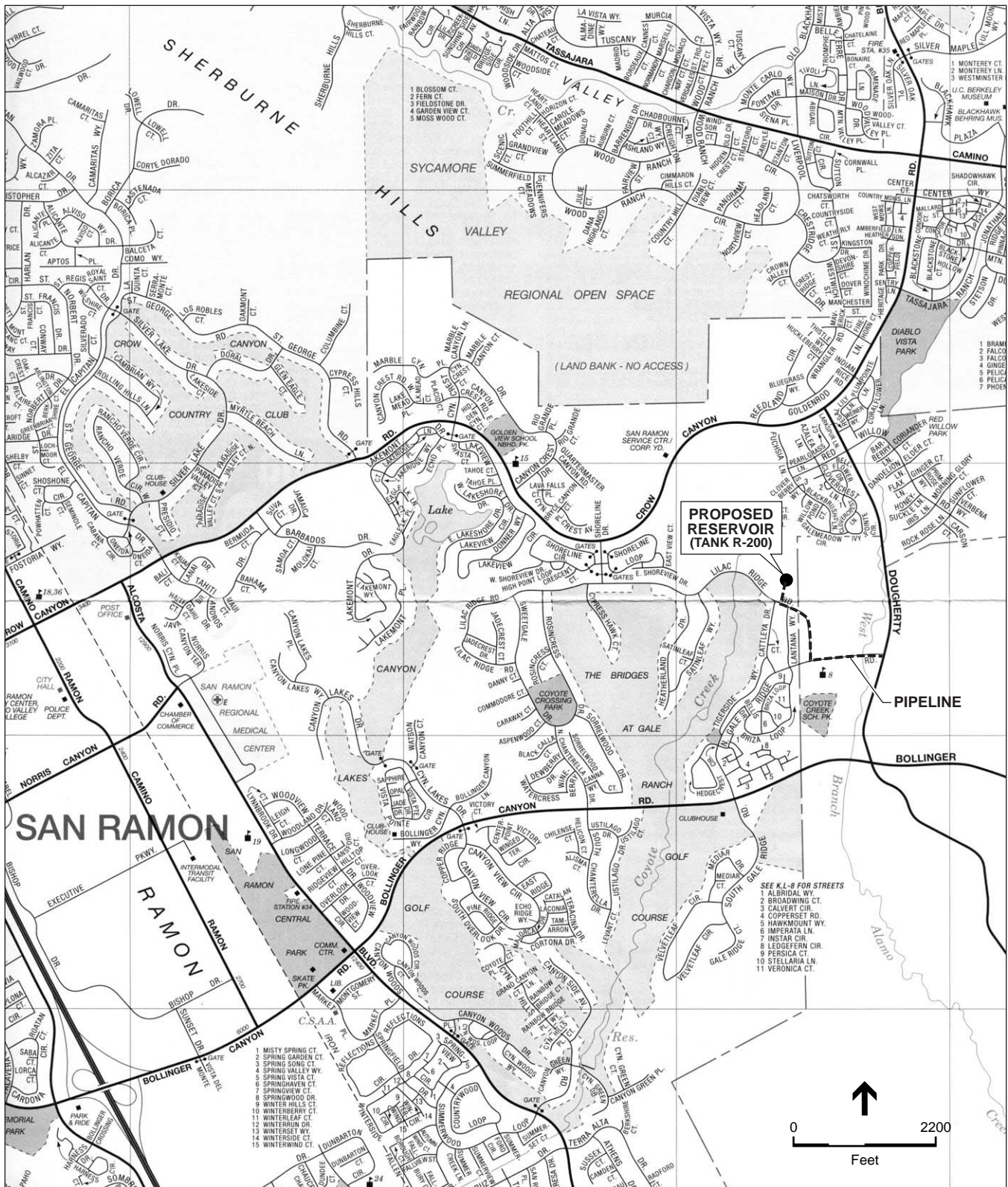
The DERWA Tank R-200 project would:

- Provide recycled water storage capacity by constructing an approximately 39 foot tall, 150 foot diameter cylindrical concrete tank. It would have floor and high water elevations of 700 and 734.5 feet above mean sea level (msl), respectively. The tank would be installed in an excavated pit and then completely backfilled.
- Install a new approximately 2,700-foot-long pipeline to connect the reservoir tank to DERWA's pipeline system.
- Construct a paved access road, 16-foot wide and about 500 feet in length, between Lilac Ridge Road and the tank site.
- Provide a temporary haul route traversing the tank site and the adjoining site to be used to move and stockpile the excavated materials.

The reservoir and pipeline facilities would be designed and constructed in accordance with Uniform Building Code Seismic Zone 4 requirements, using the Uniform Building Code (1997) or EBMUD'S more stringent criteria. Since the project site is located in a seismically active region of California with close proximity to the Calaveras and Pleasanton faults, recommendations of the geotechnical report will be incorporated into the design and construction of the proposed facilities (EBMUD, 2002). Construction standards and water tank design for seismically active areas as provided by the tank manufacturer and/or the American Water Works Association (AWWA), if applicable, shall be considered for the foundation and lateral support design. The standard design methods were also a part of the conditions of approval for adoption of the SRVRWP Programmatic EIR and have been modified to address Tank R-200.

1.3.1 LOCATION

Figure 1 shows the regional location and vicinity of the proposed project. **Figure 2** shows DERWA Pressure Zone 2 and major future recycled water facilities serving the area. The almost eight acre site proposed for the recycled water reservoir is within the City of San Ramon boundary in a saddle ridge between the Dougherty Hills and the Sherburne Hills. The site is located between two peaks at Elevations 764 feet to the east and 810 feet to the west and is located approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north of Bollinger Canyon Road. **Figures 1** and **2** indicate the components that would be developed under the project: the recycled water reservoir site, access road, and the corridor for a new pipeline to connect the reservoir tank to DERWA's recycled water pipeline system. The project components are described in detail below.



SOURCE: California State Automobile Association; Environmental Science Associates

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Figure 1
Project Location

1.3.2 TANK R-200

The proposed recycled water reservoir would be located on property currently owned by Shappell Industries, located in the Dougherty Hills open space area east of Interstate 680 (I-680), as shown in **Figure 1**. The property is located within the San Ramon city limits and will be acquired and owned by DERWA. The Tank R-200 site is located at approximately 744 feet mean sea level (msl) in the saddle of a ridgeline between hills to the west and east at approximately 810 feet msl and 764 feet msl respectively. The site is surrounded by undeveloped rangeland and residential development. Nearby existing land uses include a subdivision (the Bridges at Gale Ranch) approximately 500 feet to the south of the Tank R-200 site.

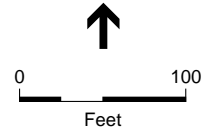
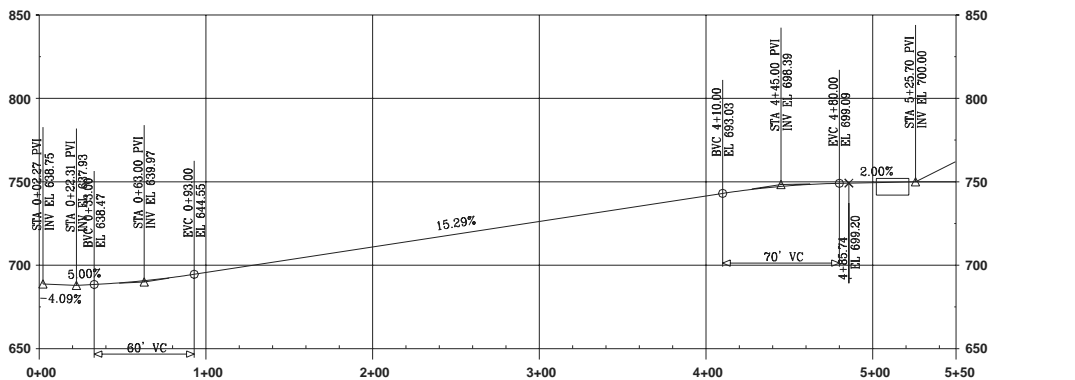
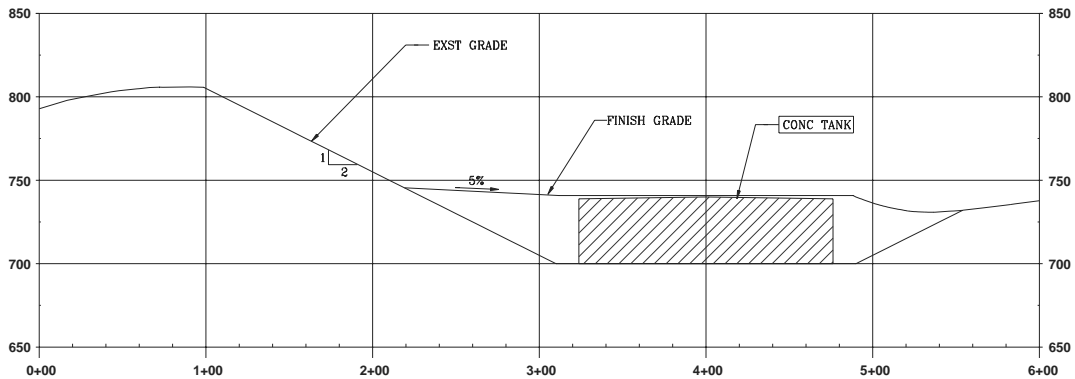
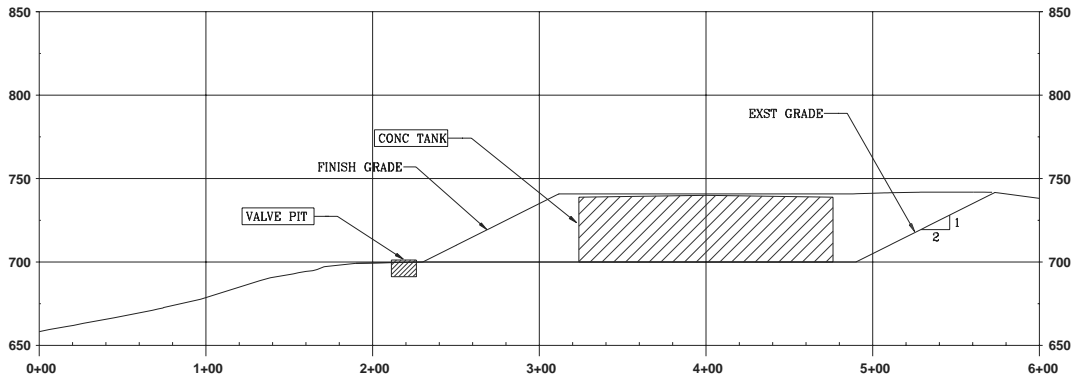
Figures 3 and 4 show the plan view and cross sections of the reservoir tank. The proposed reservoir would be a cylindrical prestressed concrete tank, 150 feet in diameter, placed on excavated bedrock materials. The tank would then be completely buried using select native backfill (totaling approximately 75,000 cubic yards). DERWA would construct stairs (not shown on **Figures 3 and 4**) on the exposed slope between the valve pit and the top of the reservoir. A three-foot high antenna would be located near the top of the stairs. A 16-foot wide access road would be constructed from Lilac Ridge Road to the tank (see **Figure 3**). Around the property, a three-foot high barbed wire fence, similar to existing cattle fences in the area, would be installed. A taller, six-foot high chain link fence around the paved valve pit area would also be installed. A temporary haul route traversing the tank site and the adjoining site would be used to move and stockpile the excavated materials.

1.3.3 PIPELINES

Figure 1 indicates the proposed pipeline alignment. The project proposes to install a 24-inch-diameter, approximately 2,700-foot-long pipeline to connect the storage reservoir to DERWA's recycled water transmission main in Dougherty Road. Approximately 500 feet will be installed under the new access road. The remaining 2,200 feet will be installed within the existing public right-of-way underneath Lilac Ridge Road and North Gale Ridge Road. The total area that is required for the construction corridor is a little less than one acre. The pipeline would be placed using open trench construction.

1.3.4 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

In normal operations, the tank would fill and drain as necessary depending on demand on the system at the time. The facilities are designed so that the tank would be refilled during the daytime when demand is very low, and essentially would be drained completely at the end of the irrigation demand period, in the very early morning. The system would operate during the six-month irrigation season (April through September), and the tank would contain minimum volumes the remainder of the year. Instrumentation would monitor tank liquid level. Signal data would be transmitted via a three-foot high antenna to the DSRSD Wastewater Treatment Plant, through DSRSD's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. A SCADA



SOURCE: East Bay Municipal Utility District

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Figure 4
Reservoir Site - Cross-Sections
of Proposed Reservoir

system consists of industrial control computers, communication systems, and operator interface computer systems that allow for monitoring and control of facilities from treatment plants and administrative offices remote from the tank. DSRSD will be responsible for the operation of the tank. There would be no water treatment chemicals stored at the site.

1.4 CONSTRUCTION METHODS AND SCHEDULE

1.4.1 TANK CONSTRUCTION

The excavation quantity for construction of Tank R-200 is estimated at up to 105,000 cubic yards (cy). The property owner, Shapell Industries, would excavate the tank site in summer 2003 (following adoption of the MND) to minimize or avoid truck trips during the school year. Excavated material would be hauled to the parcel adjacent and to the southeast of the tank site. Scrapers and other equipment used to move the excavated material would use a temporary access road between the two parcels to avoid traveling on public streets. Shapell is developing the adjacent site as a school and has already received the necessary grading permits.⁴ Following excavation and grading of the tank site, EBMUD contractors would construct the concrete tank and appurtenant features (e.g., the valve pit). Once the tank is finished, approximately 75,000 cy of the stockpiled soil would be hauled back to the tank site to be used as backfill to bury the tank. The tank area would be replanted with grasses as needed to match existing conditions. DERWA and Shapell are working together to maximize use of the 30,000 cy of excess soil from the tank site, thereby reducing the potential number of truck trips off-hauling soil. Shapell expects to retain the balance of the excavated material (30,000 cy), which is expected to be suitable for use as fill, to construct building pads for the school. However, Shapell has not yet determined the overall amount of fill that will be required for development of building pads at the school site. It is possible, therefore, that some excavated material from the tank site, or some soils currently stockpiled at the site that are not as suitable for fill, would still have to be off-hauled. This analysis conservatively assumes that the maximum potential contribution of off-haul from the Tank R-200 project is 30,000 cy of soil.

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

Backhoes, bulldozers, scrapers and water trucks would be used for excavation, grading and fill. Concrete would be delivered to the site by ready-mix trucks; a crane would set structural components and equipment; and supply trucks would deliver materials and equipment used in the construction process. Additional equipment likely to be used includes air compressors, welding machines and various air- and electric-powered hand tools. There would be an estimated 20 workers per day at the project site during construction. The tank site and adjacent parcel would serve as the construction staging area and have sufficient space for on-site parking.

⁴ The proposed school was part of the Bridges at Gale Ranch project and was evaluated in the *Country Club at Gale Ranch Environmental Impact Report* (State Clearinghouse #93081082, certified in 1995).

1.4.2 PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

Pipeline installation would use standard open-cut trenching techniques. Within public streets, the trench excavated for pipeline installation would be approximately three feet wide with a depth of up to seven feet (the trench would be wider in the access road to accommodate two pipes). There would typically be active work areas of about five feet on one side of the trench and 10 to 12 feet on the other side for access by trucks and loaders, requiring a 20-foot-wide construction corridor. Open-trench pipeline construction would proceed at a rate of approximately 150 linear feet per day. Once filled, the trench would be paved (for the new access road) or repaved (in existing public streets). Construction equipment used for open-cut pipeline construction would include backhoes, front-end loaders, dump trucks, flat-bed delivery trucks, crane, compactors, concrete trucks, and paving equipment.

1.4.3 SCHEDULE

Final design for the tank and pipeline facilities is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2003. Construction is scheduled to begin late 2003 and conclude in Spring 2005.

1.5 PERMITS REQUIRED

Permits may be required from the following agencies:

- City of San Ramon: Encroachment Permits for construction in public rights-of-way (Lilac Ridge Road and North Gale Ridge Road).