

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Title

Environmental Cleanup of IR-6 and IR-8 Drainages

Project Location

SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory (SLAC)
2575 Sand Hill Road, San Mateo County, California

The project is located within unincorporated San Mateo County on Stanford University property, south of Sand Hill Road and East of Interstate 280 (see Figure 1 of the Initial Study). A portion of the Project is within the SLAC facility limits, and a portion is outside SLAC facility limits (see Figure 2 of the Initial Study).

Project Description

The Project is intended to be a final action to remove soil containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from portions of three earthen drainage channels at SLAC to address cleanup requirements of Water Board Cleanup and Abatement Order R2-2009-0072. Approximately 1,550 bank cubic yards of soil will be removed and disposed off-site at a permitted landfill. Riparian and wetland vegetation currently growing in the drainage channels will be removed in the course of excavation. Following soil removal, the drainages will be backfilled and restored.

The Project will have a net environmental benefit by removing soil containing PCBs from the drainages and restoring the Project area to continue to function as stormwater drainages with wetland, riparian, and upland vegetation.

An Initial Study that identifies and evaluates environmental effects of the Project and describes mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant effects to less than significant is attached.

Findings

It is hereby determined that, although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the Project has been revised to mitigate any potential significant effects. The following mitigation measures are necessary to avoid the potentially significant effects on the environment:

- Avoidance and minimization measures to limit impacts and to protect wildlife;
- Regrading the channel to restore drainage channels and installing erosion control blankets to limit erosion;
- Removing 75 feet of riprap in IR-8 and restoring this portion of the reach to an earthen channel;
- Replanting disturbed wetland areas with cattails;
- Replanting disturbed riparian areas with willows;
- Replanting disturbed soil in upland areas with native grasses; and,
- Implementing a monitoring program to document habitat restoration.

California Environmental Protection Agency
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Additional detail about these mitigation measures is found in the attached Initial Study, which is hereby incorporated and fully made part of this Mitigated Negative Declaration. SLAC has agreed to implement the identified mitigation measures, which are described in the Project documents cited in the Initial Study, including the Restoration and Monitoring Plan.

Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date