

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Water Quality Certification Program

**Public Notice
Of Application for Water Quality Certification**

Pursuant to federal law (Title 33, United States Code, Section 1341; Clean Water Act Section 401), applicants for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the United States must seek Water Quality Certification from the state or Indian tribe with jurisdiction. Such Certification is based on a finding that the discharge will meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Board) issue or deny Certification for discharges within their geographical jurisdiction. The State Water Resources Control Board has this responsibility for projects affecting waters within multiple RWQCB jurisdictions. The following information is provided in satisfaction of the public notice requirements of Section 3858, Title 23, of the California Code of Regulations, which govern the State's Certification Program.

Applicant: Contra Costa County Transportation Authority

Applicant Contact: Susan Miller
Telephone: (925) 256-4736

Project Name: State Route 4 (East) Widening Project for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority

Date of Application: 4/11/2008

Affected Regions: San Francisco Bay (Region 2) and Central Valley (Region 5)

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)
State Route 4 Widening Project**

Contra Costa County

On June 7, 2007, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) issued a 401 water quality certification for construction of a pump station as part of the State Route 4 (SR-4) Widening Project (Project). On April 11, 2008, the Regional Water Board received an application from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (Authority), requesting Federal Clean Water Act (CWA), section 401, Water Quality Certification to widen State Route 4 (SR-4). The proposed Project is located in the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch, Contra Costa County, California, on SR-4 starting 1.33 kilometers (0.8 mile) west of Loveridge Road to approximately 1.24 kilometers (0.7 mile) east of Hillcrest Avenue. The purpose of the proposed Project is to reduce existing traffic congestion, improve traffic operations, encourage High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) use, and accommodate future anticipated traffic demand through the year 2030.

The proposed Project would widen SR-4's existing four lane highway to an eight lane facility with one HOV lane and three-mixed flow lanes in each direction. The Project has been designed with sufficient width in the median through the Loveridge Road Interchange to accommodate future public transit improvement plans. Additional project improvements include installation of culvert extensions for drainage facilities that cross SR-4 to accommodate the necessary widening of the highway, reconstruction of the Loveridge Drive and Somersville Road interchanges, replacement of the Century Boulevard undercrossing structure, addition of auxiliary lanes between the SR-4 interchanges, and shifting of SR-4 frontage roads California Avenue and North Park Boulevard to the north to accommodate widening and interchange improvement activities.

Temporary and permanent impacts to both waters of the U.S., including wetlands, and waters of the State will occur where SR-4 crosses Kirker Creek, Old Kirker Creek, and Los Medanos Wasteway. Work in waters includes replacement of a box culvert at Old Kirker Creek, in-kind replacement and extension of box culverts at Kirker Creek and the Los Medanos Wasteway, and relocation of a 36-inch sanitary sewer line crossing Old Kirker Creek. The net permanent fill is estimated to be 0.11 acres or 691 linear feet. The net temporary fill for water diversion activities is estimated to be 0.009 acres.

The applicant has applied for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Individual Permit (Corps No. 2002-26746S) pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) for the proposed Project.

The Project Water Board staff are proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office by mail during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. If you have any questions, please contact staff member Amna Hawatky at (916) 341-5483, or at ahawatky@waterboards.ca.gov, or Bill Orme at (916) 341-5464, or at borme@waterboards.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

State Water Resources

Control Board Staff Contact:

Amna Hawatky, Environmental Scientist
Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Unit,
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
Fax: 916- 341- 5808

Note: No regulatory decision on the application is implied or intended in this public notice.