

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
OTAY MESA CONVEYANCE AND DISINFECTION SYSTEM PROJECT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Otay Water District (District) and the U.S. Department of State (DOS) are preparing a draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS), in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines (CCR Title 14, §§15082[a], 15103, and 15375) and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to assess the environmental effects associated with the construction of a potable water pipeline and associated facilities to convey desalinated sea water produced in Mexico into the District's service area in southern San Diego County, California. The scope of the proposed project for the purpose of environmental review pursuant to the CEQA and consistent with NEPA is limited to the portion of the proposed project within the jurisdiction of the U.S.

In compliance with CEQA Guidelines, the District has established a 30-day public review period, beginning on November 14, 2014, to solicit comments and input on this Notice of Preparation/Notice of Intent (NOP/NOI). The District and DOS have issued this NOP/NOI, and are seeking review and comments from relevant federal, tribal, state, and local government entities, interested parties, and the public about the scope of the EIR/EIS, alternatives and analyses pursuant to CEQA Section 21153(a), California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15082(a) and 15083, and consistent with NEPA (as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations found at 40 CFR 1500-1508). If you are responding as an interested organization or individual citizen, we need to know your views as to the environmental information you would like us to address in the draft EIR/EIS. All comments in response to the NOP/NOI must be submitted by **December 13, 2014**. Comments may be submitted on the proposed project's website www.owd-desalconveyance.com or at www.regulations.gov by entering the title of this Notice into the search field and following the prompts. Comments may also be submitted by mail to Ms. Lisa Coburn-Boyd, Otay Water District, 2554 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard, Spring Valley, CA 91978-2004. All comments should indicate a contact person for each agency or organization, if applicable.

A **public scoping meeting** regarding the EIR/EIS will be held from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at the District's office at 2554 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard, Spring Valley, CA 91978 in the District's Board Room. Cooperating and Responsible Agencies, as well as any interested agencies, organizations and members of the public are invited to attend.

Any written or oral comments received at the public scoping meeting will be considered in preparing the draft EIR/EIS, along with any written comments received during the 30-day public comment period. All parties that have submitted their names and mailing addresses will be notified of subsequent actions as part of the environmental review process. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list or have any questions about the project, please contact Ms. Lisa Coburn-Boyd by phone at (619) 670-2219 or by email at lisa.coburn-boyd@otaywater.gov.

The NOP/NOI can be viewed on the proposed project's website (see above) and at the Otay Water District, 2554 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard, Spring Valley, CA.