

# WESTLEY-ROSEMORE PROJECT EIR

MODESTO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MODESTO, CALIFORNIA  
MR. ED JEFFERS, PROJECT MANAGER

COMPLETION DATE: 11/2004  
PHONE: (209) 526-7516

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ECI was selected by Modesto Irrigation District to provide cradle-to-grave services for the Westley-Rosemore Project. Services extended from environmental review and siting to full design, construction management, start-up and testing of 16 miles of 230 kV transmission line, substation expansion and switch station upgrades. ECI successfully completed the environmental planning, permitting and lands activities for the Westley-Rosemore Project.

The Westley-Rosemore Project involved preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Proposed Project Corridor was established using environmental feasibility analyses, preliminary engineering and field investigation. Scoping meetings were conducted to gather input on potential project alternatives from area residents, agencies and other concerned parties. Public information and participation is central to the



CEQA process. Scoping meetings were planned and held early in 2004 to gather input on potential project alternatives from area residents, agencies and other concerned parties. All participants were kept informed throughout the process with the distribution of newsletters and local newspaper announcements. Due to the demographic of the area, announcements were published in both English and Spanish.

The input from the public resulted in an increase in the number of segment alternatives on the project from the five that were originally proposed to twenty-six segment alternatives. Resource investigations were conducted along all alternative segments to evaluate any potential impacts that could occur as a result of the project. A total of twelve resource areas were investigated.

Detailed field resource investigations were arranged with assistance from ECI's Lands Group. As a majority of the project route was located on private land, right-of-entry permission was required and obtained for these

## KEY FACTS & HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ **EXPERT INVESTIGATION OF 12 ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ALONG 26 ALTERNATIVE ROUTE SEGMENTS**
- ◆ **PUBLIC NOTIFICATION DATABASE MAINTAINED IN EXCESS OF 250 AREA RESIDENTS, AGENCIES AND CONCERNED CITIZENS ED PEACE- PROJECT MANAGER**
- ◆ **EASEMENT ACQUISITION SERVICES PROVIDED ALONG ENTIRE 16-MILE ROUTE**
- ◆ **ASSOCIATED PROJECT ENCROACHMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS PREPARED FOR ENTIRE 16-MILE ROUTE**
- ◆ **EIR INITIATION TO COMPLETION IN LESS THAN 11 MONTHS**

◆ *Engineering With Distinction* ◆

Project Experience Resume

"Engineering with Distinction"



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field investigations. ECI Lands met with individual land owners to explain the project in detail and request cooperation during the environmental process. The lands group later provided ownership research and easement acquisition in preparation for the construction phase of the project.

Resource analyses and field investigations of all Alternative Segments were used to identify the Environmentally Superior Alternative. This Alternative was made up of ten segments including a combination of three segments from the original Proposed Project route and seven alternative segments that were identified by the public during the scoping process. With the identification of the Environmentally Superior Alternative, the Draft EIR was prepared for distribution, public review and comment.

Associated agency and private permits were also obtained as a part of the environmental process. A Nationwide 12 was required from the Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, permit applications were made to the California State Lands Commission, California Department of Water Resources and other state and local agencies as appropriate. All permits were prepared and submitted by ECI's Environmental Services group.



Following public and agency comments on the DEIR, the Final EIR was completed in the Fall of 2004. *The Final EIR was released in November of 2004, less than eleven months after the initiation of the project.*

## TEAM / RESPONSIBILITIES

- ◆ ED PEACE – PROJECT MANAGER
- ◆ BOB SCOTT – ENVIRONMENTAL LEAD
- ◆ JIM CLOUD – LANDS & R/W
- ◆ CRYSTAL KUNTZ – PERMITTING & PUBLIC PROCESS

◆ *Engineering With Distinction* ◆

