

REVISED
ATTACHMENT 2

ITEM NO. 6.4

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTING THE FINAL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (SCH # 2023090505) AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM AND APPROVAL OF A PURCHASE ORDER FOR FINAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR HONBY TANK PIPELINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (Agency) proposes to install new pipeline to the Honby Tanks from Honby Avenue across the Santa Clara River (Project); and

WHEREAS, the Honby pipeline conveys water to and from the Honby Tanks and the Honby Booster Station. The existing pipeline has been identified as a bottle neck in the system; and

WHEREAS, the Agency, as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), prepared an Initial Study for the Project to identify potentially significant effects on the environment which would result from the Project, and the Initial Study concluded that these impacts can be avoided or reduced to a level of insignificance with adoption and implementation of certain mitigation measures therein identified and listed; and

WHEREAS, based on the Initial Study, a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) (State Clearinghouse No. 2023090505) and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan was prepared in accordance with CEQA, which finds that any potentially significant environmental effects of the proposed project would be sufficiently mitigated to a level of insignificance with implementation of mitigation measures for biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, transportation, tribal cultural resources, and wildfire; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15072(b), on September 21, 2023, the Agency mailed a Notice of Intent (NOI) to Adopt the Draft MND to all responsible and reviewing agencies, the Office of Planning and Research, and members of the public that have requested notice; the Agency also published the NOI in the Santa Clarita Valley Signal, a newspaper of general circulation; and

WHEREAS, as required by State CEQA Guidelines Section 15072(d), the Notice of Intent to Adopt the Draft MND was concurrently posted by the Clerk of the Board of Directors for the County of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15073, the Draft MND was circulated for at least 30 days, from September 21, 2023 to October 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Agency received two written comments from the state reviewing agencies during the comment review period and responses have been prepared and included in the Final MND; and

WHEREAS, all the requirements of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines have been satisfied in connection with the preparation of the Final MND, which is sufficiently detailed so that all of the potentially significant environmental effects of the Project, as well as feasible mitigation measures, have been adequately evaluated; and

WHEREAS, on January 16, 2024, the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors conducted a duly noticed public hearing-meeting on the Project, the Final MND, Mitigation

Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), and all other relevant information contained in the administrative record regarding the Project, at which time all interested persons were given an opportunity to be heard, and the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors considered all of the information presented to it as set forth above and this Resolution and action taken hereby is a result of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors' independent judgment and analysis; and

WHEREAS, it is in the Agency's best interest that the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors, on behalf of the Agency, authorize its General Manager to authorize a purchase order in the amount not to exceed \$370,000 to Kennedy Jenks Consultants Inc for final design services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors does hereby find and determine as follows:

SECTION 1. RECITALS. The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors finds that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein as substantive findings of this Resolution.

SECTION 2. COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT. As a decision-making body for the Project, the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final MND, comments received, and other documents contained in the administrative record for the Project. Based on the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors' independent review and analysis, the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors finds that the MND and administrative record contain a complete and accurate reporting of the environmental impacts associated with the Project, and that the MND has been completed in compliance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, including State CEQA Guidelines sections 15070, 15071, and 15073.

SECTION 3. FINDINGS ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS. Based on the whole record before it, including the Final MND, the administrative record, and all other written and oral evidence presented to the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors finds that all environmental impacts of the Project are either less than significant or can be mitigated to a level of less than significant under the mitigation measures outlined in the Final MND and the MMRP. The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors finds that, based on the imposition of mitigation measures, there is no substantial evidence in the administrative record supporting a fair argument that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment. The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors finds that no new significant environmental impacts have been identified in the Final MND and any changes to the Final MND in response to comments or otherwise do not constitute substantial revisions requiring recirculation under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5. The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors further finds that to the extent any mitigation measures were revised after the public review period had concluded, these revised mitigation measures are equivalent or more effective in mitigating environmental impacts already identified in the Draft MND and that the change or addition does not itself cause any potentially significant impact.

SECTION 4. ADOPTION OF THE FINAL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION. The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors hereby approves and adopts the Final MND as the Lead Agency.

SECTION 5. ADOPTION OF THE MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM. In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors hereby adopts the MMRP. In the event of any inconsistencies between the Mitigation Measures as set forth in the Final MND and the MMRP, the MMRP shall control.

SECTION 6. LOCATION AND CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS. The documents and materials associated with the Project and the Final MND that constitute the record of proceedings on which these findings are based are located at Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. The Custodian of Record is the Board Secretary April Jacobs.

SECTION 7. NOTICE OF DETERMINATION. The Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors hereby directs staff to prepare, execute, and file a Notice of Determination with the Los Angeles County Clerk's office and the Office of Planning and Research within five (5) working days of adoption of this Resolution.

SECTION 8. APPROVAL OF FINAL DESIGN SERVICES. Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency's Board of Directors does authorize its General Manager to accept said proposal and does therefore authorize the Agency's General Manager to issue a purchase order to Kennedy Jenks Consultants, Inc for the Final Design of Honby Tank Pipeline Improvement Project (Project), for an amount not to exceed \$370,000.