A decorative header image showing a blue sky with white clouds, partially obscured by a yellow horizontal line.

Draft Environmental Impact Report SMUD Amendment of the Sphere of Influence and SMUD Yolo Annexation

Public Comment Meetings

Davis: January 18
Woodland: January 25
West Sacramento: January 26
Sacramento LAFCo: February 1



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Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Meeting Process
- LAFCo Presentation
- Public Comments
- Closing Remarks



Public Comment Period

- Begins: January 6, 2006
- Ends: February 21, 2006 (45 days)
- Comments must be received by 5 pm, Tuesday, February, 21st
- Written Comments and/or E-mail comments should be sent to Sacramento LAFCo, Attn: Peter Brundage <peter.brundage@saclaftco.org>
- Responses to all comments will be included in the Final EIR



LAFCo Presentation Outline

- Program Description
- Chronology of Events
- LAFCo Authority/Decisions
- Purpose of the LAFCo Draft EIR
- LAFCo Process Schedule/Public Comment Period
- Program Components



LAFCo Presentation Outline

- SMUD Actions
- Draft EIR Analysis and Conclusions
 - Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts
 - No Impact or Less Than Significant Environmental Impacts
- EIR Mitigation Measures
- Best Management Practices and Mitigation
- Facilitated Questions and Comments Session



Program Description

- Amendment of the Sphere of Influence for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)
- Annexation by SMUD of the Cities of West Sacramento, Davis, and Woodland and Portions of Unincorporated Areas of Yolo County (approximately 212 square miles)

Chronology of Events

- In February of 2003, the Cities of West Sacramento, Davis and Woodland (Cities) along with Yolo County approached the SMUD Board of Directors to request an annexation study to determine whether SMUD electrical service could offer lower costs, better customer service and reliability, and increased citizen participation in energy related decisions
- In July of 2003, the three Cities, Yolo County and the SMUD Board agreed to fund an independent feasibility study to determine if annexation was financially and technically feasible



Chronology of Events

- In January of 2005, RW Beck released its feasibility study. The report stated there would be benefits to annexation for both existing SMUD customers and new Yolo customers
- On April 5th, 2005, the Cities and Yolo County requested that SMUD move forward with annexation
- On August 1, 2005, SMUD submitted an application to Sacramento LAFCo to expand its Sphere of Influence and to annex the Cities and portions of Yolo County between and surrounding the Cities

Chronology of Events

- As requested by LAFCo and required by law, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) reviewed the proposed annexation. In November 2005, the CPUC issued an advisory resolution that stated:

“The proposal by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) to expand into Yolo County to serve Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) customers in Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland, and adjacent unincorporated areas, will not substantially impair PG&E’s ability to provide adequate service at reasonable rates within the remainder of its service territory”

LAFCo Authority/Decisions

- LAFCo must determine if SMUD should replace PG&E as the electric service provider in portions of Yolo County (Organizational change)
- LAFCo assesses whether or not SMUD has the expertise and resources to serve the proposed annexation area
 - Reasonable Rates
 - Adequate Service Levels
- LAFCo does not have land use authority to tell SMUD where to site its facilities
- LAFCo can approve the annexation with terms and conditions that are intended to protect the environment and enforce LAFCo policies

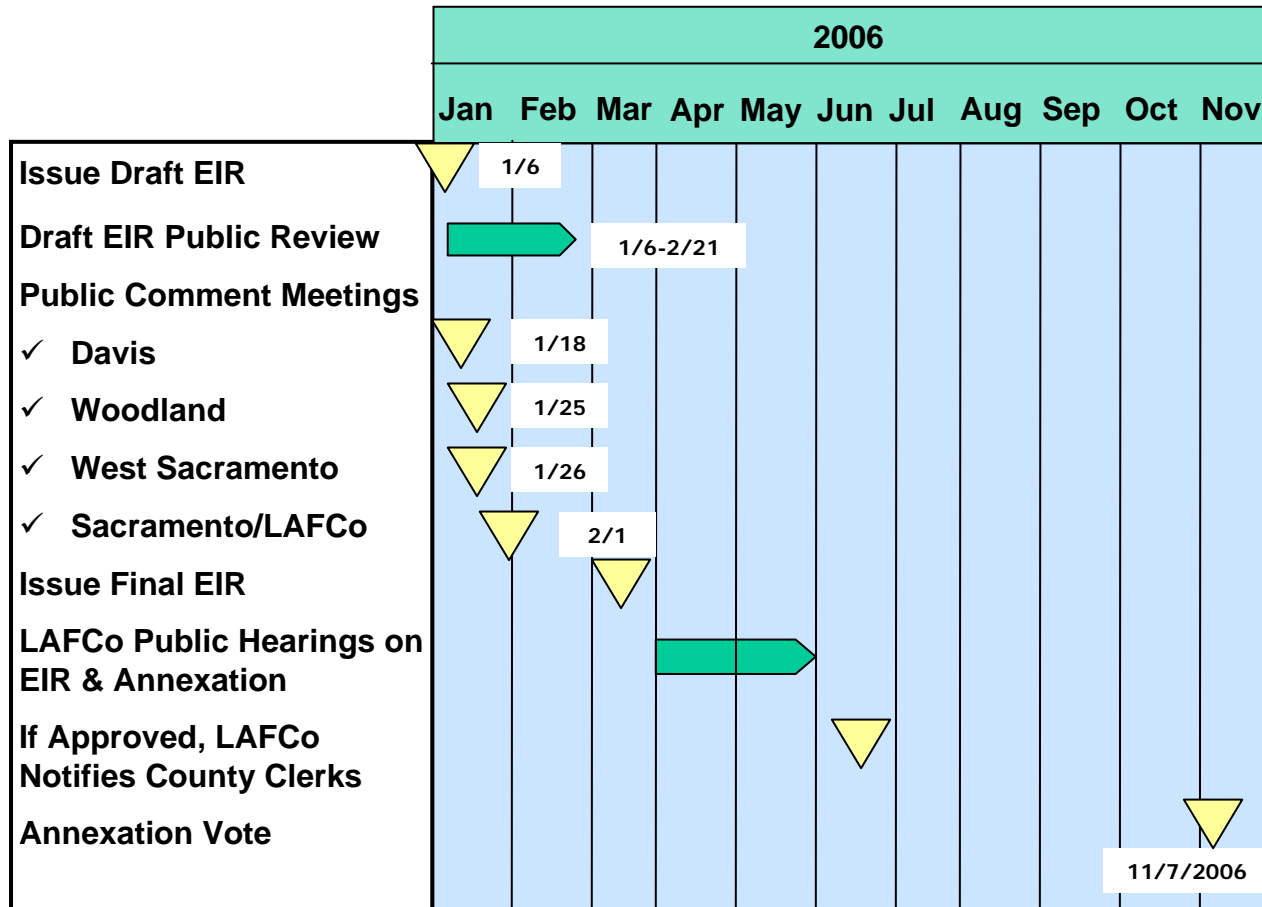


Purpose of the LAFCo Draft EIR

- The LAFCO Draft EIR is issued to provide Sacramento LAFCo and the public with information regarding potentially significant effects of the proposed annexation on the environment
- To obtain comments from the general public, and federal, state, and local agencies on the Draft EIR



LAFCo Tentative Process Schedule



Program Components

- The Program Components are the required actions to complete the proposed SMUD SOI Amendment and Annexation. They include:
 - Administrative Decisions
(Program Components 1-3)
 - Modification of Existing Facilities
(Program Components 4-5 & 8)
 - Installation of New Facilities
(Program Components 6-7)
 - Operation and Maintenance of the Electric System
(Program Component 9)

Program Components

- **Program Component No. 1**
Amendment of SMUD's Sphere Of Influence (SOI) and SMUD's proposed annexation
- **Program Component No. 2**
SMUD's acquisition of PG&E facilities needed to serve the new annexation area
- **Program Component No. 3**
Memoranda of understanding or operating agreements with local jurisdictions in the annexation area

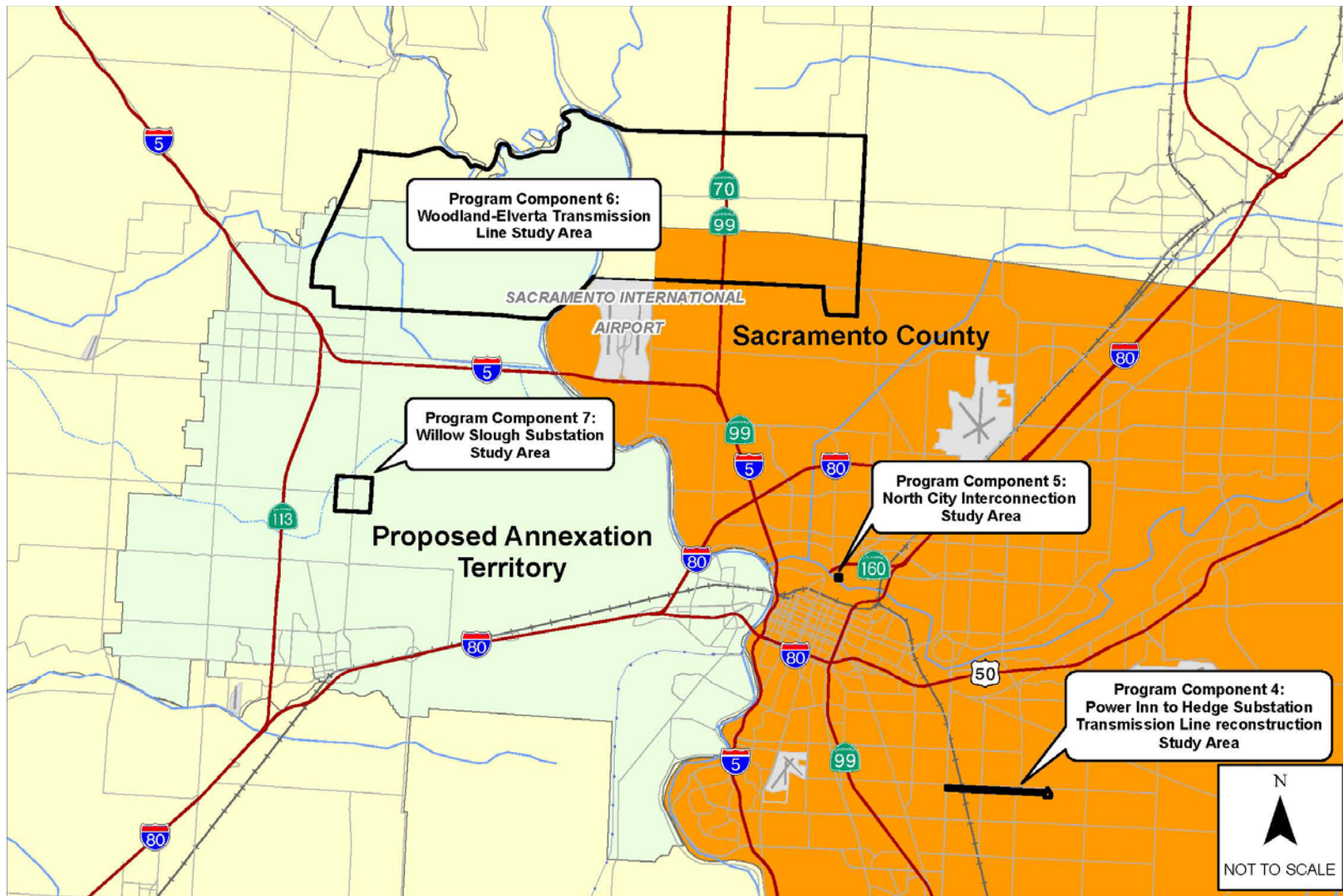
Program Components

- **Program Component No. 4 and No. 5**
SMUD will reconstruct and modify certain transmission line facilities in Sacramento County
- **Program Component No. 6**
SMUD will construct a new 15-18 mile transmission line from its Elverta Substation to Yolo County north of Woodland. **No route has been selected or rights-of-way acquired at this time.** A study area was analyzed in the Draft EIR

Program Components

- **Program Component No. 7**
SMUD will construct a new electric substation in Yolo County near Roads 102 and 27 between Woodland and Davis. (Willow Slough Substation 1-3 acres). **No site has been selected at this time.** A study area was analyzed in the Draft EIR

Program Components 4-7



Program Components

- **Program Component No. 8**
SMUD will upgrade existing distribution electric facilities in the annexation area at locations to be determined
- **Program Component No. 9**
After SMUD connects the electric system within the annexation area to its existing system, SMUD will operate and maintain the electric system in the annexation area

SMUD Actions

- If approved by LAFCo and the voters, SMUD will proceed to determine how it will serve the new area
- SMUD will begin the process, as described in the EIR, for siting the proposed transmission line and substation that are required to complete the annexation
- SMUD will engage in a cooperative effort with the general public, property owners, agencies, and local jurisdictions for the siting of the transmission line and substation

SMUD Actions

- SMUD will be responsible for performing the necessary California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis for determining the final transmission line and substation location
- The final locations of the transmission line and substation require approval from the cities and counties where the facilities will be located. SMUD can override disapproval with a “supermajority” vote



LAFCo Draft EIR Conclusions

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts

- The LAFCo Draft EIR identified the following potentially significant environmental impacts:
 - Aesthetics
 - Air Quality
 - Short-Term Construction Noise
 - Cumulative Impacts
 - Growth Inducement



No Impact or Less Than Significant Environmental Impacts

- The LAFCo Draft EIR identified the following areas to be no impact or less than significant impact on the environment before or after mitigation:
 - Agricultural Resources
 - Biological Resources
 - Cultural Resources
 - Hazards and Hazardous Materials
 - Hydrology/Water Quality
 - Land Use/Planning

No Impact or Less Than Significant Environmental Impacts (cont.)

- Continued:
 - Population/Housing
 - Public Services
 - Recreation
 - Transportation/Traffic
 - Utilities/Service Systems/Energy Conservation
 - Mineral Resources
 - Geology and Soils

Aesthetics

- The proposed transmission line from SMUD's Elverta Substation to Woodland will likely encroach on views from County Roads 16 and 117, which are designated scenic roads on the Yolo County side of the Sacramento River

Air Quality

- Particulate from diesel-fueled vehicles:
 - Short-term use of construction equipment to install program components
 - SMUD ongoing Operation and Maintenance Activities
(Approximately 20 trips/400 miles per day)



Short-Term Construction Noise

- Short-term noise due due to construction equipment:
 - Areas impacted will be primarily rural agricultural areas

Cumulative Impacts

- Because the Sacramento/Yolo regions are experiencing long-term sustained growth, the Program's impacts when combined with this regional growth may be significant
- The Program's contribution to this impact, when compared to the regional projects, is small

Cumulative Impacts

- Regional projects include:
 - South Sutter County Specific Plan (Measure M)
 - Sacramento International Airport Master Plan
 - Natomas Joint Vision
 - Sacramento and Yolo Counties General Plan Updates
 - City of Sacramento General Plan Update



Growth Inducement

- The projected electric system reliability and lower rates may attract new industrial and commercial customers to the annexation area
- This growth will be managed by the local jurisdictions and their respective planning and permitting processes

EIR Mitigation Measures

- The Draft EIR identifies and incorporates Best Management Practices (BMPs) and traditional mitigation measures to avoid and/or minimize the effects of the program on the environment
- BMPs and mitigation measures generally relate to future electric facility construction if the annexation is approved and SMUD proceeds to serve portions of Yolo County

Best Management Practices and Mitigation

- The Draft EIR includes a Draft Mitigation Monitoring Plan. After the plan is finalized by LAFCo, SMUD will be required to provide LAFCo with reports that provide the status of each Best Management Practice and Mitigation requirement imposed by LAFCo

- Siting of Transmission Electric Facilities:
 - Collaborative siting effort
 - Sacramento County General Plan Guidance
- Biological and Cultural Resources:
 - Avoidance (time of year, distance)
 - Worker training
 - Transmission line design measures to avoid bird electrocution and collision
 - Wetland and grassland replacement/revegetation

Best Management Practices and Mitigation

- Agricultural Resources:
 - Contribution to agricultural preserve
- Noise:
 - Limitation on construction “time of day” hours



Best Management Practices and Mitigation

- Public Services:
 - SMUD/Contractor security, safety and health plan
- Air Quality:
 - Dust control measures
 - Staging of work
 - Idling limitation



Facilitated Questions and Comments Session



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