



BUILDING A STRONGER L.A.

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July 22, 2022

Ms. Cynthia Draper
Planning Department
County of Inyo
168 North Edwards Street
Post Office Drawer L
Independence, CA 93526

Dear Ms. Draper:

Subject: Laws Museum Track Expansion Project

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Laws Museum Track Expansion Project (Project) Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). The mission of LADWP is to provide clean, reliable water and power to the City of Los Angeles. Based on our review of the Project MND, we respectfully submit the below comments.

Comments:

1) General:

- a. Ongoing ranching activities must not be inhibited by the construction or operation of the Project. Fencing shall not be constructed around the project area, and cattle crossings for the proposed project's extended track must be feasible. This response is not to be construed as support or approval of any project.

2) Section – Project Description:

- a. LADWP requests a description of construction equipment and process.
- b. LADWP requests a description of Best Management Practices (BMP) to be implemented.

3) Section – VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS (c):

- a. LADWP requests that the potential for collapse of parts of the railroad grade/berm are addressed and remedied as part of the project. Please describe how this concern will be rectified via design and BMPs.
- b. LADWP requests that the berm underneath the track is able to handle ponding of water as the water flows towards the culverts. Between the area of Laws Museum and the east/west ditch returning south to Owens River roughly 3,000 feet away, there are multiple dips along the pole line road which show approximate areas where water channelizes and moves west. LADWP recommends at a minimum eight culverts, with a capacity of 8-10 cubic feet per second (cfs), for this area. Please select culvert sizes that allow access for cleaning and the ability to remove debris. Please submit designs that include the elevation and length of the rail road track extension to Mr. Chad Lamacchia at Chad.Lamacchia@ladwp.com and Mr. Marshall Styers at Marshall.Styers@ladwp.com.
- c. Any environmental permits related to the culvert work or the project would be the responsibility of the project proponent.

4) Section – IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (a):

- a. LADWP requests that construction equipment is serviced offsite, in a more controlled environment that minimizes the potential for leaks and spills.
- b. LADWP requests that all herbicide is approved by LADWP prior to application.

For any questions regarding the above comments, please contact Mr. Marshall Styers of my staff at (213) 367-3541 or Marshall.Styers@ladwp.com.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Holloway
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment

MS:mh

c: Mr. Chad Lamacchia
Mr. Marshall Styers

Cynthia Draper

From: InyoPlanning <inyoplanning@inyocounty.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 4:15 PM
To: Cynthia Draper
Subject: FW: Laws Museum Track Expansion Project

From: giacominiranch@aol.com [mailto:giacominiranch@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 2:10 PM
To: InyoPlanning
Subject: Laws Museum Track Expansion Project

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July 11, 2022

To whom it may concern,

Following are comments that our family has concerning the Laws Museum Track Expansion Project:

The LADWP property that the tracks run through has been a part of the Cashbaugh family ranch for close to 100 years. Our family ties to Laws run deep. Our grandfather, West Amon, worked at Laws, our grandmother, Mabel K. Amon, taught school at Laws and our mother, Dorothy Amon Cashbaugh was born at Laws. We think the railroad extension is a great idea, however, we don't want it to compromise our ability to ranch. That leads to several concerns. First, any fence during construction or after would cut the ranch in half. That would severely hamper our ability to manage both livestock and feed. We would firmly oppose any fencing not first approved by us. Our second concern is crossing the Laws Waste. That is the only way our cows access North to South on this lease. Any crossing ever constructed would have to include easy access for cows.

Thank you from the Cashbaugh, Giacomini and Kemp family.

Sincerely,

Gary and Alonna Giacomini
601 Sierra St.
Bishop, CA 93514
760 873-5135
giacominiranch@aol.com