San Diego County Water Authority
Our Region's Trusted Water Leader

Regional Conveyance System Study
Borrego Community Forum

November 5, 2020

Agenda

Welcome Moderator Remarks: Kelly Rodgers, director of the Colorado River program, San Diego County Water Authority	5 Minutes
Background: Dan Denham, deputy general manager, San Diego County Water Authority	5 Minutes
Regional Conveyance System Study Overview: Kevin Davis, vice president, Black & Veatch Corporation	15 Minutes
Borrego Input: Françoise Rhodes, executive director, Borrego Springs Chamber of Commerce David Garmon, president, Tubb Canyon Desert Conservancy Dick Troy, board president, Anza-Borrego Foundation	15 Minutes
Q&A	50 Minutes

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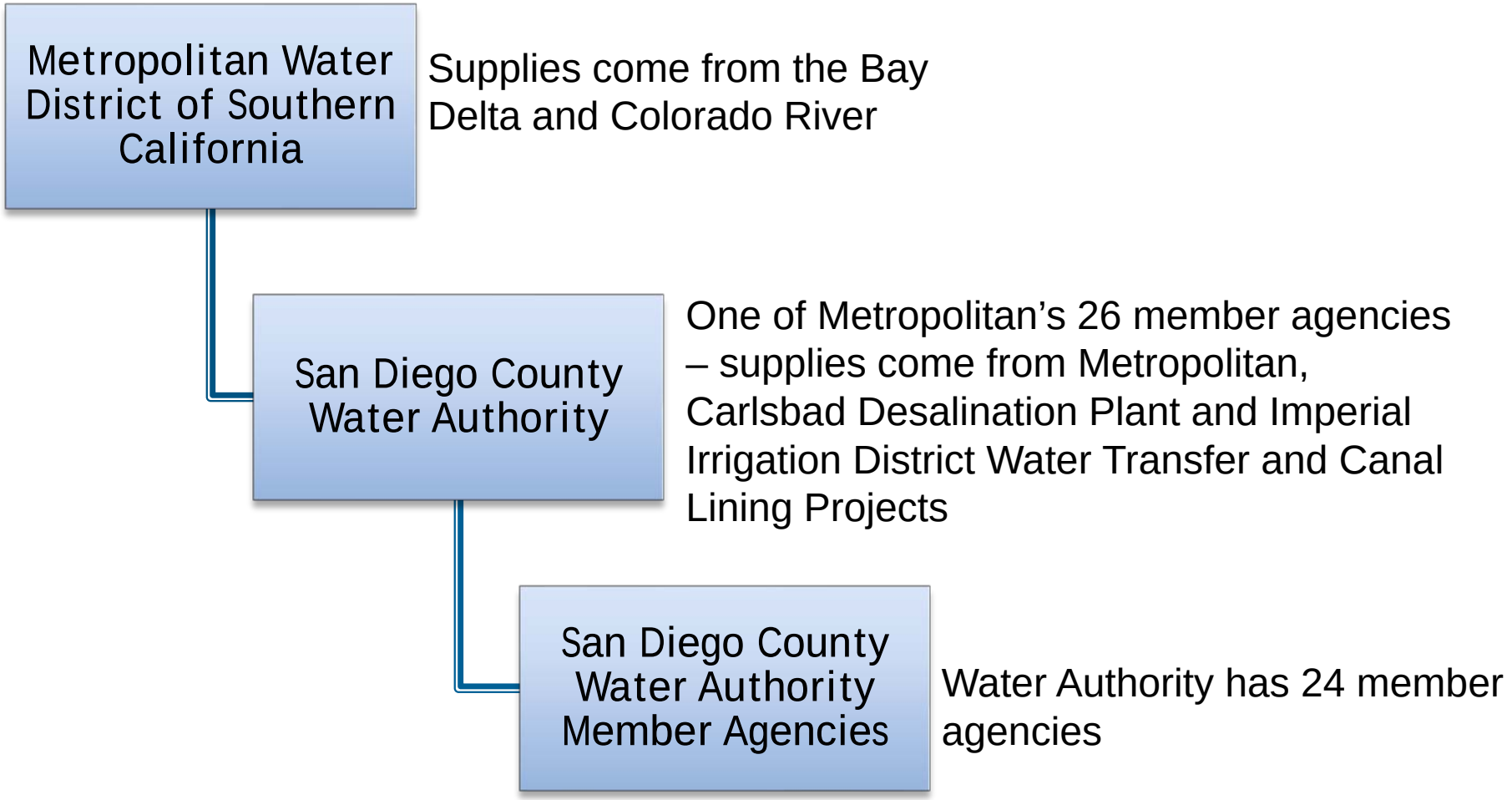
Background

Who is the Water Authority?

- 1944 - Wholesale water agency serving San Diego County



QSA Conserved Water Sustains San Diego County

- More than half of county's water is from 2003 QSA conservation agreement
- Agreement helps sustainably manage Colorado River
- QSA supplies are complementary to local supplies; both are necessary
- QSA supplies are lowest-cost source and highly reliable
- Pay MWD to deliver that water for Water Authority

Water Authority Board Must Make Long-Term Decision

- IID conserved water transfer initial term ends in 2047 with potential extension
- Exchange Agreement with MWD ends in 2047
- Water Authority Board must decide now in order to be prepared for and protect future generations

Current Two-Phase Study

Water Authority Board directed an incremental approach on studying options for delivery of QSA supplies

- **Phase A**
  - Focus on engineering and costs
  - Identifying technical and financial fatal flaws
  - Offramp at end

- **Phase B**
  - Detailed economic analysis
  - Stakeholder outreach and dialogue with potential partners
  - Offramp at end

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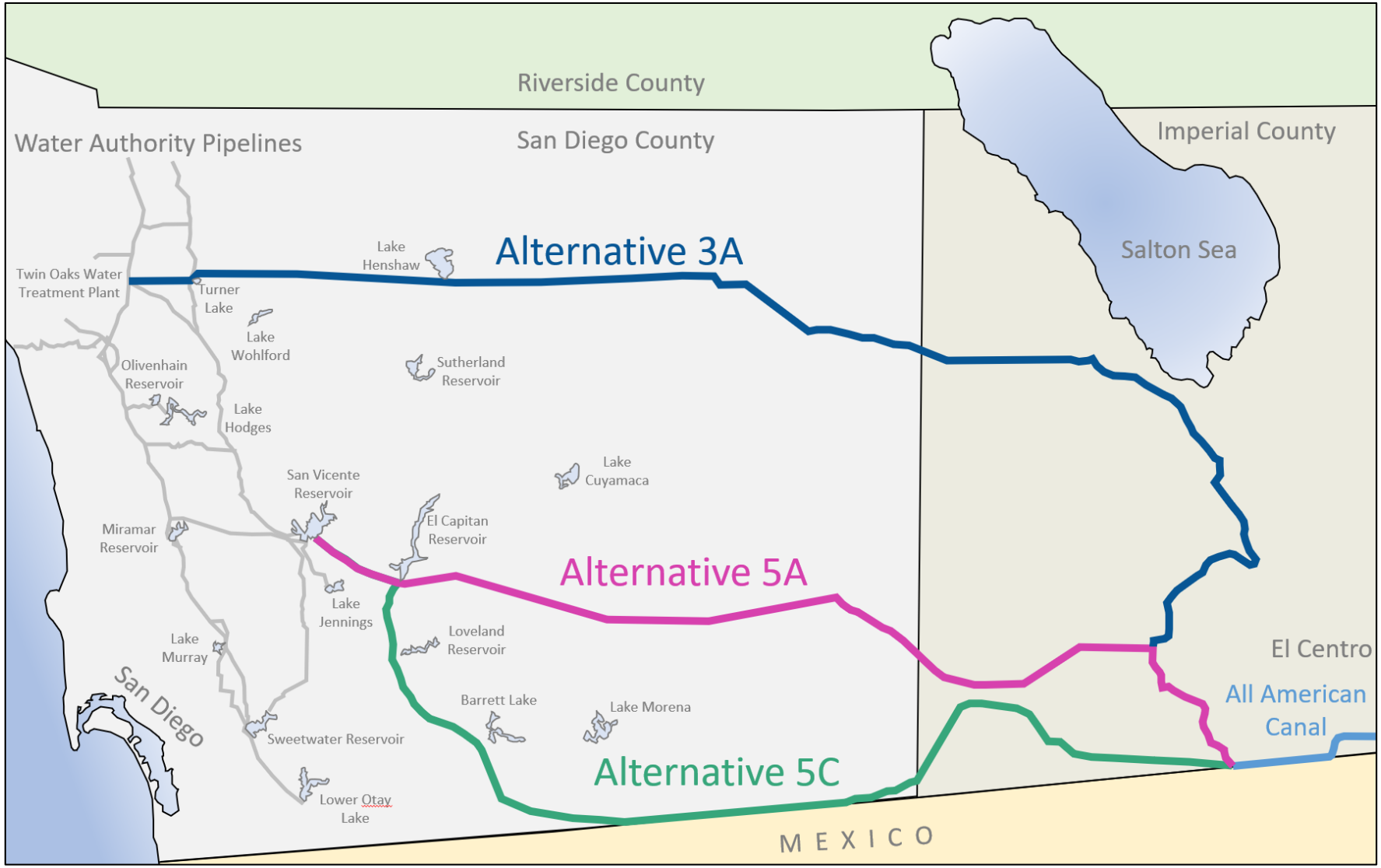
RCS Study Update

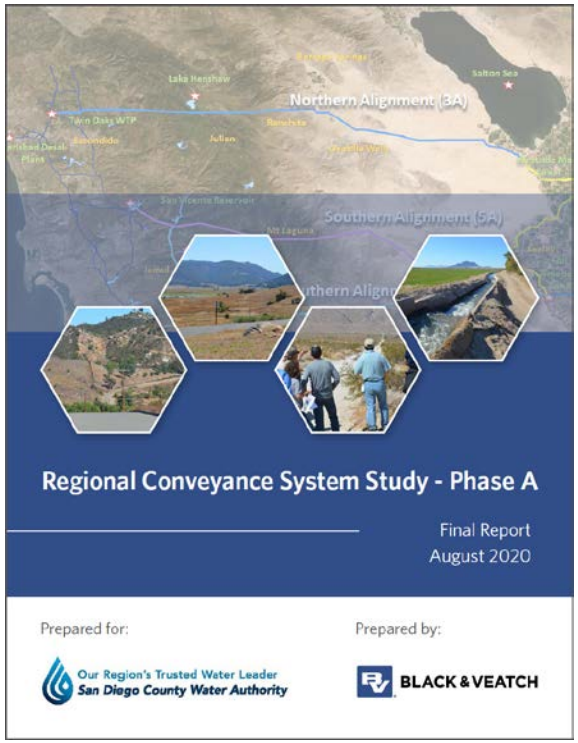
Three Routes Studied in Phase A



Phase A Objectives

- Evaluate conceptual routes – in feasibility study stage, nothing designed - great deal of flexibility
- Evaluates Feasibility of Alternative 3A – up to the same level as 5A and 5C, the two southern alternatives
- Fatal Flaws – Determine any technical or financial fatal flaws. Others to be examined during CEQA later
- Screening – Screen three alignments down to two
- Identifies Potential Partnerships – Perform high-level assessment of potential partnership opportunities that could bring regional benefits
  - Partnerships not included in baseline cost assessment

Phase A Findings



- ☑ QSA water needed
- ☑ 3A, 5A & 5C technically viable
- ☑ 3A & 5A economically competitive
- ☑ Can be integrated into Water Authority system
- ☑ Several potential partnerships

Alternative 3A – Key Facilities Needed

47 Miles of Canal

39 Miles of Buried Pipelines

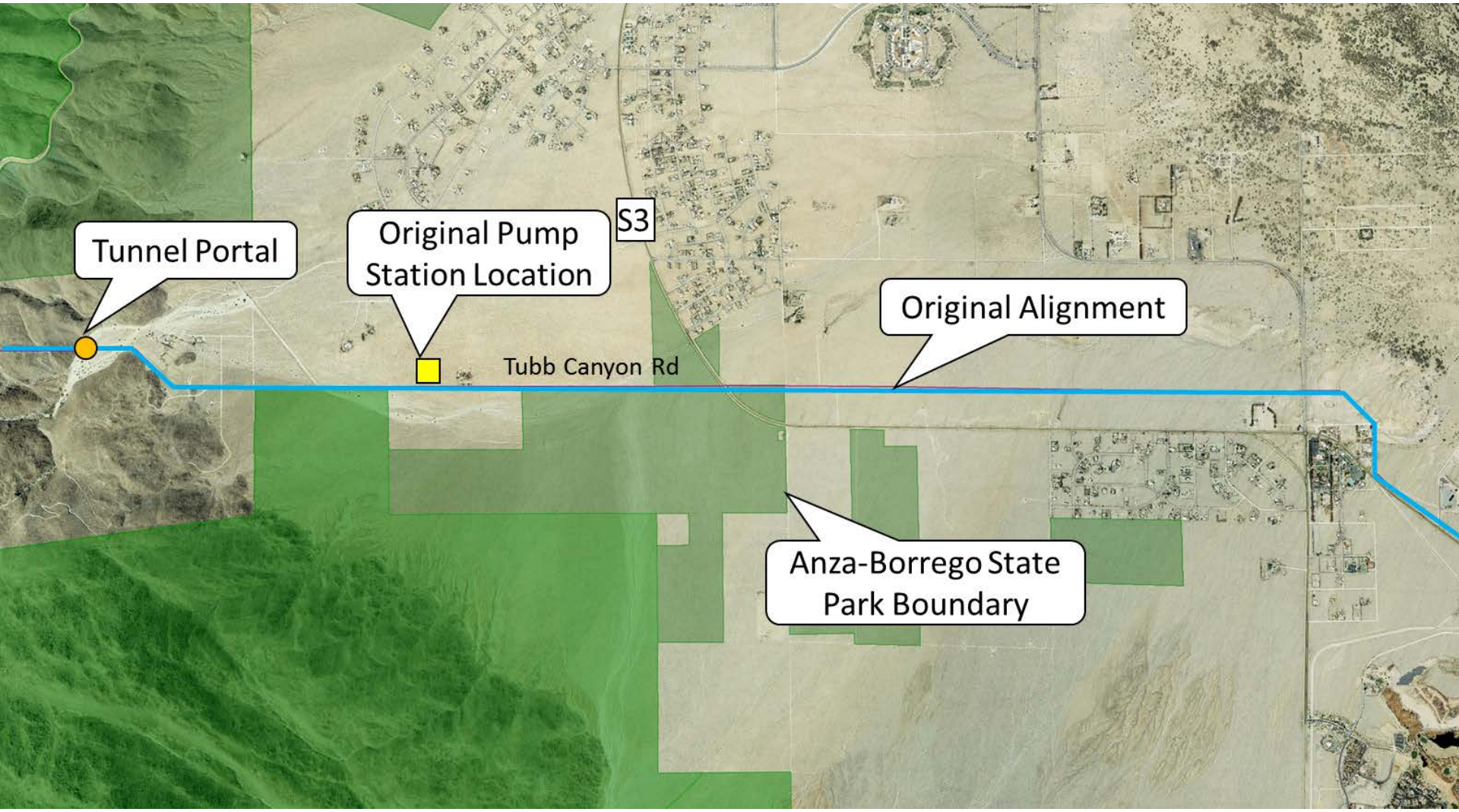
3 Pump Stations

47 Miles of Tunnels

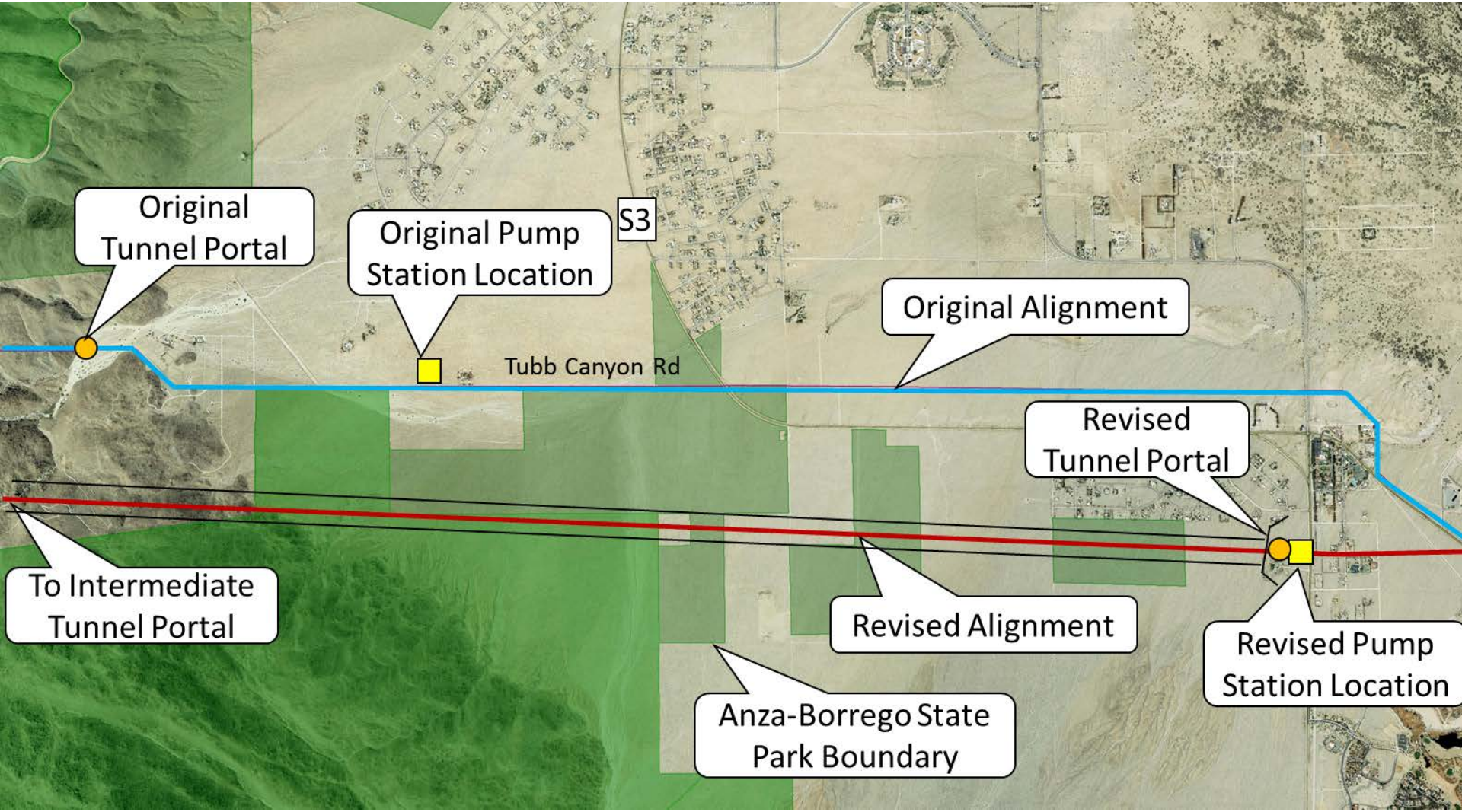
Treatment Plant

Surface Storage

Alternative 3A – Borrego Springs Area (Base)



Alternative 3A – Borrego Springs Area (Option)



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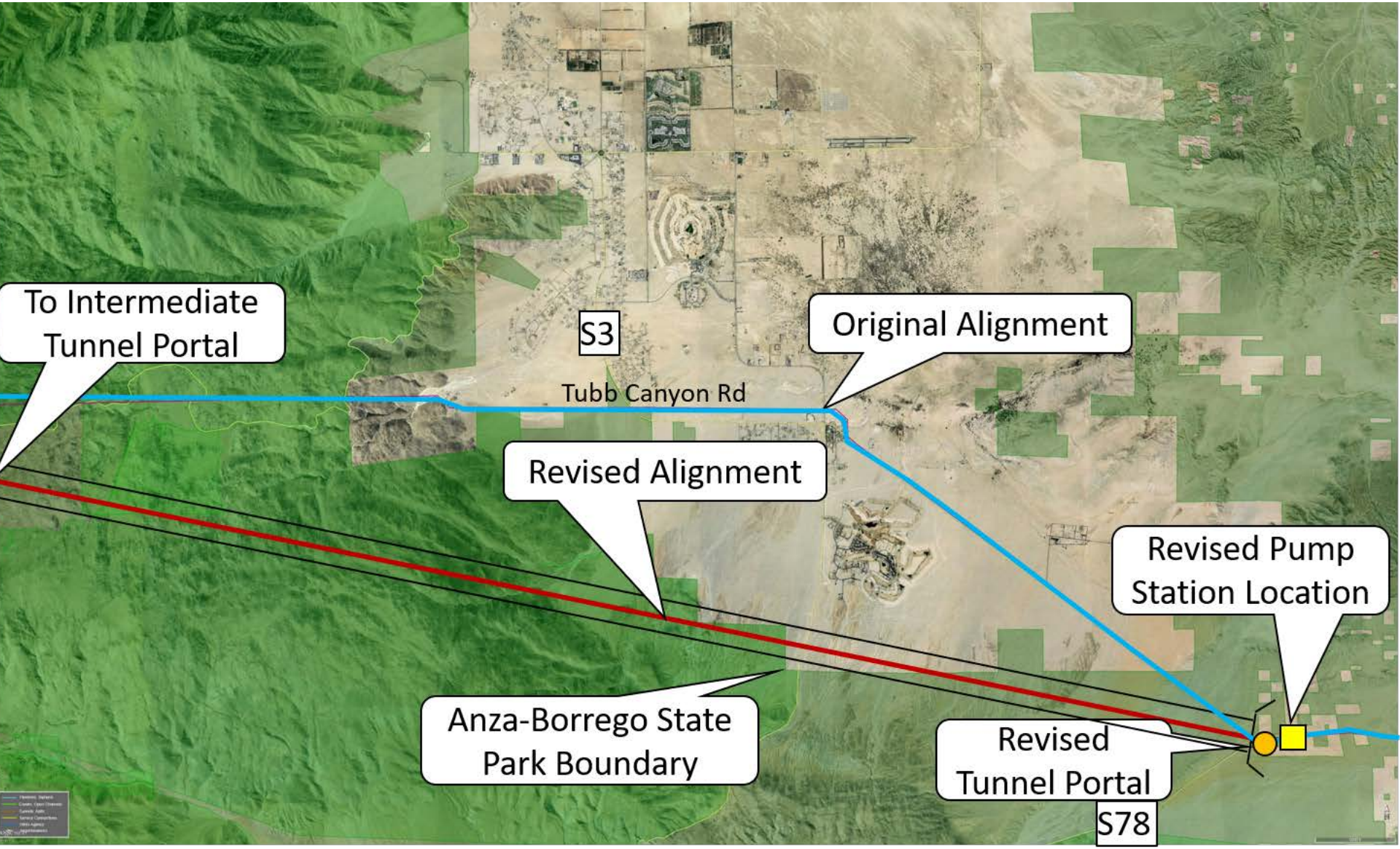


Tunnels

Considerations

- Construction activities (Material excavation, groundwater)
- Costs (Capital, OM&R)
- Environmental (focus on construction)

Alternative 3A – Potential Partnerships

- Identification – High level only "*in the neighborhood*"
- Borrego Springs – Potential Conduit for Water
  - Third Party – Not QSA Water
  - Sizing – Could provide similar to over-draught of 20,000 AF
  - No Aquifer Storage Considered in RCS Study, Phase A
    - Not economically attractive
    - Sufficient storage available in San Diego County for QSA

Environmental Concerns - ABDSP

- *No* Preferred Alternative has been selected

- RCS Study, Phase A
  - Only obvious environmental fatal flaws assessed.
  - Outlined the environmental process

- Environmental Constraints Analysis – Future phases

- CEQA/NEPA
  - Future phases
  - Will be final authority on fatal flaws

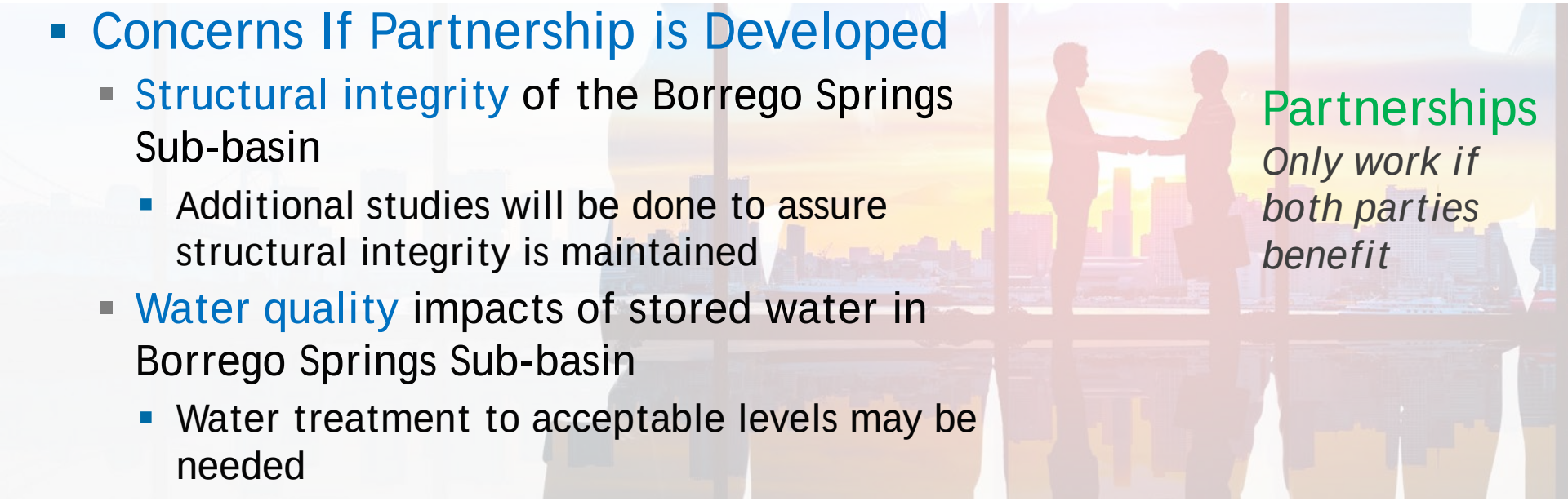
3A - Borrego Concerns and Responses

- Impact to ABDSP, Cultural Resources, *Bighorn Sheep*
- Tunneling impacts on groundwater, surface streams, and wildlife
- Tunneling debris transportation
- Impact to Geo-tourism, temporary construction and long term
  - Mitigation measures can be implemented to reduce impact

CEQA/NEPA will be carefully followed in future phases if project moves forward

3A - Borrego Concerns and Responses

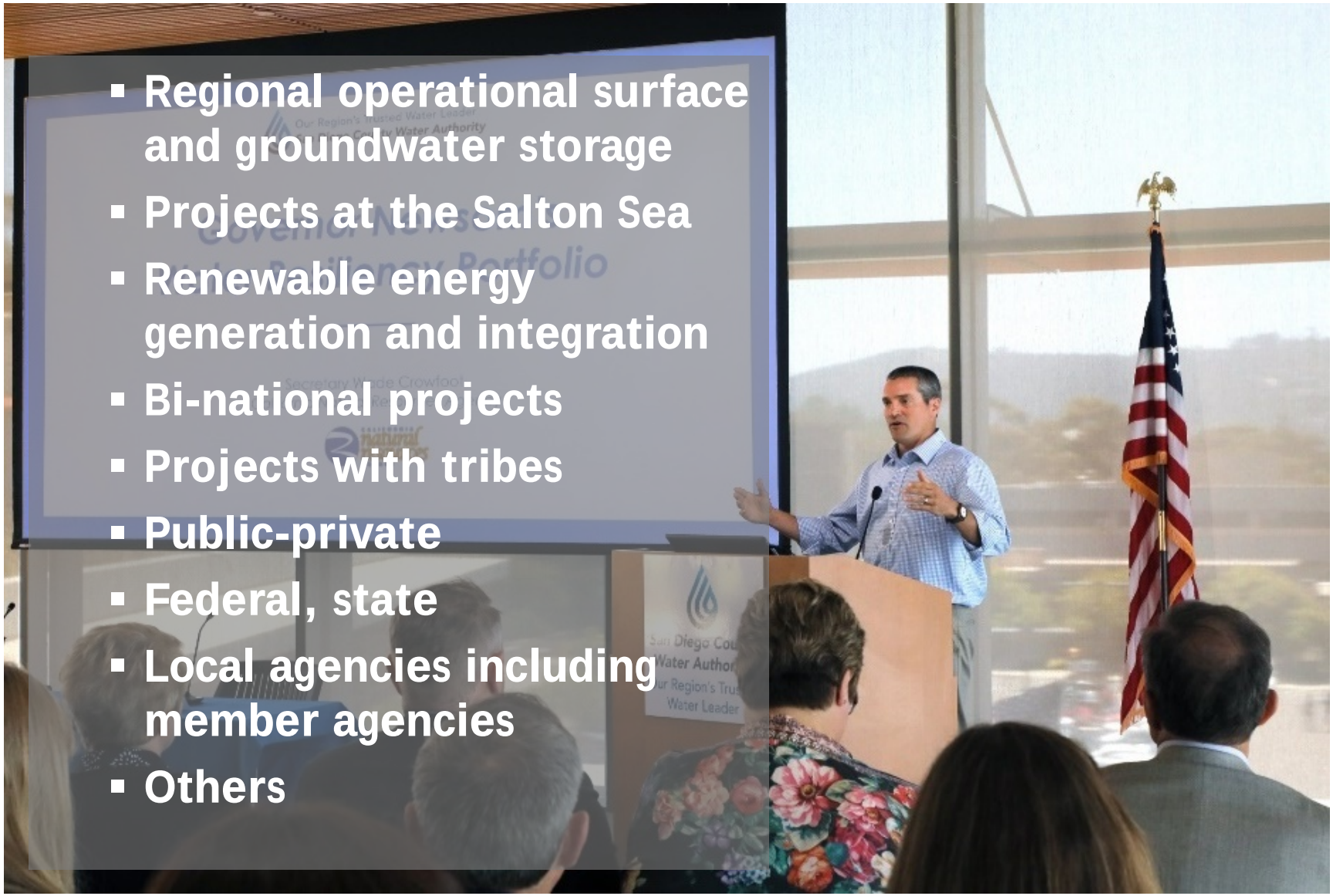
- Concerns If Partnership is Developed
  - Structural integrity of the Borrego Springs Sub-basin
    - Additional studies will be done to assure structural integrity is maintained
  - Water quality impacts of stored water in Borrego Springs Sub-basin
    - Water treatment to acceptable levels may be needed
- Tunnel Crossing Active Faults
  - Special considerations would be made to mitigate potential impacts, if project moves forward
- No outreach has been done in Borrego
  - Part of Phase B scope, if authorized



Partnerships

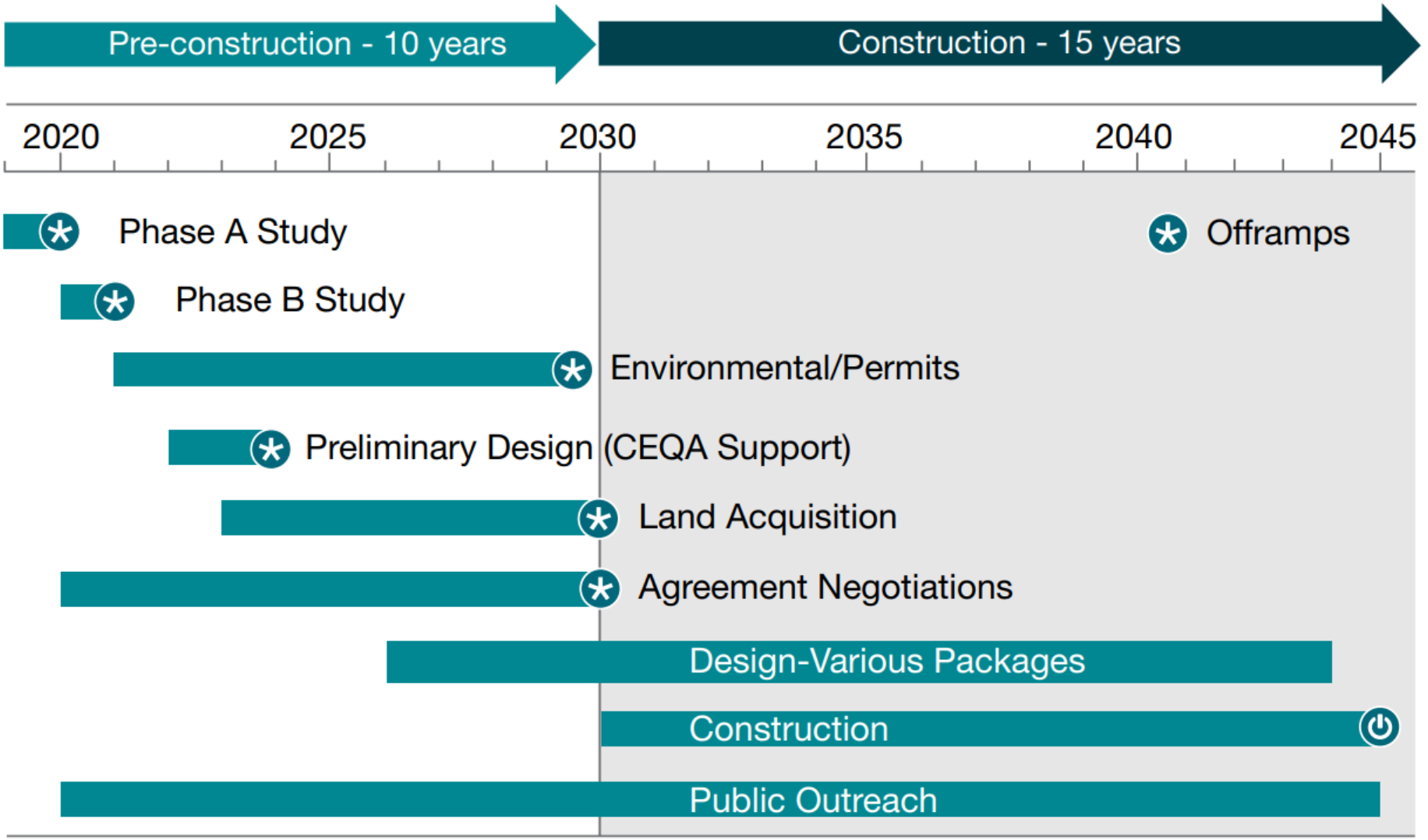
Only work if both parties benefit

Potential Partnerships for Water Resiliency



- Regional operational surface and groundwater storage
- Projects at the Salton Sea
- Renewable energy generation and integration
- Bi-national projects
- Projects with tribes
- Public-private
- Federal, state
- Local agencies including member agencies
- Others

Timeline


Pre-construction - 10 years
Construction - 15 years
2020
2025
2030
2035
2040
2045
Phase A Study
Offramps
Phase B Study
Environmental/Permits
Preliminary Design (CEQA Support)
Land Acquisition
Agreement Negotiations
Design-Various Packages
Construction
Public Outreach

Next Steps

- November 19 Water Authority Board Action on Phase B
- Phase B focus – stakeholder outreach, dialogue with potential partners, economic analysis

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Borrego Input

Francoise Rhodes, Executive Director

Borrego Springs

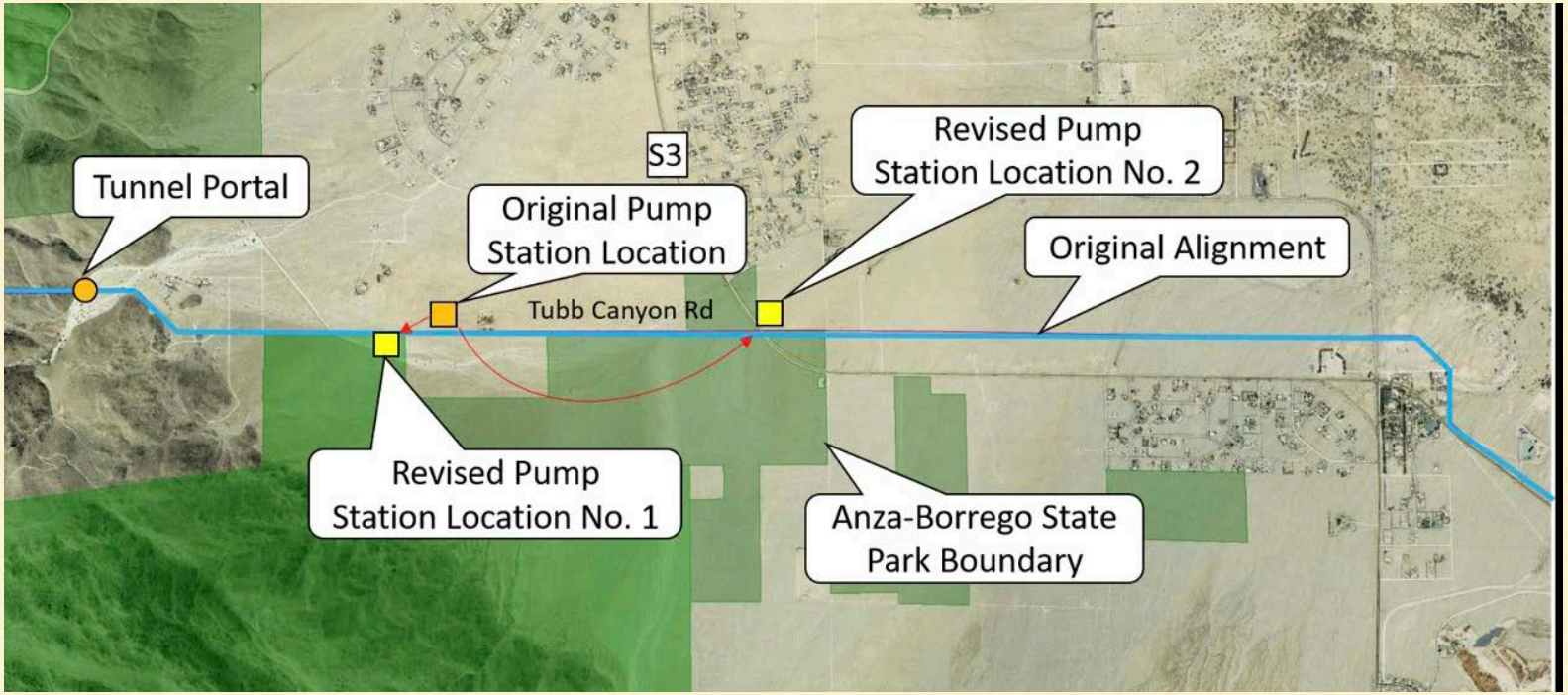
BORREGO SPRINGS & PROPOSED RCS

J. David Garmon, M.D.
President, Tubb Canyon Desert Conservancy

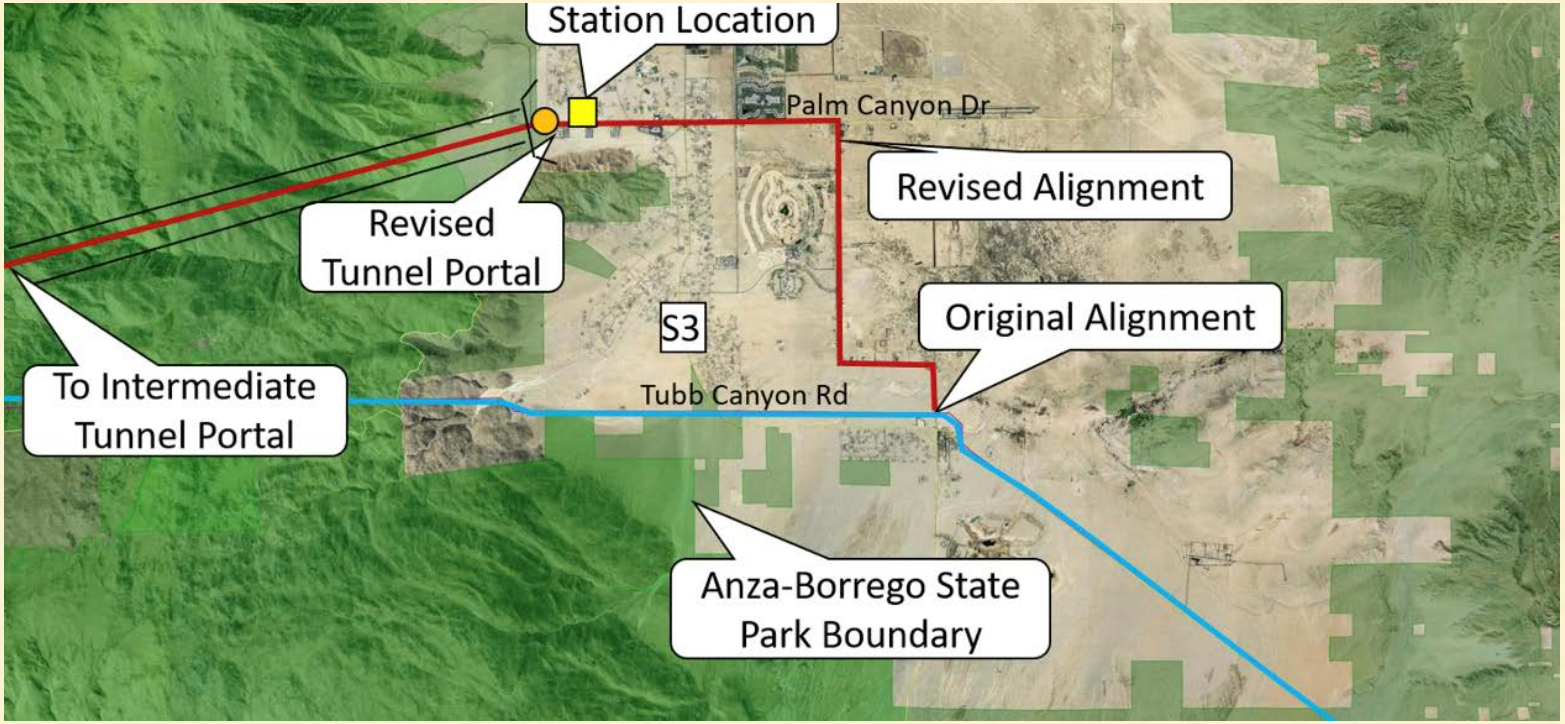
3A - NORTHERN ALIGNMENT

PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION TO …

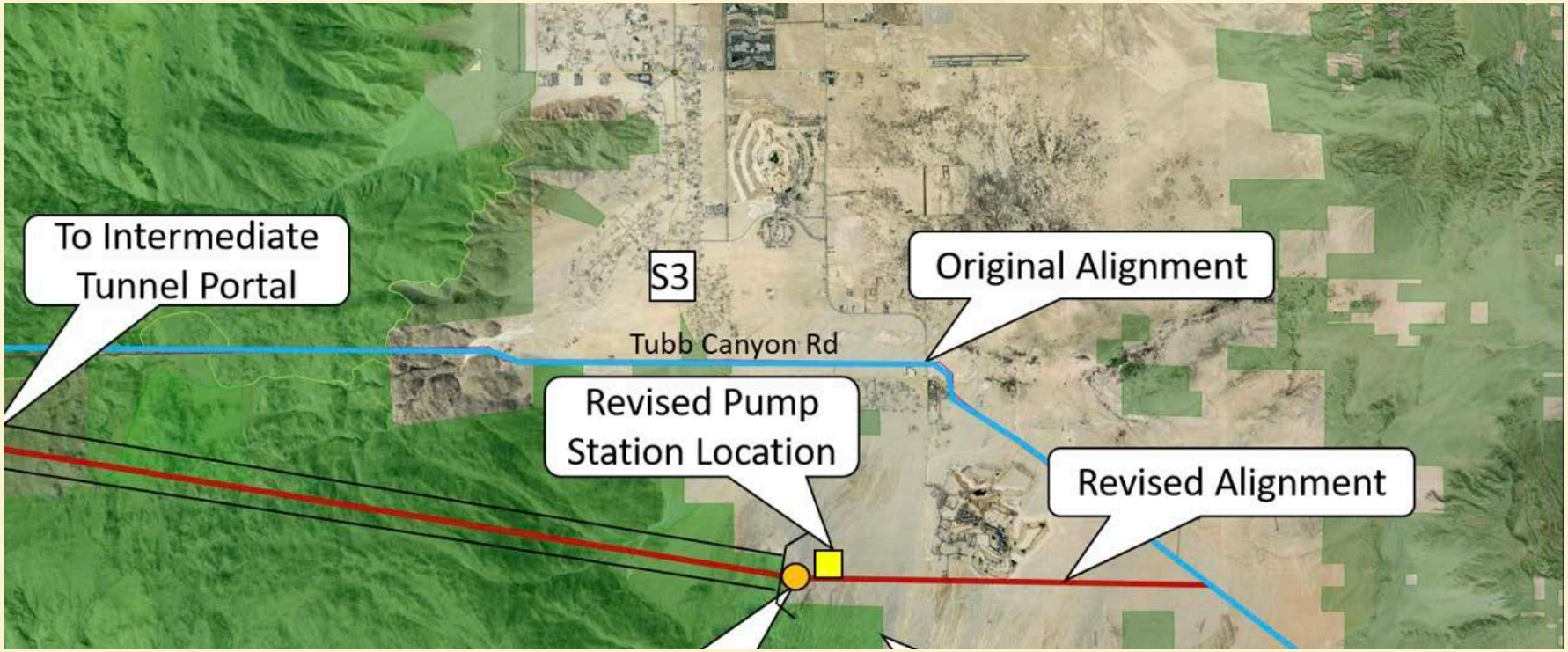
- Tubb Canyon?
- Up Palm Canyon Drive to the State Park Visitor Center?
- Glorietta Canyon?
- Between Rams Hill and Casa del Zorro?



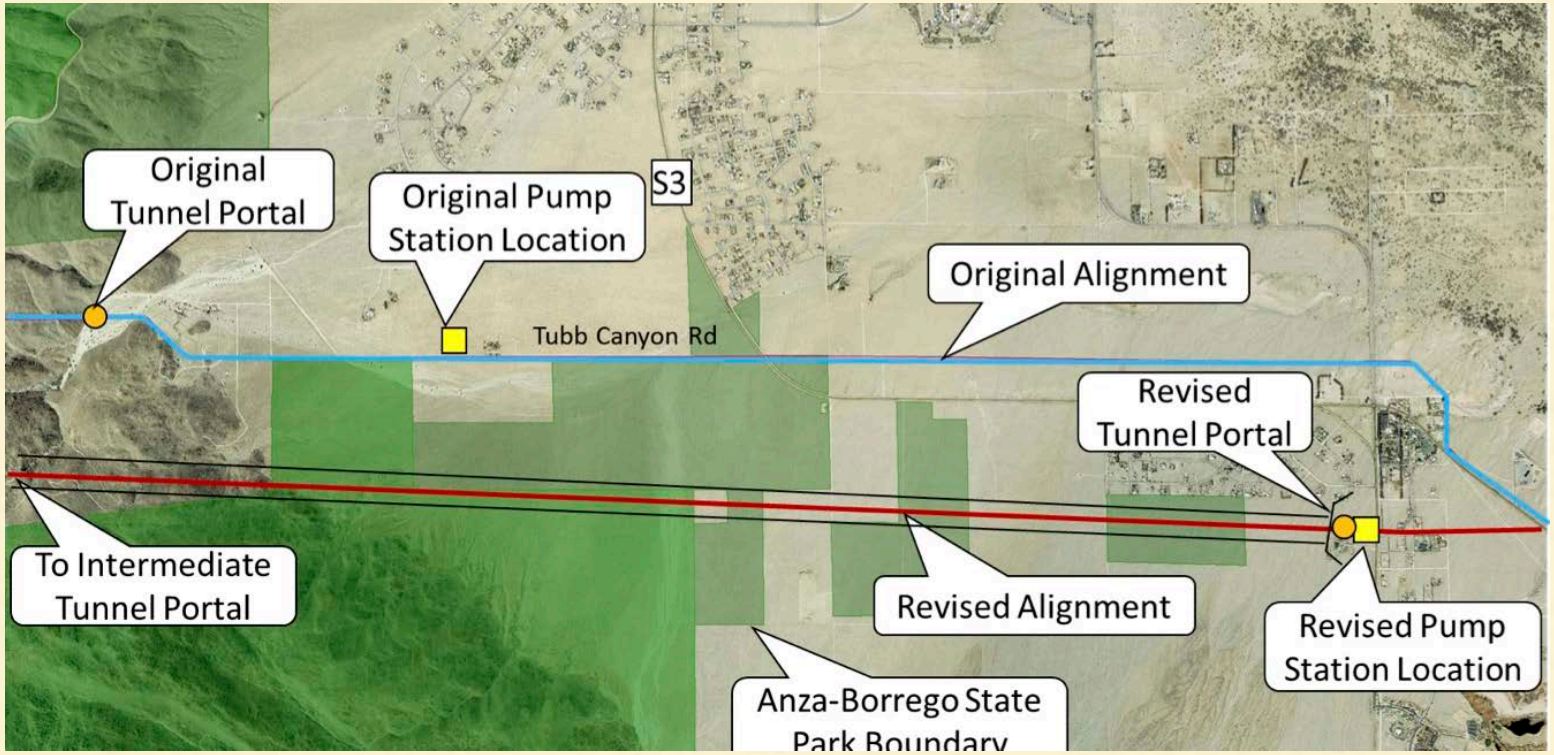
RCS TO TUBB CANYON



RCS TO PALM CANYON



RCS TO GLORIETTA CANYON



RCS TO RAMS HILL

PUMPING STATION (P3) FOR BORREGO

- 10 Acre Site
- Electrical Substation
- 4 Acre Forebay
- 4 12,500 Horsepower Engines
- Running Day and Night

NEW 230KV POWERLINE THROUGH THE ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK

ROUTE 3A BENEFITS FOR BORREGO IRRIGATORS

- to provide a conduit to Borrego Springs from the Colorado River
- 20,000 acre-feet per year capacity turnout for Borrego Springs
- to use the water directly for either non-potable uses, or to send to new treatment facilities

ROUTE 3A COSTS TO BORREGO IRRIGATORS

- millions of $$ in annual charges for 20,000 acre-feet of Colorado River water
- multimillions of $$ for capital costs to transport Colorado River water from the turnout for conjunctive use with existing Subbasin plumbing system
- or multimillions in $$ for capital costs to transport Colorado River water for direct use by irrigators
- hundreds of thousands of $$ in annual O&M expenses for either transport option

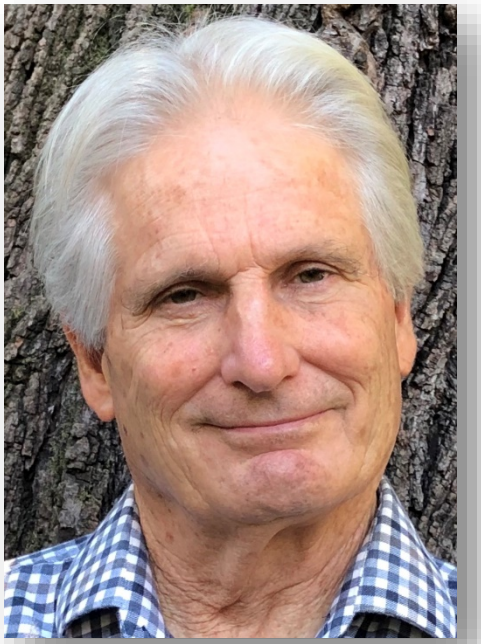
ROUTE 3A EXTERNALITIES & DOWNSIDES

- many-years construction process and noise negatively impacts Borrego as a quiet desert resort destination
- large water use for construction process to reduce air quality degradation from blowing dust
- potential pollution of Subbasin groundwater
- potential for compromising Subbasin structural integrity depending on amount of storage and timing of withdrawals
- bifurcation of ABDSP assumed as a free $$ resource

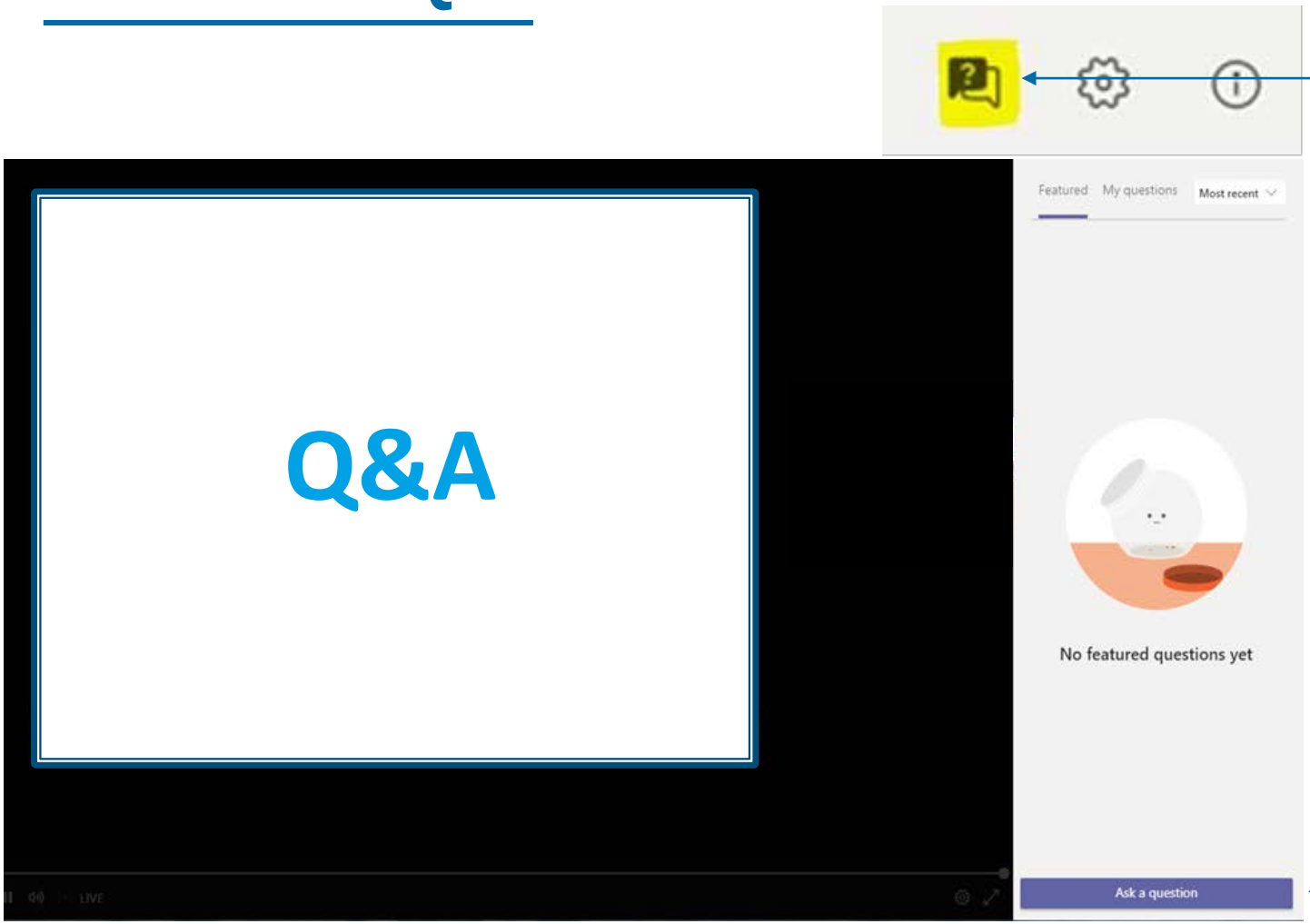

BORREGO FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

- Dick Troy, board president, Anza-Borrego Foundation

ANZA BORREGO FOUNDATION



Live Event Q&A



Click the question mark icon at the top right of your screen

Click here to submit a question

Include your name and affiliation with questions.

You can also email questions to sdcwa@sdcwa.org .