State Water Resources Control Board

December 2, 2025

Kendra Reif
City of Coachella
53990 Enterprise Way
Coachella, CA 92236

CITY OF COACHELLA (CITY), ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR THE KPC COACHELLA SPECIFIC PLAN EIR (PROJECT), STATE CLEARINGHOUSE # 2022110295

Dear Ms. Kendra Reif:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the EIR for the proposed Project. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Drinking Water (DDW), issues domestic water supply permits under the Safe Drinking Water Act. This Project falls under DDW's Riverside District jurisdiction. The Riverside District issues permit amendments according to the Title 22 California Code of Regulations (Cal. Code Regs.) chapter 16. Public water systems need a permit amendment for modification of the water supply including new sources, new reservoirs with 100,000-gallon capacity or greater, service area expansions of twenty percent or more, and treatment design capacity or process changes as per Cal. Code Regs. § 64556.

The State Water Board, DDW, as a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has the following comments on the EIR:

- The Project proposes between four and six new domestic water wells and up to three new reservoirs to serve the development that will be operated by the Coachella Water Authority (CWA). The operation of these facilities requires a domestic water supply permit amendment. Under Table 3-5 Agency Approvals for the Proposed Project, please add “State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water” under “Agency” and “domestic water supply permit amendment” under “Approval/Permit.”
- In the Utilities and Services Section, please discuss and/or reference the reservoir plans, as described and mapped in the Domestic Water System Study (Appendix K, PDF pages 487-618). Please also indicate if the Project reservoirs will meet the definition of a distribution reservoir per Cal. Code Regs. § 64551.10.
- The tables in the Water Supply Assessment (WSA), located in Appendix K1, are based on data from the 2020 Regional Urban Water Management Plan

(RUWMP). The RUWMP uses a growth estimate of three people per household. However, the City's General Plan estimates four people per household. Please clarify whether the growth estimates from the RUWMP were used to calculate CWA's water demand, and if the demand estimates are accurate or if the City's General Plan might provide a more realistic growth projection.

Once the CEQA process is completed, please forward the following items in support of CWA's permit application to the State Water Board, DDW Riverside District at DWPDIST20@waterboards.ca.gov:

- The EIR and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP);
- The Resolution or Board Minutes certifying the EIR, adopting the MMRP, and approving the Project; and
- The Notice of Determination filed at the County Clerk's Office and the State Clearinghouse.

Please contact Lori Schmitz of the State Water Board at (916) 449-5285 or Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov, for questions regarding this comment letter.

Sincerely,

Lori Schmitz Digitally signed by Lori Schmitz Date: 2025.12.02 08:44:17 -08'00'

Lori Schmitz
Environmental Scientist
Division of Financial Assistance
Special Project Review Unit
1001 I Street, 16th floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cc:

State Clearinghouse

Chun Huang
District Engineer
Riverside District

Manuel Delgado
Water Resource Control Engineer
Riverside District