

State Water Resources Control Board

April 11, 2023

Mr. John Tillotson
Olivehurst Public Utility District
P.O. Box 670
Olivehurst, CA 95961



Dear Mr. John Tillotson:

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND) FOR THE OLIVEHURST PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT (DISTRICT) SOUTH COUNTY SERVICE AREA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (PROJECT); STATE CLEARINGHOUSE #2023030233

DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY PERMIT AMMENDMENT

Thank you for the opportunity to review the MND for the proposed Project. The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (State Water Board, DDW) is responsible for issuing water supply permits pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Project is within the jurisdiction of the State Water Board DDW's Valley District. The DDW Valley issues domestic water supply permit amendments to public water systems serviced with a new or modified source of domestic water supply or new domestic water system components pursuant to Waterworks Standards (Title 22 CCR chapter 16 et. seq.). A public water system requires a new water supply permit amendment for changes to a water supply source, storage, or treatment and for the operation of new water system components including new distribution tanks equal to or over 100,000 gallons, new wells, and treatment systems. The District will need to apply for a water supply permit amendment for this Project.

FUNDING

We understand that the District is pursuing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) financing for this Project (CWSRF No. C-06-8647-110). As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Board is providing the following water quality comments on the IS/MND.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the CWSRF Program (Program). The primary purpose for the Program is to implement the Clean Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for wastewater treatment facilities necessary to prevent water pollution,

recycle water, correct nonpoint source and storm drainage pollution problems, and provide for estuary enhancement.

All applicants seeking funding must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and provide appropriate documents to the State Water Board so that it can fulfill its CEQA responsibilities, see [CEQA Requirements](#). In addition, because the Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) additional federal environmental documentation (cross-cutters) may be required. For additional Program information, the complete environmental application package and instructions, please visit:

[Clean Water State Revolving Fund Forms and Instructions](#)

Following are specific comments on the District's draft MND:

- The District is adding new infrastructure to their existing drinking water system. Under Section 3. Required Approvals, please add "An amended water supply permit: As a responsible agency under CEQA, an approval action by the State Board for a portion of the South County Infrastructure project will consist of approving a water supply amendment to add a new well (Well 35), and a 1-million gallon water storage reservoir, and possibly, a water treatment system, to the District's existing water system to bring the water to California Safe Drinking Water Act standards."
- The Project falls within the Sacramento Valley-South Yuba groundwater basin (5-021.61), a high priority basin. Please discuss what impacts maximum production at the water plant would have on the groundwater basin.
 - As part of this discussion, please indicate if the Project will have sufficient water supplies to serve current development and development based on the Yuba County 2030 General Plan approved land uses for the reasonably foreseeable future during normal, dry, and multiple dry years.
 - Please discuss the total current water demand per year that is needed from the proposed water plant and the future maximum demand that may be needed based on the currently approved land uses laid out in the General Plan. Is the demand for future water based on current Yuba County 2030 General Plan approved land-uses more than the proposed water capacity of the new water plant?

If an application for funding will be submitted, please upload to Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool the following applicable documents for the proposed Project, according to the District's CEQA process: (1) one copy of the draft and final MND with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), (2) the resolution adopting the MND and MMRP, (3) all comments received during the review period and the District's response to those comments, and (4) the Notice of Determination filed with the Yuba County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings

held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board.

If funding will not be pursued, please forward the above requested documents with your permit amendment application to the State Water Board, DDW Valley District Office at DWPRedding@waterboards.ca.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to review the District's draft MND. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (916) 449-5285, or by email at Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov or contact Mr. Brian Cary at (916) 449-5624, or by email at Brian.Cary@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

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

cc: State Clearinghouse
(SCH# 2023030233)

Brian Cary, Division of Financial Assistance
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