

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS
2720 GATEWAY OAKS DRIVE, SUITE 300
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-3500



September 18, 2025

Ms. Natalie Lopez, Planner
County of Kern
2700 M Street, Suite 250
Bakersfield, California 93301

Rodriguez Park Retention Basin Enlargement Project
SCH# 2025090437
Kern County

Dear Ms. Lopez:

The Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) has reviewed the Environmental Assessment Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects for the County of Kern's Rodriguez Park Multi-Purpose Field and Retention Basin Improvements Project, submitted by the County of Kern (County), which described the proposed project that includes the expansion of an existing retention basin.

As defined in sections 6002 and 6003, Division 3, of the California Water Code, dams 25 feet or higher with a storage capacity of more than 15 acre-feet, and dams higher than 6 feet with a storage capacity of 50 acre-feet or more are subject to State jurisdiction. The dam height is the vertical distance measured from the maximum possible water storage level to the downstream toe of the barrier.

Insufficient information is provided in the environmental assessment to make an accurate jurisdictional determination with regards to the proposed construction work related to the basin. The County needs to submit design drawings for the proposed enlargement of the existing basin so that DSOD can make a jurisdictional determination.

If the proposed work is subject to State jurisdiction, an alteration application, together with plans, specifications, and the appropriate filing fee must be filed with DSOD for this project. All dam safety related issues must be resolved prior to approval of the application, and the work must be performed under the direction of a Civil Engineer registered in California. Melissa Pi, our Acting Design Engineering Branch Manager, is responsible for the application process and can be reached at (916) 820-7788.

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If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Area Engineer William Vogler at (916) 565-7828 or me at (916) 565-7827.

Sincerely,

Brandon Cruz

Brandon Cruz, P.E., Regional Engineer
Southern Region
Field Engineering Branch
Division of Safety of Dams

cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
state.clearinghouse@lci.ca.gov