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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AN INITIAL STUDY

Date: February 23, 2026

To: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Notice of Availability of an Initial Study for the Red Hill Bay BACM Project

The Imperial Irrigation District (IID) prepared an Initial Study for the Red Hill Bay Best Available Control Measure (BACM) Project. Based on the information contained in the Initial Study, IID intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). IID is the CEQA Lead Agency for the Project.

Project Description: The objective of the Red Hill Bay BACM Project is to control dust emissions on IID-owned lands at Red Hill Bay adjacent to the Salton Sea in compliance with the Stipulated Order for Abatement (May 2, 2022) between IID and Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (ICAPCD). BACM are defined by ICAPCD Regulation VIII, Fugitive Dust Rules. Rule 804 identifies four individual dust control measures accepted as BACM for fugitive dust on open areas, including F.1.c – Pave, apply and maintain Gravel, or apply and maintain Chemical Stabilizers/Suppressants.

The Project would reduce dust emissions by applying a commercially available chemical stabilization product (Soiltac®) to protect the surface from wind erosion. Stabilizer application would be via water truck or hose reel and irrigation boom. Temporary resource protection berms would be installed to protect onsite ditches and wetlands from construction of the dust control project; application of soil stabilizer would not occur within 300 feet of existing vegetated wetlands and ditches. The Project also includes graded access routes and improvement of an existing on-site access road (Figure 1).

Project Location: The 584-acre Project site is located on IID-owned property adjacent to Red Hill Park on the Salton Sea playa near Calipatria in Imperial County, California. The property is located in the southern half of Section 22 of Township 11 South, Range 13 East and the northern half of Section 27 of Township 11 South, Range 13 East, San Bernardino Base and Meridian, as depicted on the 2021 U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Niland 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

Environmental Effects: The Initial Study describes potentially significant impacts of the proposed Project on biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geology and soils, and transportation and traffic. Mitigation measures have been defined to reduce impacts to less than

significant levels. Other effects found to be less than significant are also described in the Initial Study.

Hazardous Waste Disclosure: Per Section 15087 (c)(6) of the CEQA Guidelines, the proposed Project is not on any of the lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

Public Review of the Initial Study: The public review period commences on February 25, 2026 and concludes on March 27, 2026 at 5:00 pm. A copy of the Initial Study is posted at <https://www.iid.com/about-iid/environmental-documents-available-for-public-review>

A copy of the Initial Study is also available for review during normal business hours at IID offices at 420 E Barioni Boulevard, Imperial, California 92251.


Public Comments: During the public review period, written comments concerning the content of the Initial Study may be submitted. Comments must be submitted by March 27, 2026. Please submit your comments to the following address:

Imperial Irrigation District
P.O. Box 937
333 E Barioni Boulevard
Imperial, California 92251
Attn: Jessica Humes, Supervisor, Environmental Compliance
Email: environmental@iid.com
d: (760) 339-9703 c: (760) 427-6190

It is anticipated that the IID Board will consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 5, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at the William R. Condit Auditorium, 1285 Broadway, El Centro, CA 92243. Confirmation of the meeting agenda can be found at:

<https://www.iid.com/about-iid/board-meeting-documents>

If you require additional information or special accommodation, please contact Ms. Humes.

Signature:  **Humes, Jessica**
Digitally signed by Humes, Jessica
Date: 2026.02.23 10:08:06 -08'00'

Jessica Humes
Supervisor, Environmental Compliance