



Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

To: Public Agencies, Interested Parties, and Sonoma County Clerk

Project: Application for 5-Year Temporary Water Rights Permit

Lead Agency: Town of Windsor, 9291 Old Redwood Highway, Building 400
Windsor, CA 95492

Contact: Elizabeth Cargay, Environmental Program Manager, Town of Windsor
Tel: (707) 838-5385; E: ecargay@townofwindsor.ca.gov

Review Period: April 3, 2026 to May 4, 2026

The Town of Windsor has prepared this notice to inform agencies and interested parties that it is releasing an Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/Proposed MND) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for its application for a 5-Year Temporary Water Rights Permit.

Project Description and Location

The Town is applying to the State Water Resources Control Board for authorization to divert up to 200 acre-feet per year of alluvial groundwater underflow from the Russian River during high-flow periods between December 1 and April 30 in calendar years 2027 through 2031. Diversions would occur at a maximum rate of 1 cubic foot per second using the Town's existing Russian River wells. The diverted water would be conveyed through the Town's existing distribution system, treated, and stored in an underground aquifer as part of a previously approved Aquifer Storage and Recovery pilot test. The water diversion would rely entirely on existing infrastructure and would not involve ground disturbance, excavation, or new construction. The project site is not listed on any hazardous waste site pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

Providing Comments

A 30-day public review period will be open from April 3 through May 4, 2026. The IS/Proposed MND will be available for public review online at the Town of Windsor's website at: <https://www.townofwindsor.ca.gov/626/Public-Hearing-Notices-Misc-Information>.

The IS/Proposed MND will also be available for in-person review during normal business hours at Windsor Town Hall, 9291 Old Redwood Highway, Building 400, Windsor, California.

Written comments on the IS/Proposed MND must be submitted by 5:00 PM on May 4, 2026, and may be emailed to Elizabeth Cargay at ecargay@townofwindsor.ca.gov. Following the close of the public review period, the Town Council will consider adoption of the IS/Proposed MND at a public meeting tentatively scheduled for May 20, 2026. Interested parties are encouraged to visit the Town's website to confirm the meeting date, time, and location at <https://www.townofwindsor.ca.gov/721/Agendas-Minutes-Videos>.