

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Driscoll Well and Pump Station Project

Lead Agency: Aromas Water District

Contact Name: Robert Johnson

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Project Location: Aromas, San Benito County

City

County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The approximately 1.8-acre project site is located northeast of the Carpenteria Road and Quarry Road intersection, immediately north of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, on Assessor's Parcel Number 0113900110 in unincorporated San Benito County. The proposed project consists of construction and operation of a new municipal water supply well, pump station, water treatment system, solar photovoltaic system, and associated infrastructure on the southern portion of the site. The remaining northern portion of the site would be fenced and not developed. The project also includes installation of an approximately 730-foot-long underground 8-inch water pipeline within the Carpenteria Road right-of-way, crossing beneath the Union Pacific Railroad tracks to connect to the District's existing water distribution system on Marshall Lane. The purpose of the project is to supplement the current potable water system capacity and provide redundancy for the District's production and distribution infrastructure. This will enhance the District's ability to reliably serve existing users. The well is intended to provide system redundancy to meet existing water demands, improve drought resilience, and is not intended to support new growth or expanded service capacity.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The project would permanently convert the southern portion of the project site from Prime Farmland to non-agricultural use. However, with implementation of Mitigation Measure AG-1, the District would secure a permanent agricultural conservation easement over the northern 1 acre of the project site, and the impact would be less than significant. The project would have potential impacts to nesting birds due to construction activities if work occurs during the nesting bird season (from February 1 to September 1). However, with implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1, pre-construction surveys for nesting birds and raptors would be conducted within 500 feet of the project site, and necessary protection measures would be implemented as necessary to mitigate any potential impact, such as take of a nest, to a less than significant level. In addition, the project could result in unanticipated discovery of and potential impact to unknown buried cultural, Tribal Cultural Resources, or paleontological resources, during excavation associated with construction. Implementation of Mitigation Measures CUL-1 and GEO-1 requires worker awareness training and stop work order in case of discovery, as well as evaluation and appropriate treatment of the find. This would reduce this impact to a less than significant level. The project could result in excessive noise during pipeline construction. However, the impact would be less than significant with implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-1, which would implement noise-reducing measures for construction equipment.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

N/A

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

N/A