
State Water Resources Control Board

September 23, 2026

Mr. David Vong
City of Fairfield
1000 Webster Street
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Mr. David Vong:

INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD (LEAD AGENCY); NORTH BAY REGIONAL WATER TREATMENT PLANT, FAIRFIELD-VACAVILLE WATER WORKS PROJECT (PROJECT); SOLANO COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO 2026080694.

DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY PERMIT AMENDMENT

Thank you for the opportunity to review the IS/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. This Project is within the jurisdiction of DDW Marin District 25. DDW Marin District 25 issues domestic water supply permit amendments to the public water systems serviced with a new or modified source of domestic water or new domestic water system components pursuant to Waterworks Standards (Title 22 California Code of Regulations [Cal. Code Regs.] chapter 16 et. seq.). If a project proposes to create a new public water system, that system requires a domestic water supply permit to operate. If a project involves certain changes to an existing permitted water system, a water supply permit amendment is required for changes to a domestic water supply source, storage, or treatment and for the operation of new water system components- as specified in the Cal. Code Regs. § 64556. The City of Fairfield and the City of Vacaville will need to apply for a water supply permit amendment for the addition or change in treatment design capacity or process.

FUNDING

We understand that the City of Fairfield is also pursuing Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) financing for this Project. The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the DWSRF Program (Program). The primary purpose for the Program is to implement the Safe Drinking Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for drinking facilities improvements to provide clean potable drinking water, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

All applicants seeking financing must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and provide the appropriate environmental documents to the State Water Resource Control 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, additional federal environmental documentation (cross-cutters) may be required. For additional Program information, the complete environmental package and instructions, please visit: [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Forms and Instructions](#).

Following are the State Water Resources Control Board's specific comments on the Lead's draft IS/MND:

- In Table 1.A and Table 2.A Potential Permits and Approvals, please add "The State Water Resources Control Board" as a responsible agency; with "the Division of Drinking Water" for a "domestic water supply permit" approval; and the "Division of Financial Assistance" for "possible funding" approval, as applicable.
- The Summary of Aquatic Features in the Review Area (Aquatic Resources Delineation Report, Table 5.B, PDF page 411) and the Land Cover Map (Biological Report, Figure 5, PDF page 426) include a larger study area of the Project. Please explain how the numbers in Table 4.4.B (PDF pages 115 and 603) were reduced from the numbers in the original study area to provide the final Project land cover impact numbers. Please also then discuss if these numbers include areas that will be temporarily as well as permanently impacted.
- When discussing if the Project will create a significant hazard to the public through the release of hazardous materials into the environment, the Project made a less than significant impact determination but also mentioned mitigations would reduce impacts to less than significant (PDF pages 184 and 185). If mitigation measures are needed, please specify the mitigations.

If an application for funding will be submitted, please upload to Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool the following applicable documents for the proposed Project: (1) one copy of the draft and final IS/MND, (2) the resolution adopting the IS/MND, (3) all comments received during the review period and the Lead's response to those comments, and (4) the Notice of Determination filed with the Solano County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, 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 Marin District 25 Office at DWPDIST25@waterboards.ca.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Lead Agency's draft IS/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 Mrs. Bridget Binning at (916) 449-5641, or by email at Bridget.Binning@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Lori Schmitz  Digitally signed by Lori Schmitz
Date: 2026.09.23 10:39:11 -07'00'
Water Boards

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

cc: State Clearinghouse

Bridget Binning, Division of Financial Assistance

Elena Joy M Pelen, Division of Drinking Water

Kam Kei Chen, Division of Drinking Water