## **NOTICE OF DETERMINATION**

| TO: | Santa Cruz County Clerk 701 Ocean Street, Room 520 Santa Cruz, CA 95060  FROM: Soquel Creek Water Dis 5180 Soquel Drive Soquel, CA 95073 (Lead Agency) |   | Soquel, CA 95073   |
|-----|--|---|--------------------|
|     |  |   | CLERK OF THE BOARD |
| TO: | Office of Planning and Research P. O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044   | MAY 0 8 2024  BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ |                    |

SUBJECT:

Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

| State Clearinghouse Number 2016112045 |  |  |
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|                                       |  |  |

Project Title: Adopt Resolution 24-07 to Reaffirm and Ratify, Pursuant to the Previously Certified Pure Water Soquel Environmental Impact Report and Previously Adopted Addenda, The Execution for Phase 3 Scope of Work with CH2M Hill Engineers, Inc., for the Long-Term Operation and Management of the Chanticleer Site Advanced Water Purification Facility

Project Applicant: Soquel Creek Water District

Specific Project Location – Identify street address and cross street or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 ½' topographical map identified by quadrangle name): 2505 Chanticleer Avenue, Santa Cruz, California, 95062, APN 029-013-54, located at the southwest corner of Chanticleer and Soquel Avenues in the City of Santa Cruz.

General Project Location (City and/or County): City of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County

Project Description:

2018 EIR

On December 18, 2018, the Soquel Creek Water District (District) certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR), adopted Findings of Fact (including a Statement of Overriding Considerations) and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), and approved the Pure Water Soquel: Groundwater Replenishment and Seawater Intrusion Prevention Project (PWS or Project). The Project will supplement natural recharge of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin with purified water, which will be produced from existing secondary effluent from the Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Facility (SC WWTF) and delivered to treatment facilities located in either the City of Santa Cruz or unincorporated Santa Cruz County. The EIR evaluated potential environmental impacts that could occur as a result of implementing the Project and/or alternatives and provided applicable mitigation to reduce the intensity of potential environmental impacts. The District determined that the Project would have significant and potentially

significant impacts that cannot be mitigated to a level of less than significant, despite the imposition of mitigation measures.

## 2020 Addendum

Since certifying the EIR and approving the Project, the District adopted an Addendum on November 17, 2020 (2020 Addendum), with regard to minor revisions to the PWS Project. The Addendum determined that neither the Project modifications, nor any changes in circumstances surrounding the Project, result in any new significant impact, or substantially increase the severity of an impact identified in the 2018 PWS EIR. The Addendum further determined that no new mitigation is required beyond those measures in the adopted MMRP.

## 2021 Addendum

The District adopted a second Addendum on December 5, 2021, with regard to further minor revisions to the Project (2021 Addendum). The 2021 Addendum evaluates design changes to the treatment facilities to consolidate all PWS treatment systems at a single site (Chanticleer Site) and the incorporation of an ozone pretreatment system in lieu of a nitrifying biological aerated filtration pretreatment system. The 2021 Addendum determined that the minor modifications would not result in substantial changes to the previously certified EIR or 2020 Addendum because it would not involve new significant impacts, nor would it substantially increase the severity of an impact identified in the certified EIR.

## Phase 3 for Chanticleer Site

The District had identified the southwest corner of the Chanticleer Site to locate the Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF) with or without Tertiary Treatment at the SC WWTF (Chanticleer Project).

On August 9, 2019, the District issued a Request for Qualifications through the District's website for operation and maintenance at-risk consulting services (O&M) for the Chanticleer Project to solicit qualified firms to provide long-term O&M of the Chanticleer Project (Phase 3). The District's Review and Selection Committee conducted a thorough process evaluating the firms and ultimately recommended that the O&M of the Chanticleer Project be awarded to CH2M Hill Engineers, Inc., a Delaware Corporation and subsidiary of Jacobs Engineering Group.

On March 5, 2024, the District Board of Directors took the following actions related to the Chanticleer Project: (1) adopted Resolution 24-04, authorizing and directing, pursuant to the previously certified Pure Water Soquel Environmental Impact Report and previously adopted Addenda, the General Manager or his designee to finalize, for a contract price of \$4,456,506.00, the "Service Contract for the Operation Maintenance At Risk Services (Phase III) between Soquel Creek Water District and CH2M Hills Engineers, Inc." ("Agreement") with regard to the long-term operation and management of the Chanticleer Project, and to take any actions and execute any and all necessary documents, subject to legal counsel review, to implement the Agreement.

On May 7, 2024, the District Board of Directors adopted Resolution 24-07 to reaffirm and ratify, pursuant to the previously certified Pure Water Soquel Environmental Impact Report and previously adopted Addenda, the Agreement. The Agreement and this activity is part of the PWS evaluated in the previously certified EIR and previously adopted Addenda, and, pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21166 and State CEQA Guidelines section 15162, the Board found that its reaffirmation and ratification of the Agreement with CH2M Hills Engineers Inc., a Delaware Corporation and subsidiary of Jacobs Engineering Group, will not result in any new or more severe impacts than were previously identified, and thus the reaffirmation and ratification did not require additional environmental review.

Identify the person or entity undertaking the project, including any private applicant, any other person undertaking an activity that receives financial assistance from the Public Agency as part of the project, and any person receiving a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement of use from the Public Agency as part of the project.

|                    | Creek Water I<br>ering Group | District, CH2M Hills Engineers Inc., a Delaware Corporation and subsidiary of Jacobs   |
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|                    | ith respect to th            | se that the (\omega Lead Agency or \omega Responsible Agency) has taken the above described to project on May 7, 2024 and has made the following determinations regarding the above  |
| 1.                 |                              | The project will have a significant effect on the environment.   |
|                    |                              | The project will NOT have a significant effect on the environment  |
| 2.                 |                              | An Environmental Impact Report and Addendum was prepared and certified for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency. |
|                    |                              | A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.                                    |
|                    |                              | A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA and reflects the independent judgment of the Lead Agency.                          |
| 3.                 | $\boxtimes$                  | Mitigation measures, identified in the previously certified EIR, were made a condition of the approval of the project.   |
|                    |                              | Mitigation measures were NOT made a condition of the approval of the project.  |
| 4.                 | $\boxtimes$                  | A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was adopted for this project.  |
|                    |                              | A Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plan was NOT adopted for this project.  |
| 5.                 | $\boxtimes$                  | A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for this project.   |
|                    |                              | A Statement of Overriding Considerations was NOT adopted for this project  |
| Date: May 8, 2024  |                              | Signature  Name: Melanie Mow Schumacher  Title:_ Special Projects/Comm Mgr/ Assist. General Manager  |
| Date Re<br>Filing: | eceived for                  |  |

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

FORM "F"