

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836  
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(916) 653-5791



June 26, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Mr. Steve Esselman  
City of Bakersfield  
Development Services Department  
1715 Chester Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Bakersfield, California 93301

**Jul 01 2020**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal  
McAllister Ranch Groundwater Banking Project  
SCH# 2020060267  
Kern County

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Dear Mr. Esselman:

The Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) has reviewed the Notice of Completion and the June 12, 2020 Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the McAllister Ranch Groundwater Banking Project (Project), which describes the proposed construction of groundwater recharge ponds with embankments ranging from 3-feet to 6-feet in height and associated piping, recovery wells, appurtenant conveyance facilities, and percolation pond turnouts.

Insufficient information is provided in the Project description to make an accurate jurisdictional determination with regards to the described work and it is unclear whether some or all the work will be subject to State jurisdiction for dam safety. Therefore, the applicant, Buena Vista Water Storage District, needs to submit preliminary plans so that DSOD can make a jurisdictional determination.

As defined in Sections 6002 and 6003, Division 3, of the California Water Code, dams 25 feet or higher with a storage capacity of more than 15 acre-feet, and dams higher than 6 feet with a storage capacity of 50 acre-feet or more are subject to State jurisdiction. The dam height is the vertical distance measured from the maximum possible water storage level to the downstream toe of the barrier.

If the dam(s) is subject to State jurisdiction, a construction application, together with plans, specifications, and the appropriate filing fee must be filed with DSOD for this project. All dam safety related issues must be resolved prior to approval of the application, and the work must be performed under the direction of a Civil Engineer registered in California. Erik Malvick, our Design Engineering Branch Chief, is responsible for the application process and can be reached at (916) 227-4660.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Area Engineer William Vogler at (916) 565-7828 or me at (916) 565-7827.

Sincerely,

*Rick Draeger*

Richard Draeger, Regional Engineer  
Southern Region  
Field Engineering Branch  
Division of Safety of Dams

cc: (See Attached List.)

Mr. Esselman  
June 26, 2020  
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cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
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