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KERN COUNTY

NOV 16 2020

Notice of Determination

APRIL B. BOARD
AUDITOR CONTROLLER-COUNTY CLERK
BY _____ DEPUTY

To: Office of Planning and Research
U.S. Mail: _____ Street Address: _____
P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814
 County Clerk
County of: Kern
Address: 1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

From: _____
Public Agency: Lebec County Water District
Address: 323 Frazier Mountain Park Road
Lebec, CA 93243
Contact: Jessica Carroll, GM/Board Clerk
Phone: (661) 248-6872

Lead Agency (if different from above):
Same
Address: _____
Contact: _____
Phone: _____

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

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2020090499

Project Title: FMHS/Lebec County Water District Water System Improvement Project

Project Applicant: Lebec County Water District

Project Location (include county): Lebec, Kern County

Project Description:

Please see attached Project Description.

This is to advise that the Lebec County Water District has approved the above
(Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)

described project on 11-10-2020 and has made the following determinations regarding the above
(date)
described project.

- 1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
- 2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
- 3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
- 4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
- 5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.
- 6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

323 Frazier Mountain Park Road, Lebec, CA 93243

Signature (Public Agency): _____ Title Board President

Date: 11-10-20 Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

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

Notice of Environmental Document
Posted by County Clerk on 11/16/2011
and for 30 days thereafter, Pursuant to
Section 21152(C), Public Resources Code

Project Description

The Project is located in southern Kern County within the unincorporated community of Lebec, CA. The Project would be located both east and west of Interstate 5 (I-5) near Frazier Park Mountain Road and the Lebec rest area. The Project involves the construction and operation of water system improvements for the purpose of improving water quality and capacity in LCWD's water system as well as consolidating the FMHS water system with LCWD. The Project proposes to annex the territory of FMHS into the LCWD, construct necessary infrastructure and operate water system improvements necessary to improve water quality, enhance water supply reliability, expand water storage, and replace the FMHS drinking water supply by extending water service to FMHS.

The following are the components of the Project:

- 1) Annexation: LCWD plans to annex the territory of FMHS. Annexation would be performed through the Kern Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) to implement a Sphere of Influence¹, Amendment and Annexation allowing the consolidation of the FMHS water system into the LCWD water system and facilitate the installation the infrastructure and water tank to supply clean drinking water to the high school.
- 2) LCWD Well No. 4 (refer to Sheet B1 of Appendix D): Drill a new well at a depth of approximately 300 feet below ground surface (bgs) with associated equipment, including a new building, diesel fuel tank and power generator.
- 3) Water pipeline from Well Site to Distribution System (Sheets B2 through B5): construction of approximately 0.4 miles of 8-inch diameter pipeline, including a jack and bore of a 24-inch diameter steel casing with 10-inch carrier pipeline under I-5.
- 4) Pressure zone interconnection pipeline on the western side of I-5 (Sheets B5 through B7): construction of approximately 0.33 linear miles of pressure zone interconnection pipeline.
- 5) Pipeline Along Frazier Mountain Road between Lebec Road and Cuddy Canyon Road (Sheets A1 through A6): construction of approximately 1.3 linear miles of pipeline along Frazier Mountain Road between Cuddy Canyon Road and Wainright Court to move water from the Well No. 4 to the Chimney Canyon storage tank. A booster pump station would be installed at the FMHS Well Site (see Sheet A2) that would boost the pressure to the Chimney Canyon Pressure Zone.
- 6) Chimney Canyon Tank Site (Sheet C1): installation of new 200,000-gallon water storage tank. The Chimney Canyon Tank site has six (6) existing tanks. The new tank would bring the total number to seven (7).
- 7) FMHS Water System Improvements (Sheet D1 through D4): construct approximately 1.8 linear miles of new 4-inch diameter drinking water pipeline, add a new 25-gallon per minute (gpm) booster pump station (at the FMHS Well Site), a new power line, and add a new 40,000-gallon irrigation water storage tank at FMHS campus. FMHS's existing water well would be designated for irrigation water, and water would be conveyed through the existing 6-inch diameter water pipeline to the new 40,000-gallon water storage tank for irrigation of ball fields. The existing 120,000-gallon water storage tank at FMHS would be designated for drinking water and fire protection purposes (with no cross connections between the irrigation and drinking water systems).

FMHS currently has a water system that serves approximately 300 students and staff. The water system consists of a well, transmission pipeline, 120,000-gallon storage tank, and distribution pipelines. The transmission pipeline is used to deliver water from the well to the steel storage tank. Water is diverted by gravity from the tank through a short pipe that branches off into two subsystems, namely a mainline that provides domestic water to the main school facilities by gravity, and a mainline that serves the landscaped irrigated areas (e.g.,

¹ Sphere of Influence is defined as the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency. In this case the high school would become part of the LCWD water district boundary.

sports fields) with a booster pump. This water system delivers on average 19.3 million gallons per year of potable water and has an estimated demand for non-potable water for yards and landscaping of approximately 6.6 acres. The potential school population to be served by the system in the future, if possible, is about 500 students and staff, to be consistent with the initial estimates when the school was built.

Currently, FMHS obtains its water supply from a primary well (FMHS Well 01) located at 38793 Frazier Mountain Park Road, Lebec, CA 93243. The well was drilled in 1992, and currently violates the Safe Drinking Water Maximum Contaminant Level (state MCL) for fluoride and uranium. Because the fluoride and uranium levels exceed the state MCL, the El Tejon Unified School District (School District) — owner of the FMHS water system — has received compliance orders from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW) for each of these violations.

The Project would connect the LCWD water system to FMHS to provide drinking water for the FMHS facilities. A new booster pump station (with backup generator) would boost LCWD drinking water up to the existing 120,000-gallon located at the FMHS campus. The drinking water would be conveyed through a new 4-inch diameter transmission pipeline that would parallel the existing 6-inch diameter transmission pipeline. The existing FMHS Well 01 and existing 6-inch diameter transmission pipeline would be used strictly for irrigation at the FMHS campus. The existing pipeline would connect to a new 40,000-gallon storage tank would be constructed at the FMHS tank site to provide for irrigation water storage.

Other activities included in the Project consist of all permitting and approvals required by the Kern Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) to implement a Sphere of Influence Amendment and Annexation allowing the consolidation of the FMHS water system into LCWD's water system.