

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PROPOSED STARLITE PINES MUTUAL WATER COMPANY STORAGE CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

**California State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Financial Assistance
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814**

Introduction

This Notice of Intent serves as public notice that the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has prepared an Initial Study and proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Starlite Pines Mutual Water Company Storage Capacity Improvements Project (project). A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared because no substantial evidence exists that the proposed project may have a significant environmental effect that cannot be fully mitigated to a less-than-significant level. The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration does not signify approval or disapproval of this project by the SWRCB's decision-making body. The SWRCB will consider the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process to determine whether the proposed project would have a heretofore unidentified significant impact on the environment.

Project Location

The approximately 7.28-acre project area (comprised of the larger study area used for the technical support studies including the two well sites, hydrant replacement locations, and adjacent roadways) is located on the north side of State Route 44, approximately 5.8 miles northeast of the rural community of Shingletown, Shasta County, California in the Starlite Pines and Starlite Woods subdivisions. The project area is shown on the Hagaman Gulch, California, 7.5 minute U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian; Township 31 North, Range 2 East, Section 19. It includes the existing Starlite Pines Mutual Water Company (SPMWC) water system facilities (well sites 1 and 2) and associated infrastructure accessed via Starlite Pines Road, Constellation Drive, and Ritts Mill Road, and the public right of way easements along these roads. The SPMWC water system serves the Starlite Pines and Starlite woods subdivisions. Assessor Parcel Numbers included in the project area are 700-190-024, 700-190-023, and 700-150-008. The project is not located within any state or federally maintained lands (e.g., Bureau of Land Management or United States Forest Service land).

Project Description

SPMWC would construct a new 236,000-gallon welded steel water storage tank and a block building pump station at Well Site 1. Construction of the tank and pump station would require the removal of approximately 44 trees ranging in size from 8 to 24 inches in diameter. Three vertically mounted pumps and a motor control center would be built inside the pump station and an emergency power generator would be located outside, adjacent to the building under the roof extension. At both well sites 1 and 2, 40-foot tall radio tower antennas would be constructed to facilitate communication between the two pump stations. The foundations for the radio towers will be concrete and installed to a depth of 4 feet and measure 4 feet wide by 4 feet long. Construction of the radio tower antenna at Well Site 2 would occur in a previously disturbed area, and no tree removal will be required at Well Site 2. The project also includes replacing five 4-inch dry barrel fire hydrants with five full-size 6-inch hydrants located on Starlite Pines Road and Constellation Drive to provide better flow for fire suppression.

Once the new tank and pump station are fully operational, the existing in-ground reservoir and pump station at Well Site 1 will be demolished; and the removed material will be brought to an approved landfill. Soil and rock excavated to accommodate the new tank and pump station will be used to backfill the area occupied by the existing in-ground reservoir once it is removed.

The project is expected to begin in spring/summer of 2021 or 2022 predicated on available environmental clearance, funding, and reasonable response periods for permits and will take about one and one-half years to construct.

Review Period

As mandated by Public Resources Code § 21091, the minimum public review period for this Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is 30 days. The document has been sent to the State Clearinghouse. This document is open to public review and comment from October 29, 2020 through November 30, 2020.

Comments must be received by 5 p.m. on the last day of the comment period, November 30, 2020. Any comments on the document may be presented in writing to:

California State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Financial Assistance
Attn.: Mr. Gabriel Edwards, Environmental Scientist
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Phone: (916) 449-5990
email: Gabriel.Edwards@Waterboards.ca.gov

Document Availability

Copies of the Public Draft Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting technical studies are available for review at the following locations:

California State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Starlite Pines Mutual Water Company
33775 Constellation Drive
Shingletown, California 96088-1123