

**County of Madera
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
Initial Study**

1. Project Title:

Maintenance District 33 Well Replacement - Water Basin Addition

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

County of Madera
Community and Economic Development Department
200 West 4th Street, Suite 3100
Madera, California 93637

3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

Matthew Treber, Chief
Community and Economic Development Department
Phone: 559-675-7821
matthew.treber@maderacounty.com

4. Project Location & APN:

Unincorporated Madera County, community of Fairmead
Northeast corner of intersection of Road 19 ½ and Avenue 22 ½
APN 027-143-001

5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

County of Madera Public Works Department
200 West 4th Street, Suite 3100
Madera, California 93637

Raymundo Gutierrez, Engineer II
Madera County Public Works, Engineering Services
Phone: (559) 675-7811
Raymundo.Gutierrez@maderacounty.com

6. General Plan Designation:

OS – Open Space

7. Zoning:

RUS – Residential Urban Single Family

8. Description of Project:

The project is located on County property (APN 027-143-001) northeast of the intersection of Road 19 ½ and Avenue 22 ½. Madera County previously approved municipal well construction to replace an existing well that has had a significant decrease in capacity and has suffered degradation. Well replacement was previously approved and a CEQA Notice of Exemption for Categorical Exemption (Class 2, CCR Title 22, Section 60101) was executed on December 20, 2014 and submitted to the State Clearinghouse on January 12, 2015.

Continued design and engineering since 2015 identified the need to incorporate a freshwater storage basin to receive groundwater discharge as pumped during well development and maintenance. The basin would be located on the same site/property as the previously approved new well construction. The basin will be triangular shaped, with dimensions of approximately 250 feet by 220 feet by 300 feet. The pond will be excavated to a depth of approximately 7 feet below ground surface (bgs) and surrounded by a perimeter berm approximately 2 feet above ground surface. Sheet C-02 illustrates the site layout, Sheet C-08 illustrates the basin plan view, and Sheet C-09 illustrates basin and berm dimensions. Security fencing will be installed surround the entire site.

This Initial Study has been prepared to evaluate whether the addition of the basin to the project would a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant impact on the environment due to unusual circumstances. This Initial Study concludes that the site location, nature of the project, and environmental protection provisions included in the project would avoid the potential for the project to have a significant impact on the environment.

Specific construction provisions related to environmental protection relevant to this review include the following as specified in project construction bid documentation.

Excerpts of Construction Special Provisions

1.07 Maintaining Drainage and Dewatering For Construction Purposes

A. The Contractor shall maintain all existing drainage systems in functional order within construction areas throughout the length of this Contract.

D. Water may not be discharged in a manner that will allow runoff to enter any nearby river or stream.

1.11 Site Security and Monitoring Of Construction Sites

A. The Contractor shall secure the site all times, including those times, when active work is not in progress, such as at night or on non-working days. The Contractor shall provide temporary construction fencing as necessary and agreed to by both the Owner and the Contractor. Any necessary chains and locks will be provided by the Contractor.

B. The Contractor shall monitor the construction sites on a regular basis during working and nonworking hours, including weekends and holidays, to ensure that no situations arise, relating to the condition of the work site, which could pose a threat to public safety. In addition the Contractor shall furnish to the Owner, prior to the issuance of the "Notice to Proceed", a list of persons, together with their addresses and home telephone numbers, who are authorized to act on behalf of the Contractor in an emergency arising out of conditions at the work site after normal working hours.

C. Full compensation for all costs involved in site security and monitoring of construction sites shall be included in the amount bid for the various items of work, and no separate payment will be made therefore.

1.13 Dust Control

A. The Contractor shall provide dust control for the entire construction site as required by the site conditions, by Engineer and by these Special Provisions.

B. Dust control measures shall be fully and adequately carried out on weekdays, weekends and holidays, and when necessary, before or after normal working hours. The

Contractor shall comply with all requirements of the Fugitive Dust Rules of regulation VIII of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District.

Excerpts of Construction Special Conditions

1.09 Local Jurisdiction Requirements

A. Unless prior written approval is obtained from the local jurisdiction(s) construction is limited to working hours per that agency's Ordinances, Resolutions and/or permit(s).

1.10 Water Discharges

A. Discharging of water shall be done in accordance with "Best Management Practices" (BMP's) of the local jurisdiction and the County NPDES Permit, a copy of which is on file with the County Water Quality Department.

1.11 Disposal of Removed Materials

A. All removed materials, except those indicated on the plans or described herein to remain the property of County, shall become the property of the Contractor and shall be disposed in accordance with local, state, and federal laws. Should any of those materials be considered as hazardous, the Contractor shall provide the County Inspector with paper custody trail documentation of the disposal.

Excerpts of Summary of Work Provisions

1.03 Working Hours

Time restrictions for performing all work at the well site is 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding holidays. Special approval will be required by the County Project Inspector if a modification of the time schedule is required.

Excerpts of Environmental Controls

Part 1 - General

1.01 Site Maintenance

The Contractor shall keep the work site clean and free from rubbish and debris. Materials and equipment shall be removed from the site when they are no longer necessary. Upon completion of the work and before final acceptance, the work site shall be cleared of equipment, unused materials, and rubbish to present a clean and neat appearance.

The Contractor shall keep the street in front of the project site clean of mud and/or dirt that is originating from the project site. If the street becomes dirty due to the Contractor work/vehicles, the Contractor will have the street cleaned by the end of the working day.

1.02 Air Pollution Control

The Contractor shall not discharge smoke, dust, and other contaminants into the atmosphere that violate the regulations of any legally constituted authority. They shall also abate dust nuisance by cleaning, sweeping, and sprinkling with water or other means as necessary. The use of water, in amounts which result in mud on public streets, is not acceptable as a substitute for sweeping or other methods.

1.03 Noise Control

Noise from Contractor's operations shall not exceed limits established by applicable laws or regulations and in no event shall exceed 86 dBA at a distance of 50 feet from the noise source.

Part 3 - Execution

3.01 Security and Protection Facilities Installation

A. Environmental Protection: Provide protection, operate temporary facilities, and conduct construction as required to comply with environmental regulations and that minimize possible air, waterway, and subsoil contamination or pollution or other undesirable effects.

3.02 Cultural Resources

A. Should any cultural resources, such as structural features, unusual amounts of bone or shell, artifacts, human remains, or architectural remains be encountered during any construction activities, work shall be suspended and the Owner shall be immediately notified. The Owner will coordinate any necessary investigation of the site with appropriate specialists as needed.

B. Pursuant to Section 5097.98 of the State Public Resources Code, and Section 7050.5 of the State Health and Safety Code, in the event of the discovery of human remains, all work is to stop and the County Coroner shall be immediately notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, guidelines of the Native American Heritage Commission shall be adhered to in the treatment and disposition of the remains.

3.03 Temporary Erosion and Sedimentation Control

A. Provide measures to prevent soil erosion and discharge of soil-bearing water runoff and airborne dust to undisturbed areas and to adjacent properties and walkways.

1. Verify that flows of water redirected from construction areas or generated by construction activity do not enter or cross tree- or plant- protection zones.
2. Inspect, repair, and maintain erosion- and sedimentation-control measures during construction until permanent vegetation has been established.
3. Clean, repair, and restore adjoining properties and roads affected by erosion and sedimentation from the project site during the course of the project.
4. Remove erosion and sedimentation controls and restore and stabilize areas disturbed during removal.

3.04 Stormwater Control

A. Comply with requirements of authorities having jurisdiction. Provide barriers in and around excavations and subgrade construction to prevent flooding by runoff of stormwater from heavy rains.

3.05 Tree and Plant Protection

A. Install temporary fencing located as indicated or outside the drip line of trees to protect vegetation from damage from construction operations. Protect tree root systems from damage, flooding, and erosion.

Summary of Storm Water Pollution Prevention

The Project must comply with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002), including any subsequent amendments, referred to herein as "Permit." The construction contract will be required to prepare, file, and comply with a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and work shall not be permitted to begin until the SWPPP is approved, a waste discharge identification number is issued, and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) has reviewed and approved the SWPPP.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: South: Vacant and Residential; West: Residential; North: Vacant; East: Vacant.

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required: None.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

See discussion at checklist section XVIII, "Tribal Cultural Resources."

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED		
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/Forestry Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy
<input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials
<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation: **A CEQA Notice of Exemption will be prepared.**

I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required AND AN ADDENDUM TO MND #2013-24 WILL BE PREPARED.



Signature

11/12/2020
Date

I. AESTHETICS

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views (i.e., from a publically accessible vantage point) of the site and its surroundings? In urbanized areas, would the project conflict with applicable zoning or other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

- a) **No impact.** The project site is not within the viewshed of a scenic vista.
- b) **No impact.** The project site does not contain scenic resources the proposed addition of the water basin would not result in a substantial adverse change to visual quality.
- c) **No impact.** The project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site.
- d) **No impact.** The proposed water basin would not result in a new source of light or glare.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether agricultural impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Responses:

a - e) **No Impact.** The project would not convert important farmland to a non-agricultural use, conflict with agricultural zoning or a Williamson Act contract, conflict with or cause rezoning of forest or timber land, result in the loss or conversion of forest land, or otherwise convert agricultural or forest land to non-agricultural or non-forest uses.

III. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with, or obstruct implementation of, the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a-c) **No Impact.** The project would implement construction emission controls and would not emit substantial air pollutant emissions and, therefore, would not create the potential to obstruct or conflict with air quality plans, result in considerable increases in criteria pollutant emissions, or expose receptors to substantial pollution concentrations.

d) **No Impact.** The project would not create the potential for generating odor with the potential to adversely affect a substantial number of people.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of a native wildlife nursery site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a-f) No Impact. BIOS mapping data obtained from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) while conducting a California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Rarefind survey search for both State and Federal listed species within a 2.0-mile radius of the project area indicated the proposed project will not affect any state or federally listed endangered, threatened or candidate species. IPAC and BIOS/CNDDDB Rarefind surveys were conducted on April 11, 2016. (Environmental Summary Checklist & Findings for Maintenance District 33 Replacement Municipal Well, May 24, 2017) Development of the basin would not have the potential to result in substantial adverse effects to biological resources or to conflict with plans for biological resources protection.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a–c) Less than Significant with Mitigation. A California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search was conducted on May 16, 2017 by Celeste Thomson at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center to determine the presence of cultural features within the project site, or APE. The CHRIS results indicated the project Site is negative for previously recorded cultural resources. The nearest historic resources are over 40 feet outside the site, and the CHRIS finding indicated none of these resources would will be impacted by Project implementation. (Environmental Summary Checklist & Findings for Maintenance District 33 Replacement Municipal Well, May 24, 2017) The project includes provisions to ensure appropriate treatment of any cultural resources or human remains that could be discovered during project construction. Thus, development of the basin would not have the potential to result in substantial adverse effects to cultural resources or human remains.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VI. ENERGY				
Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a) **No Impact.** Energy will be consumed during construction of the basin in the form of fuel use for excavation and other construction equipment. This consumption would not be done in a wasteful or inefficient manner. The project would not conflict with or obstruct local or state energy planning.

b) **No Impact.** The project would not conflict with or obstruct local or state energy planning.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS				
Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone Map issued by the State Geologist for the area, or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geological unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a - f) **No Impact.** Project design incorporates geological and soils considerations and would not create risk of upset or other potential for significant adverse effects associated with geologic and soils conditions at the site. The SWPPP that would be prepared and implemented during construction would avoid potential adverse effects associated with soil erosion or topsoil loss, and construction compaction standards and other design measure would ensure stability of facilities following construction.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a-c) **No Impact.** The project would implement construction emission controls and would not emit substantial greenhouse gas emissions and would not create the potential for greenhouse gas emissions associated with the project to have a significant impact on the environment.

b) **No Impact.** The project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS				
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a – c) **No Impact.** The proposed basin would not result in a substantial increase in the use, transport or disposal of hazardous materials. Fuel use during construction would comply with all applicable standards and avoid the potential for significant impacts.

d) **No Impact.** The project site is not on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

e) **No Impact.** The project site is not within two miles of an airport or airstrip, and would not result in exposure of people to airport-related hazards.

f) **No Impact.** The project would not create the potential for increased wildland fire hazards.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:

(i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;

(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;

(iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or

(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?

d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

Responses:

a) **No Impact.** Construction of the proposed basin would comply with applicable water quality protection standards and would be conducted in accordance with a construction SWPPP containing specific BMPs to avoid water quality impacts.

b) **No impact.** The proposed basin would not create the potential for impacts to groundwater supply or recharge, and would provide for recharge of freshwater pumped during development of the groundwater extraction well.

c) **No Impact.** The water basin would not substantially affect surface water runoff.

d) **No Impact.** The site is not within a flood hazard or seiche zone; thus no impact is associated with this checklist item.

e) **No Impact.** The project would not conflict with or obstruct a water quality control plan or groundwater management plan. Development of the replacement groundwater well is consistent with Madera County water supply planning.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a) **No impact.** The project would not divide an established community.

b) **No impact.** The project would not conflict with land use plans, policies, and regulations.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a - b) **No Impact.** The project would not affect the availability of known mineral resources.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII. NOISE				
Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinances, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a - b) **No Impact.** Construction of the project would be subject to noise control specifications as discussed in the Project Description of this Initial Study. Neither construction nor operation would create the potential for significant noise or vibration impacts.

c) **No Impact.** The project site is not within two miles of an airport or airstrip and would not result in exposure of people to airport-related hazards.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING				
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and business) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a – b) **No impact.** The project would not induce population growth or displace residents.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a) **No Impact.** The project would not would not create the need for increased provision of public services and would therefore not have the potential to result in adverse environmental effects associated with the provision of public services.

XVI. RECREATION

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Responses:

a–b) **No impact.** The project would not increase the use of existing recreational facilities or create the need to expand existing or construct new recreation facilities.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. TRANSPORTATION Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a) **No Impact.** The project would not conflict with local or regional transportation plans.

b) **No Impact.** CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3 was incorporated to the CEQA Guidelines through amendments adopted in December 2018. Section 15064.3 implements CEQA amendments passed by the state legislature (Senate Bill 743) and approved by the Governor in 2013 establishing that vehicle miles traveled (VMT) or similar metric be used for assessing impacts associated with vehicle trips instead of the traditional use of levels of service. The project would not create the potential for significant changes or adverse impacts associated with VMT.

c – d) **No Impact.** The project would not affect road safety and would not adversely affect emergency access.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or

- | | | | | | |
|-----|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ii. | A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Responses:

a) **No Impact.** As discussed in Section V, "Cultural Resources," above, there are no known cultural resources on the project site. In consideration of the potential discovery and disturbance of unknown cultural resources or human remains that could be present within areas disturbed during construction, the project includes measures to address the potential inadvertent discovery of archeological resources and human remains. The evaluation herein concludes that the project qualifies for a CEQA exemption, and thus is not subject to tribal notification requirements.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

- | | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it had adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Responses:

a) **No Impact.** The project is a water supply project and the potential for environmental effects are evaluated in this Initial Study which concludes the project would not have the potential to result in a significant environmental effect.

- b) **No Impact.** The project is a water supply project and does not itself require a water supply.
- c) **No Impact.** The project would not require wastewater treatment services by a wastewater treatment provider.
- d – e) **No impact.** Solid waste generation associated with the project would be minimal and would be disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations, and would not result in adverse impacts associated with solid waste and landfill capacity.

XX. WILDFIRE

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

- a) **No Impact.** The project would not create the potential to impair emergency response or evacuations.
- b) **No Impact.** The project would not create the potential for increased risk of wildfire.
- c) **No Impact.** The project would not require fire/fuel breaks.
- d) **No Impact.** The project would not expose people or structures to increased risk associated with post-fire instability issues.

XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Responses:

a) **No Impact.** The project would have no impact associated with wildlife populations, habitats, or migration patterns or to otherwise adversely affect special-status species, habitat, or important historical or pre-historical resources.

b) **No Impact.** The project would have no cumulatively considerable impacts.

c) **No Impact.** The project would not result in significant or substantial adverse effects on the environment or on human beings, directly or indirectly.