

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE ERSKINE CREEK WATER COMPANY AND KERVALE MUTUAL WATER COMPANY CONSOLIDATION WATER PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Erskine Creek Water Company and Kernvale Mutual Water Company Consolidation Water Project (Project). Public comments may be submitted via email to Gabriel.Edwards@waterboards.ca.gov or mail to:

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance
Environmental Review Unit
1001 I Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Project purpose is to consolidate 52 residents from Kernvale Mutual Water Company (KMWC) with Erskine Creek Water Company (ECWC) by permanently connecting and upgrading the existing water system to provide more reliable water service and provide safe drinking water that meets USEPA maximum contaminant levels and California Code of Regulations Title 22 standards. The Project is located in the southeastern area of the unincorporated community of Lake Isabella, in Kern County, California, approximately 260 miles south of Sacramento and 35 miles northeast of the City of Bakersfield. The Project will be built out in two phases as described below:

Phase I: A new 200,000-gallon water storage tank would be installed on an existing gravel pad within ECWC property to replace a smaller existing 120,000-gallon tank to meet the demands of the 52 residents and fire flow needs in the area. The new tank would be approximately 48-feet across and 24-feet tall. Approximately 3,550 feet of new 8-inch and 280 feet of 12-inch water pipeline would be installed and connected to the new water tank to provide the 52 residents currently being served by KMWC with clean potable drinking water. Fire hydrants would be placed along Mountain View Road to provide adequate fire flow in the area. A 5,000-gallon hydropneumatics tank would be installed near the new water tank on ECWC property. Associated infrastructure components would include water meters, fittings, connections, valve boxes, air release valves, shut-off and flushing valves, asphalt and concrete road repair, with minimal vegetation removal consisting of low-lying grasses and one cottonwood tree.

Phase II: An additional pipeline would be installed and run east from the Phase I water pipeline between Kern Valley High School and Woodrow W Wallace Elementary/Middle School to an existing water tank located across Erskine Creek Road. The existing waterlines would be abandoned in place. One new pump station may be installed in the future on ECWC property near the new water tank to support the school zone areas.

The Project site has been evaluated in accordance with Government Code Section 65962.5 and is not listed as a hazardous waste or materials site. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared, describing the degree of potential environmental impacts of the proposed Project with a determination they will be less than significant with recommended mitigation measures. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file and available for public review at the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance at 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814. The public review period during which the State Water Resources Control Board will receive comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on January 15, 2021 and end on February 15, 2021. Comments

must be received in writing before close of business, 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 15, 2021 and addressed to Gabriel Edwards at SWRCB, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814, or at Gabriel.Edwards@Waterboards.ca.gov.