

## ARVIN-EDISON WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE EXPANSION OF DISTRICT DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PIPELINES INTO GROUNDWATER SERVICE AREA LANDS PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Arvin-Edison Water Storage District (AEWSD) plans to adopt a mitigated negative declaration for the Expansion of District Distribution System Pipelines into Groundwater Service Area (GWSA) Lands Project (Project). The public hearing will be held by the District's Board of Directors on Tuesday May 11, 2021 at 1:00pm, at the District Office, 20401 E Bear Mountain Blvd, Arvin, CA 93203. The public can contact the District or visit their website at <https://aewsd.org/> for attendance information due to COVID-19.

The proposed Project is for the construction of up to 44 miles of pipelines, manholes and turnouts within AEWSD. Assuming a maximum of 50' width for possible ground disturbance along the proposed pipeline construction, the Area of Potential Effect (APE) is approximately 267-acres. The Project goal is to deliver wet-period surface water to landowners who would otherwise pump groundwater in the portions of the GWSA. The proposed pipelines will be operated when excess surface water is available (approximately every three years) and/or when water transfers are scheduled. The proposed pipelines will be mainly low-head gravity distribution pipelines ranging from 12" to 72" in diameter. The largest pipe sizes would be proportionally short distances near the heads of the branching gravity pipeline networks serving the various private agricultural fields and orchards in the APE. The proposed pipeline sizes and capacities will vary depending upon the number of acres served. Pipeline sizing will follow the conservative value of approximately eight gallons per minute per acre and/or the AEWSD Lateral Demand Sizing Criteria. The proposed pipelines will commence from various existing AEWSD facilities, such as the Forrest Frick Discharge Pipeline, North Canal, South Canal, or other smaller lateral pipelines. A 0.75-mile open canal is also proposed from the existing Tejon Spreading Works.

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. The District has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this proposed project and has determined that they will be less than significant with mitigation. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file and available for public review at the District Office, 20401 E Bear Mountain Blvd, Arvin, CA 93203 or by visiting the District's website: <https://aewsd.org/>. The public review period during which the District to receive comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on April 8, 2021 to May 7, 2021. Comments should be in writing, if possible, and addressed to Briza Sholars at Provost & Pritchard, 286 West Cromwell Avenue, Fresno, CA 93711, or at [bsholars@ppeng.com](mailto:bsholars@ppeng.com).

The site has been reviewed in accordance with Government Code Section 65962.5 and is not listed as hazardous waste or materials site.