

## MISSION SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**Lead Agency:** Mission Springs Water District  
66575 Second Street  
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240

**Contact:** Danny Friend  
Phone: (760) 329-6448  
Email: [dfriend@mswd.com](mailto:dfriend@mswd.com)

**Project Title:** Mission Springs Water District Vista Reservoir No. 2 Project

**State Clearinghouse Number:** Not yet assigned

**Project Location:** The project is located along Valencia Drive in the City of Desert Hot Springs. The project is located within the USGS Topo 7.5-minute map for Seven Palms Valley, CA, and is located in Section 19, Township 2 South and Range 5 East. The approximate GPS coordinates of the project site are 33.983003°, -116.493301°. Refer to Figures 1 and 2 for the regional and site location maps

**Project Description:** Mission Springs Water District (MSWD or District) is proposing to develop a second reservoir at the existing Vista Reservoir site. The existing Vista Reservoir site is approximately 1.23 acres and is surrounded by mountain terrain consisting of mild to steep slopes and an earthen driveway up to the existing 300,000-gallon reservoir pad at 1,609 feet in elevation. The existing reservoir is connected to two different pressure zones via a 10-inch waterline and a hydropneumatic station with a 4-inch waterline.

The proposed Vista Reservoir No. 2 Project includes a new 300,000-gallon reservoir approximately 30 feet northwest of the existing reservoir. Ultimately the installation of the new 300,000-gallon reservoir at the Vista Reservoir site will require installation of the following: retaining walls and hillside slope stabilization, stormwater management BMPs, installation of a new access road, relocation of the existing hydropneumatic station and the electrical cabinet, grading, wrought iron and chain link fence, and a new 300,000-gallon welded steel water storage reservoir and related piping. Design and construction of the Project is anticipated to be completed in approximately 6 months. Construction is anticipated to start in the third quarter of 2021.

**Finding:** The Mission Springs Water District's decision to implement this proposed project is a discretionary decision or "project" that requires evaluation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Based on the information in the project Initial Study, the City has made a *preliminary* determination that a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be the appropriate environmental determination for this project to comply with CEQA.

**Initial Study:** Since the State has issued an Executive Order during the threat of COVID-19 and the MSWD Offices may be closed to the public; a copy of the Initial Study will be available at the MSWD Offices (66575 Second Street, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240), electronically at their website, and may also be obtained by contacting Tom Dodson & Associates at (909) 882-3612. The 30-day public review period for the Initial Study begins May 5, 2021 and ends June 4, 2021. Any interested person or agency may comment on this matter by submitting their written comments before June 4, 2021. Comments should be sent to Danny Friend at the Mission Springs Water District's office at 66575 Second Street, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240. For additional information, Mr. Friend may be contacted at [dfriend@mswd.org](mailto:dfriend@mswd.org)

**Mitigation Measures:** All mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study are summarized on pages 70-74 and are proposed for adoption as conditions of the project. These measures will be implemented through a mitigation monitoring and reporting program if the Mitigated Negative Declaration is adopted.

DRAFT  
Signature

Title

Date