



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

TO: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties

PROJECT TITLE: Fleming Zone 8 Reservoir and Pump Station Improvements Project

LEAD AGENCY: Irvine Ranch Water District

REVIEW PERIOD: June 14, 2021 to July 13, 2021

CONTACT: Irvine Ranch Water District
Water Resources & Policy Department
Attention: Jo Ann Corey, Environmental Compliance Analyst
P.O. Box 57000
Irvine, California 92619-7000

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines, Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) is the Lead Agency for the Fleming Zone 8 Reservoir and Pump Station Improvements Project (proposed project). Based on the information contained in the Initial Study (IS) prepared for the proposed project, IRWD has prepared a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. IRWD is distributing this Notice of Intent (NOI) to responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and interested groups, in accordance with CEQA.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The project site is located in the unincorporated area of Santiago Canyon in the County of Orange. The project site is located on an approximately 2.9-acre parcel owned by IRWD that contains the existing Fleming Reservoir and Pump Station facility. The facility is located 7431 Santiago Canyon Road, Silverado, California. The site is approximately 500 feet east of the intersection of Santiago Canyon Road and Silverado Canyon Road.

The project site is not included on any hazardous materials sites pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

IRWD is proposing the demolition of existing on-site structures and the construction of a new 1.3 MG reservoir, a new pump station, support structures, and site improvements. As discussed previously, the existing facility is located on the eastern half of IRWD's property. Similarly, the proposed project would be located generally within the same footprint as the existing facility to minimize impacts to the undeveloped, vegetated side of the property. Currently, the existing facility does not meet IRWD criteria and operational requirements. Implementation of the project would allow IRWD to bring the facility in compliance with operational requirements for storage and pump redundancy for its customers within the Santiago Canyon Area.

Development of the proposed project would require IRWD to approve the IS/MND and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) for the proposed project. The project may require approvals, permits, or authorization from other agencies, classified as “Responsible Agencies” under CEQA.

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

IRWD invites all interested parties to submit written comments on the IS/MND during the public review period. The 30-day public review period will commence on June 14, 2021, and ends on July 13, 2021. All written comments on the IS/MND must be received by IRWD by 4:00 p.m., July 13, 2021.

During the public review period, the IS/MND will be available for review at the following location:

- Online at the IRWD website: <http://www.irwd.com/doing-business/environmental-documents>

METHODS OF DELIVERING COMMENTS:

Written comments must be received by 4:00 P.M., July 13, 2021, the close of the public review period. Written comments can be mailed or electronically submitted using the following contact information:

Irvine Ranch Water District
Water Resources & Policy Department
Attn: Jo Ann Corey, Environmental Compliance Analyst
P.O. Box 57000
Irvine, California 92619-7000
corey@irwd.com

Comments received during the public review period and responses to the comments will be included in the final environmental document. If you have any questions regarding the proposed project, please contact Jo Ann Corey at corey@irwd.com.

PUBLIC MEETING:

IRWD’s Board of Directors will consider the adoption of the IS/MND at a regularly scheduled meeting following the 30-day review period. For more information, contact the Board’s Secretary at (949) 453-5300.