

PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Palmdale Water District (PWD) is the Lead Agency and has prepared an Initial Study (IS) with the intent to adopt a Negative Declaration (ND) for the Proposed Multi-Year Water Transfer to Kern County Water Agency and Dudley Ridge Water District (Proposed Project).

In the effort to fund future local water reliability projects, PWD has negotiated a multi-year transfer of a portion of its annual allocation of SWP Table A water above its total annual water demand to the following five water districts: Berrenda Mesa Water District (BMWd), Belridge Water Storage District (BWSd), Lost Hills Water District (LHWD), Wheeler Ridge–Maricopa Water Storage District (WRMWSd), and DRWD, collectively referred to in this document as the Westside Districts. All of the Westside Districts, except DRWD, are KCWA Member Units; along with PWD, both KCWA and DRWD are Contractors. The water transfer (Proposed Project) would be based on PWD transferring a minimum quantity of SWP Table A water to the Westside Districts based on the annual SWP allocations from DWR and additional SWP Table A water to the Westside Districts if PWD has additional SWP Table A water to transfer and Westside Districts request delivery of all or a portion of the additional water. The Proposed Project could commence as early as 2021 after CEQA has been complied with, an agreement between PWD and the Westside Districts has been executed, and all other regulatory approvals have been obtained; however, with the current SWP allocation at 5 percent, it is unlikely that any of PWD's SWP water would be transferred in 2021. The Proposed Project would terminate at the end of 2035. The proposed project would use existing facilities to transfer water to existing service areas and would not construct new or alter existing facilities or result in ground disturbance. Copies of the IS/ND can be viewed on the PWD website address: <https://www.palmdalewater.org/about/reportsstudies/planning-reports/>.

ANY INTERESTED PERSON may comment on the IS/ND for the proposed project. Comments must be in writing and received by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time on September X, 2021, which is 30 days after publication of this notice on August X, 2021. Please send your written comments to: Peter Thompson II, Palmdale Water District, 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, CA 93550 or by e-mail to: pthompsonII@palmdalewater.org.