

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A DRAFT INITIAL STUDY FOR THE JONES CORNER/BURNS/LOS ROBLES WATER BANKS PROJECT. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Porterville Irrigation District (District) plans to adopt a draft initial study for the proposed improvements and operations of the District's Jones Corner/Burns/Los Robles Water Banks Project. The document will be on the agenda of District's regularly scheduled Board meeting on Tuesday February 15, 2021, at 9am the District Office, 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, CA.

Project will consist of three water banking facilities, two that are already constructed and functioning as recharge facilities (Burns and Los Robles) and one that is being constructed as part of this Project (Jones Corner). All three sites are located near the city of Porterville. The Jones Corner and Burns sites are located 1.75-miles west of the City, on Avenue 152. The Los Robles site is located 1.3-miles northwest of the City on Avenue 168. The Project will not include recovery wells.

Jones Corner Site (Planned): Avenue 152 runs along the north boundary of Area of Potential Effect (APE) with the Friant-Kern Canal to the east with agricultural plots on all sides. The APE is approximately 67 acres (water bank and reconstruction of 4,000 linear-feet of Rhodes-Fine Ditch).

Burns Site (Existing): Avenue 152 runs along the south boundary of APE with the Friant-Kern Canal to the east with agricultural plots on all sides. The APE is 8.8 acres.

Los Robles Site (Existing): The north, south, east and west of the APE borders along agricultural farmland plots. Avenue 168 runs along a portion of the APE to the east. Road 208 is approximately 0.90-miles west of APE. Highway 65 is approximately two miles east. The APE is 9.7 acres.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study has been prepared, describing the degree of possible environmental impacts of the proposed project. The District has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this proposed action and has determined that they will be less than significant. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed mitigated negative declaration are on file and available for public review at the District Office. The public review period during which the District will receive comments on the proposed mitigated negative declaration will begin on December 20, 2021 and end on January 19, 2022. Comments should be in writing, if possible, and addressed to Nick Keller, Acting General Manager, at either nkeller@ocsnet.net, or 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, CA 93257.