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NORTH KERN WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

January 11, 2022

Notice of Intent to Adopt the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Return Capacity Improvements for Regional Drought Resiliency Project

North Kern Water Storage District (District) has completed preparation of an Initial Study/proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Return Capacity Improvements for Regional Drought Resiliency Project (Project) and intends to adopt the MND as part of project review.

The IS/MND comment period is from **January 13 to February 11, 2022**.

You may obtain a copy of the IS/MND at 33380 Cawelo Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93308 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM (except holidays). The IS/MND may also be reviewed at:
<https://www.northkernwsd.com/projects/>

The proposed Project includes replacing four wells and installing three discharge outfalls and approximately 3.96 miles of pipeline. The four replace wells would be located in agricultural land within 100 feet of the existing wells. The District would connect a total of nine wells, including the four replacement wells and five other existing wells, to the Friant Kern Canal (FKC). Two wells would be connected to a new discharge outfall at Mile Post (MP) 129.93. Four wells would be connected to a new discharge outfall at MP 131.29. Two wells would be connected to a new discharge outfall at MP 137.36. The District would utilize an existing discharge outfall (MP 142.01) for one well. The new discharge outfalls would be installed below the top-of-bank within the FKC prism. Each connection to the FKC would require a standard turn-in and small delivery gate for control.

The proposed Project would improve long-term resiliency to drought, improve water conveyance to allow for the return of previously stored water to the District and the Districts banking partners, and help achieve the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Drought Response Program goals of modernizing infrastructure.

All comments regarding the IS/MND should be received **NO LATER THAN 4:00 p.m., on February 11, 2021**. Written comments should be submitted to:

David Hampton, General Manager
North Kern Water Storage District
33380 Cawelo Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308
Tel: (661) 393-2696
dhampton@northkernwsd.com

Sincerely,

David Hampton
General Manager
North Kern Water Storage District