

April 27, 2022

Governor’s Office of Planning & Research

Apr 28 2022

City of Sacramento
 Attn: Scott Johnson
 300 Richards Blvd., Third Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95811

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO (CITY), NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR THE GROUNDWATER MASTER PLAN WELL REPLACEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT (PROJECT); SCH #2022030709

Dear Mr. Scott Johnson:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the NOP/Initial Study for the EIR of the proposed Project. The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (State Water Board, DDW) is responsible for issuing water supply permits pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act. A project requires a permit if it includes water system consolidation or changes to a water supply source, storage, or treatment or a waiver or alternative from Waterworks Standards (California Code of Regulations (CCR) title 22, chapter 16 et. seq). The above referenced Project will require an amended water supply permit.

The State Water Board, DDW, as a responsible agency under CEQA, has the following comments on the City’s draft Initial Study:

- The Project will occur over 15 years and wells that are not properly destroyed may provide a source for water contamination. Please discuss your estimated timelines for well destruction for wells that will not be on the same site. For wells that have been inactive for more than a year, will the wells be prioritized for destruction to protect water quality?
- The document should discuss if the new wells would be able to provide sufficient water supplies, as planned, to serve the City’s water demand during normal, dry, and multiple dry years (Utilities and Service Systems [b]) (PDF Page 108 and 109), given the basin is overdrafted and surface water supplies may not be available due to drought.
- The following discrepancies were found between the “Table 2-2: Existing Municipal Production Well Inventory” listed in the initial study (PDF page 20-23) and the State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water records of the City’s existing wells and operational status:

Existing Well	Operational Status in CEQA Document	Operational Status in DDW Record
Well 127	Inactive	Active
Well 132	Not on the List	Inactive
Well 144	Inactive	Active
Well 146	Inactive	No record
Well 150	Not on the List	Inactive

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Well 154	Inactive	Active
Well 159	Active	Inactive
Well 166	Pending	No record

Please work with the State Water Board, DDW Sacramento District Office to resolve any discrepancies between the listed existing wells in the CEQA document and State Water Board, DDW records.

Once the EIR is ready to be circulated for public review, please ensure that the State Water Board, DDW Sacramento District Office is notified. The State Water Board staff will review the draft EIR and provide additional comments, if necessary.

Please contact Lori Schmitz of the State Water Board at (916) 449-5285 or Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov, if you have any questions regarding State Water Board CEQA comments.

Sincerely,

Lori Schmitz

Lori Schmitz
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Cc:

Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse

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