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Bakersheld, CA 93308 9575

Water Orders and folicolities country of the Country of

NORTH KERN WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

DATE:

July 20, 2022

SUBJECT:

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project:

Landowner Groundwater Recharge and Banking Project

The North Kern Water Storage District (District) Services has completed preparation of the Draft Initial Study/proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Landowner Groundwater Recharge and Banking Project (Proposed Program) and intends to adopt the MND as part of project review. The Draft IS/MND is now available for a 30-day public review and comment period. The comment period is from July 20, 2022, to August 18, 2022.

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

The District and landowners recognize the importance of the importation of surface water into the district area for beneficial use by agriculture and to enhance sustainable groundwater management. Landowners desire to establish a groundwater banking account that provides a reliable source of water and the flexibility to use that supply to support their agricultural activities. To this end, the District desires to establish a joint landowner groundwater banking program to incentivize landowners to share their privately-owned recharge facilities (surface or subsurface) to increase in-district recharge capacity. Potential sources of water available to recharge in shared facilities would be similar to surface water sources available to the District, including Kern River, Central Valley Project, and State Water Project. Groundwater banking would generally occur in wetter years when there would be surplus surface water supplies available.

Written comments regarding the IS/MND should be received by the District NO LATER THAN 4:00 p.m., on August 18, 2022. Written comments should be submitted to:

David Hampton, General Manager North Kern Water Storage District 33380 Cawelo Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93308

Email: dhampton@northkernwsd.com

Tel: (661) 393-2696

7/20/2022

David Hampton General Manager

North Kern Water Storage District

Date