



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DRAFT EIR)

PROJECT TITLE – Cal Poly Water Reclamation Facility Project State Clearinghouse No. 2022090231

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code (PRC) 21091 (a) and the Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA Guidelines), California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly) has released for public review a Draft EIR for the Cal Poly Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Project (project).

Project Title: Cal Poly Water Reclamation Facility Project

Draft EIR Review Period: April 17, 2023 to May 31, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Project Location: Located in the County of San Luis Obispo, the Cal Poly campus covers approximately 3,385 acres abutting the City of San Luis Obispo (City) to the south and west, and open space, ranchland, and public land to the north and east. The project would be located within portions of the 855-acre main campus, which is composed of four distinct geographic subareas: the Academic Core, East Campus, North Campus, and West Campus. Project components would be sited in the West Campus (WRF, recycled water storage reservoir, upper lift station, and most of the recycled water distribution system), Academic Core (force mains and lower lift station), and North Campus (recycled water distribution system) subareas.

Project Description: The project would involve constructing and operating an on-campus WRF and recycled water storage and distribution system to treat a portion of the campus's wastewater and deliver disinfected tertiary recycled water that meets the requirements of California Code of Regulations Title 22 for unrestricted reuse to campus agricultural and athletic fields for irrigation.

The proposed project would include the following components:

- WRF collection system,
- WRF,
- recycled water storage and distribution system, and
- utility improvements to support operation of proposed facilities.

The project was identified as a near-term project in the Campus Master Plan to meet the nonpotable water needs of the Cal Poly campus and free up an equivalent volume of the existing potable water supply from Whale Rock Reservoir to serve the projected potable water demand of the Cal Poly campus in the future.

Under the adopted Campus Master Plan, the WRF was anticipated to be located just north of the Dairy Unit and west of the Rodeo Facilities, and a new recycled water storage reservoir was not identified. However, as part of design of the proposed project, the location of the WRF has been adjusted, and a new recycled water storage reservoir has been proposed. Other proposed features, including the



collection system force mains and lift stations, and the recycled water distribution system, would be small or linear.

Under the proposed project, Cal Poly would continue to pump up to 120 afy of groundwater for agricultural irrigation purposes. Because Cal Poly would not increase agricultural operations as part of the Campus Master Plan, nonpotable water demands associated with agriculture are not anticipated to increase.

Document Availability: The Draft EIR is available for review online at:

<https://afd.calpoly.edu/facilities/planning-capital-projects/ceqa/>

Public Review and Comment Period: A 45-day public review period for the Draft EIR begins on April 17, 2023 and ends on May 31, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Please send your written comments via letter or email, with appropriate contact information, to:

Marcus Jackson
Facilities Planning and Capital Projects
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
1 Grand Avenue, Bldg. 70, Rm 221
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
Email: mjackson@calpoly.edu

Comments provided via email should include “WRF Project Draft EIR Comment” in the subject line and the full name of the commenter in the body of the email.

Anticipated Significant Environmental Impacts: Based on the environmental analyses in the Draft EIR for the Cal Poly Water Reclamation Facility Project, implementation of the project could result in significant environmental impacts; however, mitigation measures have been identified that would reduce these impacts to less than significant. With adoption of the identified mitigation measures, the project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts on the environment.

Cortese-Listed Sites: Section 15087 (c)(6) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that this notice disclose whether the project site is listed on any of the lists enumerated under Government Code Section 65962.5 (Cortese List). As noted in Chapter 3 of the Draft EIR, the project site is not identified on the Cortese List.