

## State Water Resources Control Board

December 19, 2022

Golden State Finance Authority  
Attn: Mr. Brian Briggs  
1215 K Street Suite 1650  
Sacramento, CA 95814



GOLDEN STATE FINANCE AUTHORITY, NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR THE GOLDEN STATE NATURAL RESOURCES FOREST RESILIENCY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (PROJECT); STATE CLEARINGHOUSE #2022110466

Dear Mr. Brian Briggs:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the NOP for 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. The Project is within the jurisdiction of DDW Lassen District and DDW Merced District. DDW Lassen District and DDW Merced District issue domestic water supply permits to new public water systems pursuant to Waterworks Standards (Title 22 CCR chapter 16 et. seq.).

“Public water system” means a system for the provision of water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances that has 15 or more service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year, (Health and Safety Code, Division 104, part 12, chapter 4, article 1, section 116275 [h]).

The State Water Board, DDW, as a responsible agency under CEQA, would like to see the following things addressed in the EIR:

- A public water system requires a public water supply permit to operate. Two pellet processing facilities, one in Tuolumne and one in Lassen, are proposed as part of the Project. For each processing facility, please discuss if a public water system will be created.
- If a new public water system will be created, please add the following:
  - A description of the new potable water system(s), the components that will be installed or constructed, and a discussion on associated environmental impacts.

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

- If a list of approvals for the Project or description of approvals for the Project is provided in the initial study and/or EIR, please include the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water and water supply permit in the list or description of approvals.

Once the CEQA document is ready to be circulated for public review, please ensure that the State Water Board, Lassen District and Merced District are notified. The State Water Board will review the draft CEQA document 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](mailto:Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov), if you have any questions regarding this comment letter.

Sincerely,

Lori Schmitz  
Environmental Scientist  
Division of Financial Assistance  
Special Project Review Unit  
1001 I Street, 16<sup>th</sup> floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cc:

Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse

Steve Watson  
District Engineer  
Lassen District

Shawn Demmers  
District Engineer  
Merced District