

State Water Resources Control Board

April 24, 2022

San Bernardino County
Attn: Mr. Phil Krause
Department of Public Works, Special Districts
222 W. Hospitality Lane,
San Bernardino, CA 92415



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY (COUNTY), MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND), FOR THE COUNTY SERVICE AREA 70J RESERVOIR 3A EXPANSION PROJECT (PROJECT); STATE CLEARINGHOUSE # 2023030770

Dear Mr. Phil Krause:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the MND 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 the State Water Board, DDW's Mojave District. DDW Mojave District issues a domestic water supply permit amendment to public water systems serviced with a new or modified source of domestic water supply or new domestic water system components pursuant to Waterworks Standards (Title 22 CCR chapter 16 et. seq.). A public water system requires a new water supply permit amendment for changes to a water supply source, storage, or treatment and for the operation of new water system components including new distribution tanks equal to or over 100,000 gallons, new wells, and treatment systems. The County will need to apply for a water supply permit amendment for this Project.

The State Water Board, DDW, as a responsible agency under CEQA, has the following comments on the County's MND:

- On PDF page 14, "10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required", please include "State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, Water Supply Permit Amendment."
- The MND gives conflicting information on whether a Construction General Permit and stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) is required. Page 48 indicates the permit and SWPPP are required and that is why impacts will not be significant. However, on page 58-59 Impact analysis (a) the discussion says the project both will and will not need the permit in the same paragraph. Please clarify if a construction general permit and SWPPP will be needed for this Project and edit the discussions and significance findings accordingly.

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

- Please state what the 30-foot by 30-foot building in the project description will house.
- When discussing Project waste discharges that could degrade surface or groundwater quality, please include tank discharges that may occur.

When the CEQA review process is completed, please forward the following items with your permit application to the State Water Board, DDW Mojave District Office at DWPDIST27@waterboards.ca.gov:

- Copy of the draft and final MND and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan;
- Copy of any comment letters received and the lead agency responses as appropriate;
- Copy of the Resolution or Board Minutes adopting the MND; and
- Copy of the date stamped Notice of Determination filed at the San Bernardino County Clerk's Office and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse.

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 this comment letter.

Sincerely,

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

Cc:

Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse

Amanda Chapman
Water Resources Control Engineer
Mojave District

Helene Baribeau
District Engineer
Mojave District