

## State Water Resources Control Board

July 5, 2023

Lassen County  
Attn: Mr. Matt May  
707 Nevada Street, Suite 5  
Susanville, CA 96130



LASSEN COUNTY (COUNTY), MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND) FOR THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT AND TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP PROJECT (PROJECT); STATE CLEARINGHOUSE #2023060141

Dear Mr. Matt May:

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 Lassen District. DDW Lassen District issues a domestic water supply permit to the public water systems serviced with a new 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 if it includes the creation of a new public water system.

A public water system, as defined in the California Health and Safety Code section 116275(h), is "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."

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

- On PDF page 47, the MND states, Notice of Early Consultation circulated by the Lassen County Department of Planning and Building Services dated February 24, 2021, and response was received from the State Water Resources Control Board stating that, "The proposed facility would be a public water system regulated by the Division of Drinking Water, Lassen District (District). The new water system will require the District's approval prior to construction, and must first receive an operating permit issued by the District prior to opening."

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

The referenced early consultation and comment letter was for a different project ([Use Permit #2021-002, Parcel Map #2021-001, Initial Study #2021-001, Gaji, Gondal \(ca.gov\)](#)), [State Clearinghouse Number 2021020471](#). The same consultation and comment letter does not apply to this project. Please remove this statement from the document.

- The DDW Lassen District encourages applicants with Projects requiring a new domestic water supply to work with nearby municipal water systems to connect, such as the Clear Creek CSD-Westwood which is adjacent to the Project parcel. If after coordinating with the DDW Lassen District and Clear Creek CSD-Westwood, the new parcels cannot connect with an existing system, a new water supply permit may be needed if any of the uses would constitute a public water system. If a new public water system is needed, please include the location of the water system and a description of the components in the MND.
- The MND discusses a private fire protection system (PDF page 18), but also has a mitigation measure that requires a connection to Clear Creek Community Services District-Westwood for fire protection (PDF page 59). Will the private fire system purchase fire protection water from Clear Creek CSD? Will the fire protection water flow be part of the drinking water system or part of a separate fire protection water system?
- The MND states on PDF page 26, there are no drainages on the Project site. However, on PDF page 47 it says, an alteration to an intermittent drainage will occur.
  - Please clarify if a drainage does or does not exist on site.
  - If it exists, what are the potential impacts to it?
  - If there are impacts, avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures and/or permits should be addressed.

If a public water system will be created, please forward the following items in support of a water supply permit application to the State Water Board, DDW Lassen District Office at [DWPRedding@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:DWPRedding@waterboards.ca.gov):

- Copy of the draft and final MND and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP);
- Copy of any comment letters received and the lead agency responses as appropriate;
- Copy of the Resolution or Board Minutes adopting the MND and MMRP; and
- Copy of the date stamped Notice of Determination filed at the Lassen 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](mailto:Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov), if you have any questions regarding this comment letter.

Sincerely,

Lori Schmitz

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

Rick Wade  
Water Resource Control Engineer  
Lassen District