

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To:
Office of Planning and Research
U.S. Mail: P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
Street Address: 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113 Sacramento, CA 95814
County Clerk
County of: Tulare
Address: 221 S. Mooney Blvd Rm 105, Visalia, CA 93291

From: Lead and Project Applicant
Public Agency: Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District
Address: 14181 Avenue 24 Delano, CA 93215
Contact: Eric Quinley, General Manager
Phone: (661) 725-2526
Lead Agency (if different from above): Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District
Address: 14181 Avenue 24 Delano, CA 93215
Contact: Eric Quinley, General Manager
Phone: (661) 725-2526

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2023060688
Project Title: Turnipseed Basin Phase VI Expansion Project
Project Applicant: Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District
Project Location (include county): APN 338-120-010 and 011, intersection of Ave 40/Rd 168, SW Tulare Co.

Project Description: See attached Project Description.

FILED TULARE COUNTY AUG 11 2023

ASSESSOR/CLERK RECORDER BY:

This is to advise that the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District (Lead Agency or Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on August 10, 2023 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

- 1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for this project.
6. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at: Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, 14181 Avenue 24, Delano, CA 93215

Signature (Public Agency): [Signature] Title: General Manager
Date: 08/10/23 Date Received for filing at OPR:

Project Description: DEID Turnipseed Basin Phase VI Expansion Project

The District acquired a 150-acre parcel and is in the process of acquiring a 20-acre parcel that would be used for the construction of a recharge basin with multiple cells to provide for sustainable management of surface and groundwater. The current project is identified as Turnipseed Basin Phase VI Expansion.

Project components could include ponds/cells within the basin separated by levees, performance testing, and demobilization. The District will excavate approximately 200,000 cubic yards of material from the site to form the overall basin. The basin will be further divided into approximately eight (8) cells to accommodate the varying topography and to minimize erosion by wave action. New levee construction would not exceed six feet, measured from the exterior toe to the top of new levee. The Project design will balance the earthwork, and no export of soil is anticipated. The Project will include a settling channel on the east side and an overflow basin along its western edge.

The Project may also include construction of a network of monitoring wells if needed to supplement existing monitoring wells associated with the existing banking operations that currently exist in proximity to the Project. Construction of those Project components would likely occur after construction of the basins are complete. The only pipelines contemplated in the Project would serve to introduce water for recharge/banking via construction of a tee in the existing Ave 40 Lateral. The District envisions that the basin will receive water from Lateral 113.7W which originates at a 97 cfs, 66-inch turnout on the Friant-Kern Canal, then extends west along Avenue 40 and beyond the Project site. At the Project location, the lateral is 48-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe and has an approximate capacity of 75 cfs.

If recovery wells are constructed, they would tie into District laterals through newly constructed intertie facilities. Any banking return via District recovery wells on the 170-acre site would flow back to the Ave 40 mainline or other laterals. None of the recovered water would be returned to the Friant-Kern Canal.

Construction Schedule

The Project includes several phases of construction, including equipment mobilization, existing pipeline tie-in, earthwork for excavation of recharge/regulation basins and construction of basin perimeter levees not exceeding six feet in external height, and inter-basin control structures. The project will be constructed within a nine-month period.

Operation and Maintenance

Operation of the facility would be consistent with that of the District's other similar facilities in that groundwater conditions will be monitored to minimize negative impacts on the surrounding areas (such as nearby wells, crops, and septic systems). Water delivered to the Project Site would be expressly intended by the District to be available for recovery only by District landowners within the original DEID services area, that area under jurisdiction of the District prior to the annexation of lands that occurred in 2016. The accounting of water delivered to the Project site, and the intended recovery by landowners will occur through the water balance or other similar mechanisms under the Groundwater Sustainability Plan developed by the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency.