

**Notice of Availability / Notice of Intent to Adopt Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration
for the RUSSIAN RIVER COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT HEADWORKS, LIFT STATIONS, AND
FORCE MAINS PROJECT****Posted: June 30, 2023****Public Review Period: July 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023**

The Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water) is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Russian River County Sanitation District Headworks, Lift Stations, and Force Mains Project (Proposed Project). Sonoma Water has prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and Sonoma Water's Procedures for Implementation of CEQA. This notice is to announce that the IS/MND is available for review by the public, agencies, and interested parties. Instructions for submitting comments on the document are included in this notice.

Project Location: The Russian River County Sanitation District serves and the Proposed Project is located in the unincorporated areas of Rio Nido, Guerneville, Guerneville Park, and Vacation Beach in west Sonoma County.

Project Description: The Proposed Project would reduce the potential for sanitary sewer overflows and leaking pipes, and reduce the risk of the loss of sanitation service resulting from failures of deteriorating infrastructure due to ground deformation, liquefaction, or lateral ground movement caused by a moderate or severe earthquake. To maintain safe and reliable sanitation service during a seismic event, the Proposed Project would also improve the ability of the Main Force Main to withstand the effects of ground deformation, liquefaction, and lateral spread hazards at the Russian River crossing. The Proposed Project would include repairing and replacing existing components of the headworks at the wastewater treatment plant, as well as repairing and replacing existing components at the 11 lift stations located within the RRCSD. Proposed repairs at the lift stations include replacing existing lift station platforms, installing new flow meter vaults, and regrading.

The Proposed Project would replace the existing force main pipeline on the Beanwood, Rio Nido, and Main force main alignments. The Proposed Project would replace a segment of the Beanwood Force Main that is attached underneath the Guerneville Bridge. The Proposed Project would also replace a segment of the existing Main Force Main that crosses under the Russian River near the Vacation Beach summer crossing. The new Main Force Main pipeline segment would be microtunneled approximately 30 feet to 45 feet below the riverbed to replace the existing pipeline segment. The existing pipeline segment would be disconnected, filled with a low strength concrete mixture, and abandoned in place. Work on the force mains would improve their ability to withstand the effects of ground deformation, liquefaction, and

lateral spread hazards.

Materials: A copy of the IS/MND and supporting materials are available at the Sonoma Water administrative office at 404 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA. The IS/MND is available online at: <https://www.sonomawater.org/environmental-documents>

Public Review: The 31-day public review on the IS/MND runs from July 1, 2023, to July 31, 2023. Please include a name, mailing address, and email address of a contact person for all future correspondence on this subject. Written comments must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm on July 31, 2023. Written comments may be addressed to: Jeff Church, Senior Environmental Specialist, Sonoma Water, 404 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403-9019; or emailed to jeff.church@scwa.ca.gov.

ADOPTION OF THE INITIAL STUDY AND MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Tentative Adoption Schedule: Following the close of the IS/MND public review period, Sonoma Water's Board of Directors will consider adoption of the IS/MND. The project is scheduled for consideration and adoption by Sonoma Water's Board of Directors at their regularly scheduled meeting beginning at **8:30 am on September 26, 2023**. Comments submitted during the Initial Study review period will be included in our report to the Board of Directors.