

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

P.O. BOX 942836  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001  
(916) 653-5791



September 12, 2023

Mr. Matthew Johnson, Senior Water Resources Specialist  
Mojave Water Agency  
13846 Conference Center Drive  
Apple Valley, California 92307

Oeste Basin Groundwater Recharge Project  
SCH# 2023080428  
San Bernardino County



Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) has reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Osete Basin Groundwater Recharge Project submitted by the Mojave Water Agency (MWA), which describes the proposed project as the construction of two basins for groundwater recharge. An insufficient amount of information is included in the MND to make an accurate jurisdictional determination with regards to the Osete Basin Groundwater Recharge Project, and it is unclear whether this project will be subject to State jurisdiction for dam safety. Therefore, the MWA needs to submit preliminary plans so that DSOD can make a jurisdictional determination.

As defined in Sections 6002 and 6003, Division 3 of the California Water Code, dams 25 feet or higher with a storage capacity of more than 15 acre-feet, and dams higher than 6 feet with a storage capacity of 50 acre-feet or more are subject to State jurisdiction. Dam height is defined as the vertical distance measured from the maximum possible water storage level to the downstream toe of the barrier.

If the proposed work is subject to State jurisdiction, an alteration application, together with plans, specifications, and the appropriate filing fee must be filed with DSOD for this project. All dam safety related issues must be resolved prior to approval of the application, and the work must be performed under the direction of a Civil Engineer registered in California. Erik Malvick, our Design Engineering Branch Manager, is responsible for the application process and can be reached at (916) 820-7820.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Area Engineer William F. Vogler at (916) 565-7828 or me at (916) 565-7827.

Sincerely,

*Brandon Cruz*

Brandon Cruz, Regional Engineer  
Central Region  
Field Engineering Branch  
Division of Safety of Dams

cc: (See Attached List.)

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cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
[state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov](mailto:state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov)