



State Water Resources Control Board

October 11, 2023

Mr. Parag Kalaria
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
31315 Chaney Street
Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Oct 11 2023

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Dear Mr. Kalaria:

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND) FOR ELSINORE VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (DISTRICT); CANYON LAKE WATER TREATMENT PHASE I IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (PROJECT); RIVERSIDE COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2023090247

DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY PERMIT AMMENDMENT

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 DDW Riverside District. DDW Riverside District issues domestic water supply permit amendments to the 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- as specified in the Waterworks Standards. The District will need to apply for a water supply permit amendment for this Project.

FUNDING

We understand that the District is pursuing Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) financing for this Project (DWSRF No. C-06-3310012-019C). As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board is providing the following water quality comments on the MND.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the DWSRF Program (Program). The primary purpose for the Program is to implement the Safe Drinking Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for drinking facilities improvements to provide clean potable drinking water, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state.

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

All applicants seeking funding must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and provide appropriate documents to the State Water Board so that it can fulfill its CEQA responsibilities, see [CEQA Requirements](#). In addition, because the Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency additional federal environmental documentation (cross-cutters) may be required. For additional Program information, the complete environmental application package and instructions, please visit:

[Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Forms and Instructions](#).

Following are specific comments on the District's draft MND:

- Under Initial Study Information Sheet, "10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required", please include "SWRCB, Division of Financial Assistance (Possible financing approval)"
- Please discuss the transport, disposal and or recycling, and replacement of the spent resin for the granulated activated carbon vessels and ion-exchange vessels.
- California Code of Regulations requires certification for certain water system staff based on treatment classifications (Title 22, division 4, chapter 13, article 2, section 63770). The Canyon Lake Water Treatment Plant is currently classified as a T4 treatment facility. The IS/MND mentions the current classification requires a chief operator and one shift operator and that six additional employees would be required to operate the Project (PDF pages 38, 78). Please discuss: if it is anticipated that the Canyon Lake Water Treatment Plant will need to be reclassified to a T5 treatment facility as a result of changes from the Project; the current ability for staff to meet T5 requirements; and if additional staff- besides the six proposed to be hired- will be needed to meet the classification requirements.

If an application for funding will be submitted, please upload to Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool the following applicable documents for the proposed Project, according to the District's CEQA process: (1) one copy of the draft and final IS/MND with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), (2) the resolution adopting the MND and MMRP, (3) all comments received during the review period and the District's response to those comments, and (4) the Notice of Determination filed with the Riverside County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board.

If funding will not be pursued, please forward the above requested documents with your permit amendment application to the State Water Board, DDW Riverside District Office at DWPDIST20@waterboards.ca.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to review the District's draft IS/MND. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (916) 449-5285, or by email at Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov or contact Mrs. Bridget Binning at (916) 449-5641, or by email at Bridget.Binning@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Lori Schmitz

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

cc: State Clearinghouse

Bridget Binning, Division of Financial Assistance

Robyn Mendoza, Division of Financial Assistance

Tatiana Guillen, Division of Financial Assistance

Aayush Khurana, DDW, Riverside District

Chun Huang, DDW, Riverside District