



**Notice of Availability
Draft Program Environmental Impact Report
for the
SOUTH BASIN GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROJECT**

Project Title: South Basin Groundwater Protection Project

Lead Agency: Orange County Water District

Project Site Location: The project area occurs at various sites within portions of the Cities of Santa Ana, Tustin, Irvine and a portion of unincorporated Orange County.

Public Review Period: The public review period for the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (Draft PEIR) will be from December 13, 2024 to January 27, 2025.

Project Description: The proposed Project is a groundwater extraction and treatment system that would extract contaminated groundwater from the Shallow Aquifer System, treat the water locally, then discharge the treated water to the sanitary sewer system. The treated groundwater would then mix with other wastewater flows in the sewer, which ultimately flow to OC San's Reclamation Plant No. 1 in Fountain Valley, California. The Project would include the installation and operation of below ground groundwater extraction facilities (wells, trenches, and/or drains equipped with pumps) and conveyance piping, local groundwater treatment facilities for sediment and VOCs removal using filtration and granular activated carbon (GAC), and discharge piping to the sanitary sewer system. The Project will use the existing treatment facilities at the Public Owned Treatment Works (POTW) and GWRS and will not require the construction of new treatment, transportation, or recharge facilities after the point that the treated water joins the sanitary sewer system.

Project Impacts: The Draft PEIR analyzes the potential impacts on the following resource issue areas: aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality, land use, noise, transportation, tribal cultural resources, and utilities and service systems. Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Project to reduce potential significant impacts to air quality, aesthetics, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, noise, tribal cultural resources, and utilities and service systems. The Project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts. The Project components would not be located on any sites that are on a list of hazardous material sites enumerated under Government Code 65962.

Availability of Draft EIR: The Draft PEIR and Technical Appendices are available for public review at <https://www.ocwd.com/what-we-do/water-quality/groundwater-cleanup/south-basin/>. The Draft PEIR and Technical Appendices are also available for public review at the Orange County Water District, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA. Please submit written comments on the Draft PEIR on or before January 27, 2025 to Shawn Nevill, Orange County Water District 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California, 92708. Please direct any questions to Shawn Nevill at (714) 378-3256 or at snevill@ocwd.com.

Additional information about the proposed Project can be found via OCWD's website at <https://www.ocwd.com/what-we-do/water-quality/groundwater-cleanup/south-basin/>

Public Meeting: OCWD will host a Public Meeting to discuss the Proposed Project and receive public comments.

Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
Delhi Center
505 E. Central Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92707

Si tiene preguntas en Español, favor de llamar at (714) 378-3323.