

**TULARE COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
East Orosi Water Supply Project**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Tulare County intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for East Orosi Water Supply Project. The MND has been approved for public review by the Tulare County Environmental Assessment Officer. Copies are available for review and comment at the Resource Management Agency, Permit Center, 5961 South Mooney Blvd, Visalia, California 93277-9394. Comments and recommendations on the adequacy of the environmental document may be filed at the aforementioned address during the public review period established for the project.

1. **PROJECT:** East Orosi Water Supply Project
2. **APPLICANT/AGENT:** Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277
3. **LOCATION:** The project is located on two separate, noncontiguous sites located within the unincorporated communities of Orosi and East Orosi in Tulare County, California. The first site includes a new well with a 12-inch water main pipeline that begins at Avenue 408 (west of Avenue 412) and runs north on Road 128 (State Route 63), ending south of Avenue 412, where it will connect to an existing pipeline in Orosi. The second site will contain a new water tank with a new 12-inch pipeline beginning on Ione Road, running south to Avenue 416, and ending east of Road 130.
4. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The proposed Project will have five major components: (1) installation of a new well located in the Orosi Public Utility District (OPUD); (2) installation of a new 300,000-gallon storage tank located in the East Orosi Community Services District (EOCSD); (3) replacement of the old (existing) asbestos-containing concrete-covered distribution pipeline located in the EOCSD; (4) connection of a new pipeline from the new well to existing pipelines in Orosi and then connecting a new pipeline to the new storage tank in East Orosi and (5) consolidation of the EOCSD drinking water customers and the Family Education Center into OPUD. The new production well will provide a compliant water supply in an amount sufficient to meet the needs of East Orosi, Culter-Orosi Joint Unified School District (COJUSD), and if desired, to provide a supplemental water source for Orosi and Culter. Following managerial consolidation with the OPUD, annexation of EOCSD may also be considered. In addition, the proposed Project would include replacement of meter boxes within EOCSD, installation of metered service connections and new fire hydrants, and abandonment of both EOCSD wells. The proposed Project will provide clean, reliable, potable water to the residents of East Orosi. The proposed Project will allow the EOCSD to meet current water demand without increasing water demand or inducing growth in the community.
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT:** The MND can be viewed at the Resource Management Agency office located at the address above; at the Orosi Branch Library at 12646 Ave. 416, Orosi, CA 93647, (559) 591-5830; or on the County website at:
<https://tularecounty.ca.gov/rma/planning-building/environmental-planning/mitigated-negative-declarations/east-orosi-water-supply-project/>.

6. **REVIEW PERIOD:** October 4, 2023 – November 3, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
7. **CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner at (559) 624-7121 or HGuerra@tularecounty.ca.gov (para Español llame Brenda Alcantar (559) 624-7000).

The MND has a review period of **30 days**, starting on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023**, and ending on **Friday, November 3, 2023**, which has been approved by the State of California, Office of Planning and Research. Any written comments on the MND should be sent to the Tulare County Resource Management Agency at the address noted above, to the attention of: Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner.

After the close of the public comment review period on the MND established by this notice, this matter will be set for public hearing before the Tulare County Planning Commission. Notice of the date, time and place for such public hearing will be published and/or mailed as provided by law.

Please take notice that - pursuant to Public Resource Code Section 21177, Government Code Section 65009, and other applicable law - if you challenge the proposed action described above in court, then you may be limited to raising only those issues or objections you or someone else raised during the public comment period or the public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Tulare County Resource Management Agency within the review period, or to the Planning Commission during the public hearing.

HECTOR GUERRA, CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER
REED SCHENKE, P.E., ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICER