



Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Scotts Valley Water District (SVWD) as the Lead Agency has prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Grace Way Well Project (Project).

Project Title: Grace Way Well Project

Project Location: 5297 Scotts Valley Drive (Assessor's Parcel Number 022-031-13)

Project Description: The SVWD proposes to construct and operate one new groundwater extraction well on SVWD-owned property at 5297 Scotts Valley Drive, Scotts Valley, California. The well would be 1,000 feet deep into the Lompico and Butano aquifers of the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin. The primary purpose of the Project is to provide redundancy and allow for increased extraction capacity to meet SVWD customer water demand as older wells reach the end of their useful life and are taken out of service, as well as strengthen the SVWD's ability to meet potential demand to deliver water to neighboring agencies under drought or emergency conditions in support of regional water supply planning efforts. Additionally, the Project would provide drought resiliency by enabling the SVWD to shift groundwater pumping away from areas where the greatest historical Lompico aquifer groundwater level declines have occurred in south Scotts Valley. The well would have a design capacity of 600 gallons per minute and could be operated continuously or for shorter intervals, depending on water demand.

Environmental Effects: The Initial Study found that implementation of the Project may result in potentially significant environmental impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, noise, and tribal cultural resources, which would be reduced to less than significant with incorporation of mitigation measures.

Review and Comment: The 30-day public review period for the Initial Study and MND is November 20 through December 20, 2023. Comments on the Initial Study and MND must be received in writing by email or mail to the contact listed below by 5:00 p.m. on December 20, 2023. Please include a return address and contact name.

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During the public review period, the Initial Study and MND will be available for review online at <https://www.svwd.org/news/post/838/> and in person at the SVWD office located at the address above, Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.