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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: City of Fowler Well No. 9

Lead Agency: City of Fowler

Contact Name: Dawn E. Marple, City Planner

Email: dmarple@ppeng.com Phone Number: (559) 834-3113

Project Location: Fowler (*City*) Fresno (*County*)

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Please see attached Project Description.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Please see attached Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program plan.

Revised September 2011

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

No known areas of controversy.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Not applicable.

Project Title

City of Fowler Well No. 9

Lead Agency Name and Address

City of Fowler
128 S. 5th Street
Fowler, CA 93625

Contact Person and Phone Number

Lead Agency Contact

Dawn E. Marple, City Planner
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CEQA Consultant

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
Amy Wilson, Senior Planner
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Project Location

The Project is located in the City of Fowler in central Fresno County, approximately 170 miles south of Sacramento and 150 miles north of Bakersfield. It is on the northeast corner of E. South Avenue & Stanford Avenue (Assessor's Parcel Numbers 343-280-60 & 343-280-61), approximately 0.45 miles west of State Route 99 (SR 99).

General Plan Designation and Zoning

Project Area	General Plan Designation	Zoning District
ONSITE	Low Density Residential	R-1-10
ADJACENT LANDS	Low Density Residential	R-1-10, AE-20

Description of Project

Project Background and Purpose

The City has been awarded a Small Community Drought Relief Program Grant from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and proposes to build a new municipal groundwater well with funding from the grant on the west side of the City. As of 2022 the City serves residential, commercial and industrial users through 2,160 service connections. The water system is currently supplied by six existing groundwater wells, each with a pumping capacity of between 310 and 1,700 gallons per minute (gpm). The synthetic

organic contaminant 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP) has been detected in five of the six water supply wells. Wells 4, 5A, 6, and 8A have experienced individual TCP detections at, or greater than the maximum contaminant level (MCL) value but have not yet violated the standard, which is based on a running annual average of measurements. Well 7 has TCP levels greater than the allowable standard and the City is in the process of designing a water treatment facility to remove TCP from Well 7. With the exception of the presence of TCP at Well 7, the water produced by the City's supply wells currently meets all drinking water standards. Well No. 9 will provide a second water supply to the west side of the City which improves water resiliency for the community as a whole and redundancy for this area, specifically, in the event the existing well is out of for any number for reasons including declining water levels due to drought. This project does not include water treatment equipment; however, there is space reserved on site to accommodate for future treatment equipment, if required.

Project Description

The Project would allow for the construction of a new groundwater well for the City of Fowler. The groundwater well is intended to supplement the City's water supply system and provide additional drought resiliency for the City. The Project, which would be designed to produce a minimum desired 1,200 gpm that is consistent with the existing City production well yields in the area, would increase the City's potable water supply. Upon completion of well drilling and necessary zone testing it is expected that the well would be constructed at a depth of approximately 720 feet. The well will be drilled and constructed to comply with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board- Division of Drinking Water (DDW).

The new groundwater well will be constructed on an approximately 0.5-acre site owned by the City in southwest Fowler. The Project site is currently two parcels that will be merged into one lot prior to Project construction. The site was previously utilized as a stormwater retention pond, the pond will be backfilled and graded prior to well construction activities.

For purposes of biological and cultural surveys, the Area of Potential Effect (APE) includes the approximately 0.5-acre property and an additional 50-foot buffer to include the large trees adjacent to the property. The total area of the APE is approximately 1.4 acres.

Construction Schedule

Construction duration of the Project is anticipated to be 17 months, occurring approximately from January 2024 to May 2025. The Project will begin with the clearing, grubbing, and backfilling of the existing, unused stormwater retention pond, lasting approximately one month. The test hole mobilization, drilling, and lab testing will follow, lasting approximately two months. Next will be the production well construction lasting approximately 2 months. After the drilling and production well construction phases are complete, the site improvements and equipment will be constructed and installed. All phases include inspections and site cleanup. Construction equipment will likely include a drilling rig, excavators, backhoes, graders, skid steers, loaders, and hauling trucks. During construction, measures to minimize noise impacts will include installing temporary sound barriers and providing advance communication to residents that may be affected by construction activities.

Generally, construction will occur between the hours of 7am and 5pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. It is anticipated that well drilling and well construction will take between 12 to 16 weeks and during drilling activity 24/7 operation will be required at various points. A special permit, pursuant to Chapter 21, Article 6, Section 5-21.601 of the Fowler Noise Ordinance, would be obtained by the City to

allow for the continuous drilling. Construction will require temporary staging and storage of materials and equipment. Staging areas will be located onsite.

Operation and Maintenance

Operation and maintenance of the new groundwater well will be performed by the City of Fowler's existing Public Works staff.

Site and Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

Table 1: Existing Uses, General Plan Designation, & Zone Districts of Surrounding Properties

Direction from Project Site	Existing Use	General Plan Designation	Zone District
NORTH	Residential	Low Density Residential	R-1-10
EAST	Residential	Low Density Residential	R-1-10
SOUTH	Residential	Low Density Residential	AE-20 (Fresno County)
WEST	Residential	Low Density Residential	R-1-10

CHAPTER 5 MITIGATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING PROGRAM

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been formulated based upon the findings of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Project in the City of Fowler. The MMRP lists mitigation measures recommended in the IS/MND for the Project and identifies monitoring and reporting requirements.

Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program presents the mitigation measures identified for the Project. Each mitigation measure is numbered with a symbol indicating the topical section to which it pertains, a hyphen, and the impact number. For example, AIR-2 would be the second mitigation measure identified in the Air Quality analysis of the IS/MND.

The first column of ***Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting*** Program identifies the mitigation measure. The second column, entitled "When Monitoring is to Occur," identifies the time the mitigation measure should be initiated. The third column, "Frequency of Monitoring," identifies the frequency of the monitoring of the mitigation measure. The fourth column, "Agency Responsible for Monitoring," names the party ultimately responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented. The last columns will be used by the Lead and Responsible Agencies to ensure that individual mitigation measures have been complied with and monitored.

Table 5-1: Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program						
Item	Mitigation Measure	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
Biological Resources						
BIO-1	**Avoidance:** The Project's construction activities would occur, if feasible between September 16 and January 31 (outside of nesting bird season) in an effort to avoid impacts to nesting birds.	Prior to the start of construction activities	7 days prior to the start of construction	City of Fowler	Contractor's construction schedule	
BIO-2	**Pre-construction Surveys**: If activities must occur within nesting bird season (February 1 to September 15), a qualified biologist would conduct pre-construction surveys for Swainson's hawk nests onsite and within a 0.5-mile radius. This survey would be conducted in accordance with the *Recommended Timing and Methodology for Swainson's Hawk Nesting Surveys in California's Central Valley* (Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee, 2000) or current guidance. The pre-construction survey would also provide a presence/absence survey for all other nesting birds within the APE and an additional 50 feet, no more than 7 days prior to the start of construction. All raptor nests would be considered "active" upon the nest-building stage.	Prior to the start of construction activities	7 days prior to the start of construction	City of Fowler	Qualified Biologist report of pre-construction survey	
BIO-3	**Establish Buffers:** On discovery of any active nests or breeding colonies near work areas, the biologist would determine appropriate construction setback distances based on applicable CDFW and/or USFWS guidelines and/or the biology of the species in question. Construction buffers would be identified with flagging, fencing, or other easily visible means, and would be maintained until the biologist has determined that the nestlings have fledged.	Prior to the start of construction activities	7 days prior to the start of construction	City of Fowler	Qualified Biologist report of pre-construction survey	
BIO-4	**ITP:** In the event an active Swainson's Hawk nest or other nest is detected during surveys and cannot be avoided, consultation with CDFW would be warranted to discuss how to implement the Project and avoid take. If take cannot be avoided, take	Prior to the start of construction activities	7 days prior to the start of construction	City of Fowler	Acquisition of permit	

Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program						
Item	Mitigation Measure	When Monitoring is to Occur	Frequency of Monitoring	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Method to Verify Compliance	Verification of Compliance
	authorization through the acquisition of an ITP pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivision (b) is necessary to comply with CESA.					
			Cultural Resources			
CUL-1	Should archeological remains or artifacts be unearthed during any stage of project activities, work in the area of the discovery shall cease until the area is evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If mitigation is warranted, the project proponent shall abide by recommendations of the archaeologist.	During construction activities	Daily	City of Fowler	City of Fowler with assistance of a qualified archaeologist	
CUL-2	In the event that human remains are discovered on the Project site, the Fresno County Coroner must be notified of that discovery (California Health an d Safety Code, Section 7050.5) and all activities in the immediate area if the find or in any nearby area reasonably suspected of overlie adjacent human remains must cease until appropriate and lawful measures have been implemented. If the Coroner determines that the remains are not recent, but rather of Native American origin, the Coroner shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours to permit the NAHC to determine the most likely descendent of the deceased Native American.	During construction activities	Daily	City of Fowler	City of Fowler with assistance of County Coroner	
			Geology and Soils			
GEO-1	Should a unique paleontological resource, site, or unique geological feature be unearthed during any stage of Project activities, work in the area of discovery will cease until the area is evaluated by a qualified geologist and/or paleontologist. If discoveries are uncovered, the Project proponent will abide by recommendations of the geologist or paleontologist.	During construction activities	Daily	City of Fowler	City of Fowler with assistance of a qualified geologist and/or paleontologist	