

## SAN LUIS WATER DISTRICT

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A JOINT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT/INITIAL STUDY FOR THE SAN LUIS WATER DISTRICT LOS BANOS CREEK DETENTION RESERVOIR STORAGE PROGRAM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the San Luis Water District (District) plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the San Luis Water District Los Banos Creek Detention Reservoir Storage Program (Project). The public hearing will be held at the District Office, located at 1015 Sixth Street, Los Banos, CA 93635 on Tuesday, February 27, 2022, at 1:30 pm.

The Project proposes to operate the Los Banos Creek Detention Dam (LBCDD) in the spring to route natural Los Banos Creek (LBC) flows to riparian lands downstream of the facility, making space available for storage. The Project includes installation, maintenance, and operation of new facilities that would convey non-LBC water for storage in the Los Banos Creek Detention Reservoir (Reservoir). To convey the Project Participants' water to the Reservoir, a pipeline would be constructed from an existing San Luis Water District (SLWD) pump station lateral to the Reservoir. In addition to the proposed pipeline, the Project would include the following:

- *Enlarge existing Turnout 9-1 pipeline connection,*
- *A filter (fish screen) with backwash system at SLWD Lateral 9 Turnout 9-1 connection point into an existing stock water pond,*
- *A pipeline and appurtenances varying in size from 30-inch to 48-inch in diameter,*
- *Water control valve(s) at engineered location(s),*
- *Below-ground crossings of three existing 20-foot-wide roads with 3 feet of cover,*
- *A water flow energy dissipation flare at the Reservoir discharge location, and*
- *Removable weights placed at various locations on the ground along the pipe to keep it from rolling (if pipe is placed above ground).*
- *Construction of a box culvert,*
- *Construction of a boat ramp extension.*

The Project would also alter existing Reservoir operations to allow for Project Participant water supply storage and beneficial release; routing natural LBC flows to riparian lands for irrigation and refuge use downstream of the facility making space available for storage in the spring, pumping Project Participant water supplies into the LBCDR available storage (Project); and releasing Project Participant water supplies into the LBC for re-diversion and beneficial uses by Project Participants.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, a Joint Environmental Assessment/ Initial Study has been prepared, describing the degree of potential environmental impacts of the Project. The District has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this Project and has determined that they will be less than significant with mitigation. Copies of the Joint Environmental Assessment/Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file and available for public review upon written notice to 1015 Sixth Street, Los Banos, CA 93635. The public review period during which the District will receive comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on January 19, 2024, and end on February 20, 2024. Comments should be in writing, if possible, and addressed to Amy Wilson at Provost & Pritchard, 400 E. Main Street, Visalia, CA 93291, or at [awilson@ppeng.com](mailto:awilson@ppeng.com).

The site has been reviewed in accordance with Government Code Section 65962.5 and is not listed as a hazardous waste or materials site.