



State Water Resources Control Board

Mr. Tom Trott
Twain Harte Community Services District
22933 Twain Harte Drive
Twain Harte, CA 95383

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Apr 10 2024

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Dear Mr. Tom Trott:

DRAFT INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR TWAIN HARTE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT (DISTRICT); SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (PROJECT); TUOLUMNE COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2024030516

We understand that the District is pursuing Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) financing for this Project. As a funding agency and a state agency with jurisdiction by law to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is providing the following water quality comments on the IS/MND circulating for the Project.

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, is responsible for administering the DWSRF Program (Program). The primary purpose for the Program is to implement the Safe Drinking Water Act and various state laws by providing financial assistance for drinking facilities improvements to provide clean potable drinking water, and thereby protect and promote health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state.

All applicants seeking funding must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and provide appropriate documents to the State Water Board so that it can fulfill its CEQA responsibilities, see [CEQA Requirements](#). In addition, because the Program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency additional federal environmental documentation (cross-cutters) may be required. For additional Program information, the complete environmental application package and instructions, please visit:

[Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Forms and Instructions](#).

Following are specific comments on the District's draft IS/MND:

- The IS/MND indicates "The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) will act as a CEQA Responsible Agency and NEPA Lead Agency" (PDF page 9). A State Agency does not act as a NEPA Lead Agency; but as

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- a requirement of funding, may ensure federal regulations are met outside of the CEQA process. Please clarify this.
- It appears like the Department of Water Resources may have been listed instead of the State Water Resources Control Board on PDF page 9. Please include the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance as a possible responsible agency if funding may be obtained, instead of DWR (PDF page 9)- as appropriate, and/or in Table 2: "Other Public Agency Approvals or Reviews that May be Required" with revised sub-headers (PDF page 17).

Thank you for the opportunity to review the District's draft IS/MND. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (916) 449-5285, or by email at Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov or contact Mrs. Bridget Binning at (916) 449-5641, or by email at Bridget.Binning@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Lori Schmitz
Environmental Scientist
Division of Financial Assistance
Special Project Review Unit
1001 I Street, 16th floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

cc: State Clearinghouse

Bridget Binning, Division of Financial Assistance