



State Water Resources Control Board

September 3, 2024

Amanda Rodari
Pixley Public Utilities District
232 East Davis Avenue
Pixley, CA 93256

Dear Amanda Rodari:

INITIAL STUDY MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR PIXLEY PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT (WATER SYSTEM); WELL A, 4, 5, AND 6 (PROJECT); TULARE COUNTY; STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2024080045

DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY PERMIT AMENDMENT

Thank you for the opportunity to review the IS/MND for the proposed Project. The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (State Water Board, DDW) is responsible for issuing water supply permits pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act. This Project is within the jurisdiction of DDW Visalia District. DDW Visalia District issues domestic water supply permit amendments to the public water systems serviced with a new or modified source of domestic water supply or new domestic water system components pursuant to Waterworks Standards (Title 22 California Code of Regulations [Cal. Code Regs.] chapter 16 et. seq.). A public water system requires a new water supply permit amendment when changes are made to a domestic water supply source, storage, or treatment and for the operation of new water system components- as specified in the Cal. Code Regs. § 64556. The Water System will need to apply for a water supply permit amendment for the proposed changes to the domestic water supply resulting from this Project.

FUNDING

We understand that the Water System is pursuing Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) financing for this Project (DWSRF No. C-06-54100009-009C). 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 Board is providing the following water quality comments on the IS/MND.

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,

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

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 Water System's draft IS/MND:

- In the IS/MND, under section 2.1.7, Other Public Agencies Whose Approval May Be Required (PDF page 13), please include:
 - “State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water” and “public drinking water supply permit amendment”. [The Water System must apply to the State Water Board, DDW for an amendment to their water supply permit for an addition or change in treatment (Cal. Code. Regs., tit. 22, § 64556).]
 - “State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance” and “possible funding.”

If an application for funding will be submitted, please upload to Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool the following applicable documents for the proposed Project: (1) one copy of the draft and final IS/MND with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), (2) the resolution adopting the IS/MND and MMRP, (3) all comments received during the review period and the Water System's response to those comments, and (4) the Notice of Determination filed with the Tulare County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. In addition, we would appreciate notices of any hearings or meetings held regarding environmental review of any projects to be funded by the State Water Board.

If funding will not be pursued, please forward the above requested documents with your permit amendment application to the State Water Board, DDW Visalia District Office at DWPDIST12@waterboards.ca.gov

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Water System'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

Robyn Mendoza, Division of Financial Assistance

Adam Forbes, Division of Drinking Water

Lauren Pham, Division of Drinking Water