

DRAFT EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Lead Agency: East Valley Water District
31111 Greenspot Road
Highland, CA 92346

Contact: Nathan Carlson
Phone: (909) 888-8986
Email: ncarlson@eastvalley.org

Project Title: East Valley Water District Well No. 129 Project

State Clearinghouse Number: Not yet assigned

Project Location: The East Valley Water District (EVWD or District) service area is located in southern California within southwestern San Bernardino County. The project will occur within the eastern part of the District's service area. The potential well site is located northwest of the intersection of Calle Del Rio St. and Vista Clara St., just south of Oak Creek in the City of Highland. The project is located within the USGS Topo 7.5-minute map for Redlands, CA, and is located in Section 1, Township 1 South and Range 3 West, San Bernardino Meridian. The approximate GPS coordinates of the project site are 34.112523°, -117.139739°.

Project Description: The District seeks to install a new well, which would aid the District in meeting current and future demand. Well No. 129 is proposed to be located within a less than one acre portion of an approximately 2.37-acre parcel (Assessor's Parcel Numbers [APN] 121038110) a site northwest of the intersection of Calle Del Rio Street and Vista Clara Street, south of Oak Creek in the City of Highland. The District owns APN 121038110, which presently contains two 3-million gallon steel water storage reservoirs. The site is referred to as EVWD Plant No. 129.

The site would include the following features: the new well (wellhead); an 8" diameter pipeline connecting to the District's booster pump station onsite; a 4' diameter reinforced concrete pipe that extends 2' above grade and 16" RCP drain line; chlorine and orthophosphate dosing systems; a 55' x 20' Concrete Masonry Unit block building with a standing seam metal roof enclosing the wellhead, discharge header, PTW header, electrical equipment, and chemical facilities. The District anticipates that the new well will be drilled utilizing the reverse circulation rotary drilling method to about 550 feet below ground surface, based on the depth of the District's nearby well. The objective for the well is to generate 25 to 150 acre-feet of potable groundwater on a monthly basis.

Finding: East Valley Water District's decision to implement this proposed project is a discretionary decision or "project" that requires evaluation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Based on the information in the project Initial Study, the District has made a *preliminary* determination that a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be the appropriate environmental determination for this project to comply with CEQA.

Initial Study: A copy of the Initial Study can be obtained electronically at the District's office at 31111 Greenspot Road, Highland, CA 92346. The Initial Study can also be found at the District's Website: www.eastvalley.org. The public review period for the Initial Study begins August 26, 2024 and ends on September 25, 2024.

Mitigation Measures: All mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study are summarized on beginning on Page 86 of the Initial Study and are proposed for adoption as conditions of the project. These measures will be implemented through a mitigation monitoring and reporting program if the Mitigated Negative Declaration is adopted.

DRAFT
Signature

Title

Date