

ARVIN-EDISON WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE NORTH CANAL SPREADING WORKS EXPANSION PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Arvin-Edison Water Storage District (AEWSD or District) plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the construction and operation of the North Canal Spreading Works Expansion Project. The public hearing will be held by the District's Board of Directors on February 11, 2025 at 1:00 pm, at the District Office, 20401 E Bear Mountain Boulevard, Arvin, CA 93203.

The District is proposing to construct up to 160 acres of new groundwater recharge basins and modify 35 acres of existing groundwater recharge basins. Soils onsite would be excavated to construct basins which would be gravity filled. The excavated material would be used to create berms between basin cells as needed. The proposed Project would connect to the existing gravity pipeline infrastructure along the northern portion of the site and divert available surface water via proposed connections to existing pipeline tees located on the existing AEWSD DiGiorgio Unit 48-inch gravity pipeline. The Project site is located in Kern County, California, southeast of the City of Bakersfield, and approximately 1.5-miles north of the City of Arvin.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study has been prepared, describing the degree of possible environmental impacts of the proposed Project. The District has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this proposed action and has determined that they will be less than significant. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file and available for public review at the District Office. The public review period during which the District will receive comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on December 20, 2024, and end on January 21, 2025. AEWSD is holding their Board meeting February 11, 2025. Comments should be in writing, and addressed to Sam Blue, Resource Manager, via email at Sblue@awwsd.org or 20401 E Bear Mountain Boulevard, Arvin, CA 93203.