

TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE MAIN INTAKE CANAL PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Tulare Irrigation District (District) plans to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Main Intake Canal Project (Project). The public hearing to consider the Project is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 11th, 2025, at 9:00 am, in the District Board Room located at 6826 Avenue 240, Tulare, CA 93274.

The District is proposing to construct two reinforced concrete pipe or box siphons, each connecting to the Main Intake Canal (MIC). The Project would install two new reinforced concrete pipe or box siphons adjacent and upstream of the existing siphons at each site. The new siphons will address the structural concerns of the existing siphons and will also enhance the maximum capacity to approximately 1,100 CFS. The existing box culvert siphons will remain in place to provide added erosion protection for the new siphons by stabilizing the river bottom sediment in place. The proposed MIC Siphon Project would enhance the facility and system reliability, increase facility capacity, protect the functionality of the St. Johns River and Kaweah River, and provide surface water reliability for irrigation and groundwater service for Tulare Irrigation District.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared, describing the degree of possible environmental impacts of the proposed Project. The District has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this Project 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 Board Room, 6826 Avenue 240, Tulare, CA 93274. The public review period during which the District will receive comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on January 21st, 2025, and end on February 19th, 2025. Comments should be in writing, and addressed to Briza Sholars at Provost & Pritchard, 455 W. Fir Ave, Clovis, CA 93611, or at bsholars@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.