
State Water Resources Control Board

February 18, 2024

Jared Walker
Redwood Valley County Water District
151 Laws Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482

REDWOOD VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT (WATER SYSTEM), INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND) FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND WATER RESILIENCY UPGRADES PROJECT (PROJECT); STATE CLEARINGHOUSE #2025010535

Dear Jared Walker:

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 the State Water Board, DDW's Mendocino District. DDW Mendocino District issues domestic water supply permit amendments to public water systems pursuant to Waterworks Standards (Title 22 California Code of Regulations [Cal Code Regs.] chapter 16 et. seq.). A public water system requires a 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 State Water Board, DDW, as a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has the following comments on the Water System's IS/MND:

- The Water System will need to apply for a water supply permit amendment for the addition of new sources to the existing water system (Title 22 §64556 [3][a]). Under I. Project Summary, Anticipated Permits and Approvals (PDF page 4), please include "A water supply permit from the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water."
- The IS/MND indicates that the Water System would be required to obtain a permit from the Mendocino County Health Department (MCHD) and that this would ensure that the proposed wells would not substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge (PDF page 39). Please explain how the MCHD permit will ensure this or edit this statement as needed.

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

- The proposed wells and water lines would be constructed within the 100-year flood zone (PDF page 40). Please discuss the potential impacts to the flood flow and how the well will be designed to protect the domestic water supply from contamination due to flood events.
- Please discuss the anticipated quality of groundwater (besides the plume impacts). If LACO Associates sampling or other sampling was performed, please discuss these results (PDF pages 152-153).
- Under the Proposed Improvements subsection, if the wells are anticipated to require treatment, please discuss the possible treatment methods and infrastructure needed (PDF page 7). Please then also discuss the impacts of the construction and operation of the treatment infrastructure, as needed, in the checklist.

When the CEQA review process is completed, please forward the following items with the permit application to the State Water Board, DDW Mendocino District Office at ddwsantarosa@waterboards.ca.gov:

- The IS/MND with all comment letters received and the lead agency responses as appropriate.
- The Resolution or Board Minutes adopting the IS/MND and approving the Project, and
- The date stamped Notice of Determination filed at the Mendocino County Clerk's Office and the State Clearinghouse.

Please contact Lori Schmitz of the State Water Board at (916) 449-5285 or Lori.Schmitz@waterboards.ca.gov, for questions regarding this comment letter.

Sincerely,

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

Cc:

State Clearinghouse

Guy Schott
Associate Sanitary Engineer
Mendocino District

Jared Walker

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Zachary Rounds
District Engineer
Mendocino District