



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

This notice is to inform the public and interested agencies that in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Sewerage Commission Oroville Region (SC-OR) is circulating an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Ruddy Creek Pump Station for public comment.

Project Title: Ruddy Creek Pump Station Project

Project Location: The project is within the unincorporated community of Thermalito in Butte County, CA, on the south side of State Route (SR) 162 between Harlan Ave and 14th Street, on Assessor's Parcel Numbers 030-212-043 and 030-212-046. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is approximately 0.9 acres, which includes demolition of existing facilities and construction of new facilities within the two subject parcels as well as off-site within Caltrans right of way.

Project Description: The Sewerage Commission-Oroville Region (SC-OR) Ruddy Creek Pump Station Rehabilitation Project involves the removal and decommissioning of an existing pump station (wet well/dry well pump station and discharge pipes) and construction of a new wet well pump station with three pumps and a grinder, as well as a new discharge line under Ruddy Creek to a new manhole. Evaluations done by SC-OR indicate that installing a new wet well system will provide more efficient service and be cost-effective. The original pump station was built in 1975 and has reached the end of its useful life, as wet weather flows now exceed the station's pumping capacity. The increase in pumping capacity is needed to meet the demand of existing flows due to infiltration and inflow (I&I)-related storm events and to serve future expansion planned for the Thermalito area. SC-OR will build a new pump station and demolish the old station on an adjacent 0.25-acre SC-OR-owned property immediately south of the existing pump station site, with an Area of Potential Effect of 0.9 acres. The new pump station will be updated with modern controls and expanded pumping capacity. The station was originally designed to serve the City of Oroville's Airport Business Park and parts of the unincorporated area of Thermalito south of Oro Dam Boulevard and west of Harlan Avenue. This station will continue to serve those areas, and will provide additional pumping capacity for future customers, as the existing business park and neighborhoods in those areas continue to build out. Additional project description information can be found within the IS/MND, located at <https://www.scorca.gov/updates>

Document Availability: The IS/MND will be available for review at the following locations beginning on Monday, March 10, 2025.

- SC-OR Office: 2880 South 5th Avenue, Oroville, CA
- SC-OR website: <https://www.scorca.gov/updates>

Public Review Period: The 30-day public review period for the IS/MND is from March 10, 2025, to April 8, 2025.

Comments: Any person who wishes to comment on SC-OR's intent to adopt the MND must submit written comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2025. Written comments may be sent to: Glen Sturdevant, Manager Superintendent, via email to gsturdevant@sc-or.org or via mail to P.O. Box 1350, Oroville, CA 95965.

Project Impacts: Based on the findings of the Initial Study that assesses the Project's potential environmental impacts, the Project would not have a significant impact on the environment with implementation of mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study. These mitigation measures will be attached to the project as conditions of approval and included in a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan to mitigate potentially significant impacts related to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emission, hydrology and water quality, noise, transportation, and Tribal cultural resources. The project site is not known to contain any significant hazardous waste contamination under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

Public Hearing: SC-OR will hold a public hearing on the proposed Project, including CEQA findings, on April 22, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. (or as soon thereafter as possible) at its office located at 2880 South 5th Avenue, Oroville, CA. SC-OR's website will publish an agenda at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.