

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND INITIAL STUDY

POSTED FEB 20 2020
Through MAY 28 2020
RYAN RONCO, COUNTY CLERK
By [Signature]
Deputy Clerk

DATE: February 20, 2020

TO: Responsible Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

SUBJECT: **Doty North Canal Siphon #1 Replacement Project — PLACER COUNTY**

The Nevada Irrigation District (NID) is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency for the proposed Doty North Canal Siphon #1 Replacement Project (Proposed Project). NID has directed the preparation of an Initial Study (IS) in compliance with CEQA.

Project Location: The Project is in southern Placer County north of Highway 193 adjacent to the Gold Hill Gardens Event Center at 2325 Gold Hill Road, Newcastle, California. The Project Site is situated northwest of the event center grounds and extends across Doty Ravine and Sailors Ravine.

Project Description: The Project is proposed by the Nevada Irrigation District (NID) and involves replacement of an existing raw water transmission siphon that is in poor condition and has reached the end of its useful life. As part of the Project, the existing 24-inch raw water siphon crossing over Doty Ravine and Sailors Ravine would be removed and replaced with a new 350-foot long, 36-inch-diameter welded steel inverted siphon pipe. The new pipe would convey Doty Ravine North Canal raw water across Doty and Sailors Ravine consistent with the District's approved masterplan design flow rate of 34 cubic feet per second (cfs). System demands and operational constraints limit when the existing Siphon can be taken off line for replacement. This requires that construction occur during winter when water demands are lowest. As such, construction is currently planned to begin on or about October 15, 2020. Due to the flashy nature of the Doty Ravine Watershed and expected high flows during winter months, a temporary construction crossing at the Project site is not considered feasible. Primary construction access would be from the south following the existing Gold Hill Gardens paved driveway entrance off Gold Hill Road. North side construction access would be provided by a temporary easement extending approximately 1,300 feet southwesterly from Gold Hill Road. The northern access route includes a temporary crossing of Sailors Ravine and would extend through irrigated pasture and then follow an NID service road to the north side of Sailors Ravine and the Project site. Project construction is expected to take approximately six weeks and is scheduled to begin on or about October 15, 2020, or later depending on funding availability.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts: Potentially significant impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, paleontological resources, and tribal cultural resources identified in the Initial Study. All impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level with the implementation of mitigation measures.

Hazardous Waste Sites: Pursuant to Section 15087(c)(6) of the Guidelines for California Environmental Quality Act, NID acknowledges the non-existence of hazardous waste sites within the project area reviewed by this Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).

IS/MND Document Review and Availability: The public review and comment period for the IS/MND will extend for 30 days starting **February 20, 2020 and ending March 21, 2020**. The IS/MND is available for public review at the following locations:

- Nevada Irrigation District Business Center, 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945 (8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday)

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- Lincoln Public Library, 485 Twelve Bridges Drive, Lincoln, CA 95648 (11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Thursday, Closed Friday and Sunday)

The IS/MND can also be viewed and/or downloaded on the NID website:

<https://nidwater.com/projects/>

Comments/Questions: Comments and/or questions regarding the IS/MND may be directed to Kris Stepanian, NID Board Secretary, 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945 or email: stepiank@nidwater.com.