

City of Pismo Beach Public Works Department 760 Mattie Road Pismo Beach, California 93449 T: (805) 773-4658

www.pismobeach.org

Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

TO: Responsible Agencies & Interested Parties

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABLITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Pismo Beach, as Lead Agency, has completed an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines for the project identified below. A Draft EIR is an informational document that evaluates a proposed project's potential to significantly impact the environment, while also identifying ways to reduce or avoid environmental impacts through mitigation measures and alternatives to the project. The City requests your agency's views on the scope and content of the environmental information relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project, in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15082(b). Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by the City when considering any permits that your agency must issue or for any other approval for the project.

Project Title: Central Coast Blue Project

State Clearinghouse #: 2019120560

Project Location:

The project would be located on several properties in the city of Grover Beach and portions of unincorporated San Luis Obispo County, including the community of Oceano. A specific map of the project components with known locations can be viewed online at https://centralcoastblue.com/recent-updates. Additional project components will be located at yet to be determined locations within the city of Grover Beach in San Luis Obispo County and portions of unincorporated San Luis Obispo County.

Project Sponsors: City of Pismo Beach, Public Works Department

760 Mattie Road, Pismo Beach, CA 93449

South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District

1600 Aloha Place, Oceano, CA 93445

Brief Project Description:

The proposed project is a regional advanced purified water project intended to enhance supply reliability by reducing the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin's (SMGB) vulnerability to drought and seawater intrusion. The project would involve injection of advanced purified water into the SMGB via a series of injection wells installed at various locations to create a seawater intrusion barrier. Water for the project would be sourced from two of the region's wastewater treatment facilities - the Pismo Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District (SSLOCSD) WWTP. Prior to injection to the SMGB, water would be treated to an advanced level of purification at a proposed advanced treatment facility (ATF) constructed at Assessor's Parcel Number 060-543-016 in Grover Beach. The proposed ATF would treat a combination of flows from the Pismo Beach WWTP and flows from the SSLOCSD WWTP for injection in the SMGB and/or for agricultural irrigation. In addition to the ATF, project components include an advanced purified water storage tank, an equalization basin, a pump station, distribution pipelines, injection wells, monitoring wells, one new production well, and potential agricultural irrigation pipelines. The project would alter the pumping regime of existing, operational production wells in the project area and would include construction of one new production well to optimize groundwater production in the area. A detailed project description is available online as part of the Draft EIR, which can be https://centralcoastblue.com/recent-updates.

Significant Environmental Effects: The Draft EIR identified significant and unavoidable impacts associated with nighttime construction noise and land use conflicts. The Draft EIR also identified significant impacts related to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, environmental justice, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, operational noise, vibration, and transportation; however, these impacts would be reduced to less-than-significant levels through the incorporation of the proposed mitigation measures. All other environmental impacts would be less than significant.

Hazardous Waste Sites: No hazardous waste sites identified on lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 are present in the project area.

45-Day Document Review: The public review and comment period for the Draft EIR begins Monday, July 20, 2020 and ends Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Any person wishing to comment on this matter must submit such comments, in writing, to the contact person listed below prior to the end of the review period.

Public Meetings: Two public meetings will be held by the City of Pismo Beach during the public review period. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via video conference. Information on how to access the video conference will be available at https://centralcoastblue.com/recent-updates at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. The second meeting will be held during the course of the City Council meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Information on the meeting format and venue will be available in the official meeting agenda posted at http://www.pismobeach.org/897/Agenda-Center.

Document Availability: The Draft EIR may be viewed on the project's https://centralcoastblue.com/recent-updates. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home orders required in California, City offices and local libraries remain closed to the public. As a result, interested public members who wish to receive a copy of the Draft EIR can request one from the City from the contact person listed below.

Lead Agency Contact

Person:

City of Pismo Beach

Attn: Matthew Downing

760 Mattie Road

Pismo Beach, CA 93449

Email: mdowning@pismobeach.org

Date:

July 17, 2020

Signature:

Matthew Downing, AICP

Title: Planning Manager, City of Pismo Beach

Phone: (805) 773-7044