

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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Governor's Office of Planning &amp; Research

*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.***DEC 27 2019****STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

December 27, 2019

Erik Johnson, Engineer  
Tuolumne Utilities District  
18885 Nugget Boulevard  
Sonora, CA 95370

**TUO-108-PM 0.345  
Sonora Wastewater Treatment  
Facility Improvement  
Initial Study-Mitigated  
Negative Declaration  
SCH# 2019129009**

Dear Mr. Johnson,

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Sonora Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement Project. The proposed Project will provide replacement of existing polishing ponds with a new activated sludge treatment facility consisting of the following: headworks primary screening and grit removal, new activated sludge/extended aeration secondary treatment processing, new secondary clarifiers, new chlorine disinfection facilities, renovated sludge digestion to aerated digestion, and new sludge dewatering facilities. A new administration and electrical building (Building A) will be constructed adjacent to the treatment facility. Existing septage receiving station, headworks, primary clarifiers, trickling filters, and secondary clarifiers will be demolished as part of the project. The existing Emergency Storage Basin (ESB) Pond A will be lined and reused in the proposed Project. The new facilities will be constructed in the location of the existing polishing ponds. The land area will be reclaimed by draining and filling the ponds with approximately 90,000 cubic yards of fill material to be generated onsite. The project site is located at 18885 Nugget Boulevard Sonora, CA 95370. It is directly adjacent to State Route (SR) 108 and SR 49 in Tuolumne County.

Caltrans has the following comments:

If any project activities encroach into Caltrans right of way, an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans Permit Office is required. Appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with the application. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, and/or other resources within Caltrans right of way at the project site. Please include California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

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documentation with supporting technical studies when submitting the Encroachment Permit. For more information please visit the Caltrans Website at; <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>

If you have any questions or would like to discuss these comments, please contact Michael Casas at (209) 948-7475 (Email: [michael.casas@dot.ca.gov](mailto:michael.casas@dot.ca.gov)) or me at (209) 948-7325 (Email: [gregoria.ponce@dot.ca.gov](mailto:gregoria.ponce@dot.ca.gov)).

Sincerely,



Gregoria Ponce, Chief  
Office of Rural Planning

c: Darin Grossi, Executive Director Tuolumne County Transportation Council  
Quincy Yaley, Director, Tuolumne County Community Resources Agency