DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION DOTY NORTH CANAL SIPHON #1 REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Project Title:

Doty North Canal Siphon #1 Replacement Project

Lead Agency/Project

Proponent:

Nevada Irrigation District

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 and Sailors ravines.

Project Description

The Doty North Canal Siphon #1 Replacement Project is located northwest of the Gold Hill Gardens Event Center at 2325 Gold Hill Road, Newcastle, in the foothills of western Placer County. 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 offline 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.

Public Review Period: February 20, 2020 – March 21, 2020