

Kern Local Agency Formation Commission
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
(Pursuant to CEQA Section 21092 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15072)

To: Kern County
County Clerk
1115 Truxton Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301-4639

From: Kern Local Agency Formation Commission
5300 Lennox Avenue, Suite 503
Bakersfield, CA 93309

and

Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Weldon Regional Water System Improvement Project

SCH Number: To be assigned

Project Location: The project area is in northeastern Kern County and is depicted on the Weldon USGS 7.5' topographic quadrangle in sections 14, 13, 18, 21, and 22, of Township 26S, Range 34 and 35 E. The project centers on State Highway 178 from the KOA campground to the west, to Poplar Street to the east.

Project Description: The Community of Weldon is proposing to develop a new water system infrastructure to provide a regional water supply to the community of Weldon in Kern County. As such, five water companies in the Weldon area of Kern County are forming a new public Special District to provide a regional water supply that meets safe drinking water standards to the local communities, which will be called the Weldon Regional Water District.

The water companies joining the new Weldon Regional Water District would include Long Canyon Water Company, Tradewinds Water Association, Bella Vista Mutual Water Company, Lake Isabella KOA, and Rainbird Valley Mutual Water Company. The project would construct new water infrastructure (wells, reservoirs, pump station, etc.), and integrate the five listed systems and replace aging infrastructure that currently exists, which is a significant undertaking. The project requires the development of two new wells, two 0.75 MG reservoirs, 35,000 feet of new 8-12" water transmission pipelines, a new booster pump station, as well as new meters, hydrants, and valves to replace broken, corroding, and non-working infrastructure.

Project Sponsor(s): Kern Local Agency Formation Commission

This is to advise that the Kern Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo), acting as the lead agency, has prepared an Initial Study to determine if the project may have a significant effect on the environment and is proposing to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration based on the following finding:


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- The Initial Study shows that there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment.
- The Initial Study identified potentially significant effects but:
 - (1) Revisions in the project plans or proposal made or agreed to by the applicant before this proposed Negative Declaration was released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur; and
 - (2) There is no substantial evidence before the agency that the project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment.

A copy of the Initial Study and all other material which constitutes the record of proceedings upon which Kern LAFCo based its decision to adopt this Mitigated Negative Declaration may be obtained at:

Kern Local Agency Formation Commission
5300 Lennox Avenue, Suite 303, Bakersfield, CA 93309

The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will be available for a 30-day public review and comment during the review period, which begins on March 18, 2020 and ends on April 16, 2020.

	Executive Officer	03-09-2020
Signature	Title	Date

Date received for filing and posting

- Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
- OPR