

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD and Lead Agency) has prepared a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the proposed Booster Station 5513W/5514 Improvements and Reservoir 5514-2 Construction project described below pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State Guidelines §15000 et seq and CEQA-Plus federal requirements. Anyone desiring to comment on the IS/MND may do so in writing within the 30-day public review period, commencing September 29, 2021, and ending October 29, 2021.

Project Title: Booster Station 5513W/5514 Improvements and Reservoir 5514-2 Construction Project

Project Location: The proposed project is located in the City of Rancho Mirage, Riverside County, California. Rancho Mirage is located southwest of the cities of Palm Springs and Cathedral City, and northwest of the city of Palm Desert. California State Route (SR) 111 runs northwest to southeast through Rancho Mirage. Physically, the project site is bounded by the Santa Rosa Mountains to the west, and the Indio Hills and the edge of Joshua Tree National Park to the northeast. The proposed project site consists of three parcels: CVWD's Site 5514 (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 690-070-008) and CVWD's Site 5513 (APN 690-190-001 and 690-190-002).

Brief Project Description: The proposed project would construct a new aboveground water storage tank (Reservoir 5514-2) to be located on the same site as CVWD's existing Reservoir 5514. To enable construction of the new tank, the existing booster pump station at the site would be demolished and relocated to the nearby Site 5513. To support these improvements, the existing motor control center located at Site 5513 would be replaced to accommodate both an existing booster station and the new booster station. In addition, a short section of new pipeline would be constructed within Thunderbird Road to tie the new booster station into the existing water distribution system. The proposed project would alleviate water storage deficiencies within the CVWD system by increasing storage capacity and improving reliability and efficiency of related infrastructure. Refer to the attached figure for a depiction of the proposed project area.

Public Meeting: CVWD's Board of Directors will consider the proposed project at a publicly-noticed Board of Directors meeting scheduled for December 7, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. Meetings are typically held at CVWD's Steve Robbins Administration Building, located at 75-515 Hovley Lane East in Palm Desert, California, 92211. In an effort to protect public health, prevent the spread of COVID-19, and because state and/or local officials are recommending measures to promote social distancing, the public may view the Board meeting online or virtually. The meeting will be streamed live on the District's website at: www.cvwd.org/151/Board-Agendas. Members of the public may provide comments in-person at the meeting or via Zoom.

30-Day Document Review: The document may be reviewed online at: www.cvwd.org

<u>Contact Person</u>: Written comments may be submitted to: William Patterson, Environmental Supervisor, CVWD, 75-515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92211, or emailed to: <u>wpatterson@cvwd.org</u>

