STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Stockton East Water District (**Stockton East**) prepares, makes, declares and publishes this proposed Negative Declaration for the Stockton East Water District and Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District Sphere of Influence Update and Annexation Project (**Project**).

Project Title: Stockton East Water District and Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District Sphere of Influence and Annexation Project.

Project Location: The Project is located within the boundaries of the Stockton East Water District and the Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District, within San Joaquin County.

Project Description: Review of the Sphere of Influence of the two districts prior to consolidation, and review of annexation of approximately 3,966 acres of property within Central's proposed SOI into the boundaries of the consolidated Stockton East Water District, generally located east of Central, south of State route 4 and Sonora Road, and north of Carter Road.

Determination: Stockton East has reviewed the Project and has determined that the Project, as identified in the attached Initial Study, will not have a significant effect on the environment. An Environmental Impact Report is not required pursuant to the Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (Division 13 of the Public Resources code of the State of California).

Public Review: The Initial Study/Negative Declaration has been prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and contains an environmental review of the potential impacts of the Project. This Initial Study/Negative Declaration is being circulated for 30 days from November 4, 2022 through December 5, 2022. Comments on the Initial Study/Negative Declaration can be sent by 12:00 noon on December 5, 2022 to Stockton East Water District, Attention: Mr. Justin Hopkins, General Manager, Post Office Box 5157, Stockton, California 95205-0157, or by email at jhopkins@sewd.net. Comments will be reviewed by Stockton East, and the Initial Study/Negative Declaration will be revised, as appropriate, prior to adoption of the proposed Negative Declaration by Stockton East, which is scheduled for December 20, 2022 at noon.

This environmental review process and Negative Declaration filing is pursuant to Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 6, Section 15070 of the California Administrative Code.

A copy of the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration may be reviewed/obtained at the office of the district at the address set forth above.

Justin Hopkins, General Manager