

2554 SWEETWATER SPRINGS BOULEVARD, SPRING VALLEY, CALIFORNIA TELEPHONE: 619-670-222 www.otaywater.gov

NOTICE OF PREPARATION PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE

OTAY WATER DISTRICT 2022 WATER FACILITIES MASTER PLAN UPDATE PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

DATE: April 4, 2023

TO: Responsible, Trustee, and Other Agencies and

Interested Organizations/Individuals

LEAD AGENCY: Otay Water District

2554 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard Spring Valley, California 91978-2096

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15082(a), 15103, and 15375, this Notice of Preparation (NOP) is hereby sent to inform you that the Otay Water District (District) is preparing a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) to assess the environmental effects associated with implementation of the 2022 Water Facilities Master Plan Update (2022 WFMP Update). The purpose of the 2022 WFMP Update is to identify and provide planning and design data for future potable and recycled water capital improvement projects. The 2022 WFMP Update is intended to develop a phased approach to outline the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects necessary to meet the projected customer demands at 5-year intervals to the year 2055. In addition, the 2022 WFMP Update would update the previous PEIR to address environmental impacts for each future CIP project.

As the lead agency under CEQA, we need to know the views of your agency regarding the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with implementation of the 2022 WFMP Update. Your agency may need to use the PEIR prepared by the District when considering issuance of permits or other approvals. The District requests that any potential responsible or trustee agency respond to this NOP in a manner consistent with CEQA Guidelines, Section 15082(b). If you are responding as an interested organization or individual citizen, we need to know your views regarding the environmental information you would like us to address in the Draft PEIR.

Public Scoping Meeting: A public scoping meeting will be held to provide more information on the 2022 WFMP Update and to give the public an opportunity to offer comments and suggestions on the scope of environmental information addressed in the Draft PEIR. The public scoping meeting will provide the District with an opportunity to learn about potential concerns, mitigation measures, and alternatives that may warrant in-depth analysis during the environmental review process. The date, time, and address of this meeting are provided below:

Date: Time: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Address: Virtual via Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83127310680

Meeting ID: 831 2731 0680

Please note that, depending on the number of attendees, the meeting could end earlier than the end time noted above.

Due to the time limits mandated by state law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this NOP. Please send your written responses, including the name of a contact person and phone number, to:

Lisa Coburn-Boyd Otay Water District 2554 Sweetwater Springs Boulevard Spring Valley, California 91978-2004

Phone: (619) 670-2219

Email: Lisa.Coburn-Boyd@otaywater.gov

Any written or oral comments received at the public scoping meeting will be considered in preparing the Draft PEIR, along with any written comments received during the 30-day NOP public comment period. All parties that have submitted their names and mailing addresses will be notified of subsequent actions as part of the environmental review process. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list or have any questions about the 2022 WFMP Update, please contact Ms. Lisa Coburn-Boyd at the phone number above.

Signature: Lisa Colum. Boyd

Name: Lisa Coburn-Boyd

Date: April 4, 2023

Attachments: 1, Overview of 2022 Water Facilities Master Plan Update; 2, Map of Master Planning Area and Adjacent Areas of Influence

Attachment 1 - Overview of 2022 Water Facilities Master Plan Update

The purpose of the 2022 WRMP Update is to revise and update the District's 2015 WFMP. The 2022 WFMP Update would identify proposed potable and recycled water CIP facilities (e.g., pump stations, storage reservoirs, transmission mains) and associated probable cost estimates to meet projected water demands and to address aging pipeline infrastructure within the District planning area and the identified area of influence (Attachment 2). The 2022 WFMP Update would develop a phased approach to outline the CIP projects necessary to meet projected customer demands during the following time frames: 2028 (Near Term) and 2055 (Long Term).

In addition, the process to finalize the 2022 WFMP Update would require addressing environmental impacts for each recommended CIP project. Pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, the District must prepare a PEIR to obtain approval and formal adoption of the 2022 WFMP Update. The PEIR would provide an overview of the CIP projects identified in the 2022 WFMP Update and their environmental impacts in terms of aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, utilities and service systems, and wildfire. The previous PEIR for the 2015 WRMP was adopted and certified in 2016.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The 2022 WFMP Update would identify a comprehensive system-wide plan for both the potable and recycled water system within the District planning area and the identified area of influence. The District's primary objectives for the 2022 WFMP Update include the following actions:

- 1. **Update Projected Water Demand Criteria:** Review and update population growth and land use data to create an envelope of future growth and potable and recycled water demand.
- 2. **Map Out Potable and Recycled Water Facility Improvements:** Map out the District's facility needs, including transmission, storage, and pumping, to serve projected future conditions and to address aging pipeline infrastructure.
- 3. **Update the District's CIP:** Update the District's near-term (2028) and long-term (2055) CIP based on a new demand forecast, new supply options, and identified facility needs.
- 4. **Identify Water Resource Strategies:** Identify water resource strategies and infrastructure needs for long-term strategies identified in the District's Integrated Water Resource Plan.

Attachment 2 - Map of Master Planning Area and Adjacent Areas of Influence

Introduction and District Overview S.D. COUNTY SYCUAN RESERVATION **EL CAJON** HILLSIDE S.D. COUNTY SYSTEM LEMON GROVE REGULATORY LA PRESA SYSTEM SYSTEM SAN DIEGO S.D. COUNTY NATIONAL CITY S.D. CHULA VISTA CENTRAL AREA SYSTEM SAN DIEGO S.D. COUNTY **OTAY MESA** Legend SYSTEM Districts SAN DIEGO South Otay Water District Area of Influence (AOI) US - MEXICO INTERNATIONAL BORDER Otay Water District Jurisdiction





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January 2023