

Notice of Preparation

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Notice of Preparation

2018 SEP -5 AM 9:42

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To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA^(Address)

From: Modesto Irrigation District
1231 11th Street
Modesto, CA 95354

Kalpana Surti

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Modesto Irrigation District

will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials. A copy of the Initial Study (is is not) attached.

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 notice.

Please send your response to John Davids at the address shown above. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Project Title: Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan Programmatic EIR

Project Applicant, if any: _____

Date August 28, 2018

Signature 

Title Asst. General Manager, Water Operations

Telephone 209-526-7564

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.

Date removed from posting 10-9-18

Notice of Preparation

Modesto Irrigation District

Comprehensive Water Resources

Management Plan Programmatic EIR

The Modesto Irrigation District (MID), located in the northern portion of the San Joaquin Valley in Stanislaus County (Figure 1), conducted an evaluation of its water resources, on-farm systems, land use patterns and projections, infrastructure, and finances. As a result of this assessment, MID has developed and intends to implement an integrated and forward-looking Water Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan (Proposed Program) to address MID's long-term customer and water management goals, and the specific infrastructure and operational needs throughout the MID irrigation conveyance system. The Proposed Program includes approximately 100 individual projects, which are distributed within MID irrigation district boundaries and support MID's goals through approximately 2040. Executing the Proposed Program over the next decades will allow MID to continue providing a high-level of service to meet customer's evolving water delivery needs and increase operational reliability. The projects in the Proposed Program can be divided into the following 12 categories:

- Drain/Reclamation
- Flow Control and Measurement Structures
- Groundwater Management
- Irrigation Service Turnout Measurement
- Lateral Rehabilitation
- Main Canals and Tunnels Improvements
- Miscellaneous In-System Improvements
- Outflow Management
- Pipeline Replacement
- Regulating Reservoirs and Infrastructure
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)
- Stormwater Management

Because the Proposed Program includes a number of individual projects that could have environmental impacts and will be implemented in phases, a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) as referenced in Section 15168 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Guidelines) is being prepared. The PEIR will provide programmatic evaluation of the Proposed Program and will facilitate future implementation of individual projects including those that are not anticipated to require additional project-level environmental review. As per CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(b), MID intends to use the PEIR for the following purposes:

- Provide a vehicle for a more comprehensive consideration of effects and alternatives than would be practical in an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on an individual action.
- Ensure consideration of cumulative impacts that might be overlooked in a case-by-case analysis.
- Avoid duplicative reconsideration of basic policy considerations.
- Allow MID to consider broad policy alternatives and program-wide mitigation measures at an early stage of the planning process when MID has greater flexibility to address basic environmental issues or cumulative impacts.

- Reduce administrative tasks associated with potential projects contemplated in the Proposed Program.

Draft Goals and Objectives

MID recognizes the need for significant investment in its irrigation infrastructure and has developed the Proposed Program to ensure the MID mission is maintained. The Proposed Program will allow MID to:

- Provide a high-level of customer service and meet customer's evolving water delivery needs;
- Ensure compliance with the Water Conservation Act of 2009 (Senate Bill [SB] x7-7); and
- Implement irrigation infrastructure improvements for the stewardship of MID's water resources and increasing operational reliability.

Alternatives

The PEIR will evaluate the No Program Alternative and Proposed Program Alternative. Under the No Program Alternative, present practices are assumed to continue. It is assumed under this alternative that MID would maintain the existing level of service to its customers, only invest in projects to address major service liabilities, and only provide the minimum resources needed to comply with SB x7-7. The No Program Alternative would meet the CEQA requirement of an analysis of a "No Project" alternative in which the Proposed Program is not implemented. The No Program Alternative allows decision-makers to use the PEIR to compare the impacts of approving the Proposed Program with the future conditions of not approving the Program. CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6, subdivision (e)(2), indicates that the No Project (Program) Alternative should include reasonably foreseeable changes in existing conditions and changes that would be reasonably expected to occur in the foreseeable future if the project (or program) was not approved, based on current plans and consistent with available infrastructure and community services.

Other alternatives that may be raised during the scoping process will be evaluated for feasibility and included in the PEIR as determined appropriate or necessary.

Impact Analysis

The PEIR will evaluate and disclose the potential impacts associated with implementing the projects included in the Proposed Program. Where significant potential impacts are identified, appropriate mitigation measures will be incorporated in coordination with MID. The PEIR will support the preparation of subsequent environmental documents and/or various permit applications as determined to be necessary in cooperation with MID.

Impacts associated with the implementation of the projects included in the Proposed Program will be evaluated qualitatively and quantitatively, as appropriate. Potential effects, such as temporary and/or permanent impacts to terrestrial wildlife, will be evaluated through field surveys and known presence. Where final project locations are not yet known, and will be determined in the future, impact avoidance criteria will be developed and disclosed to support future project/program implementation and minimize potential impacts.

A public draft PEIR is expected to be completed in early 2019.

Scoping Meeting

A public scoping meeting on the Proposed Program and CEQA process to receive public input will be held Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 9:00 am in the Board Room at the MID Main Office. The MID office is located at 1231 11th Street, Modesto, California 95354. Scoping comments from interested parties will be accepted for 60 days from the date the Notice of Preparation is filed with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. Scoping comments can be submitted in-person at the public scoping meeting or by mail to:

John Davids
Modesto Irrigation District
PO Box 4060
Modesto, CA 95352

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #

Project Title: Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan Programmatic EIR

Lead Agency: Modesto Irrigation District Contact Person: John Davids
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4060 Phone: 209-526-7564
 City: Modesto Zip: 95352 County: Stanislaus

Project Location: County: Stanislaus City/Nearest Community: Modesto

Cross Streets: Zip Code:
 Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): ° ' " N / ° ' " W Total Acres:
 Assessor's Parcel No.: Section: Twp.: Range: Base:
 Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: Waterways: Airports: Railways: Schools:

Document Type:

- CEQA: NOP Draft EIR NEPA: NOI Other: Joint Document
 Early Cons Supplement/Subsequent EIR EA Final Document
 Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) Draft EIS Other:
 Mit Neg Dec Other: FONSI

Local Action Type:

- General Plan Update Specific Plan Rezone Annexation
 General Plan Amendment Master Plan Prezone Redevelopment
 General Plan Element Planned Unit Development Use Permit Coastal Permit
 Community Plan Site Plan Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) Other:

Development Type:

- Residential: Units _____ Acres _____
 Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
 Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
 Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
 Educational: _____
 Recreational: _____
 Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____
 Transportation: Type _____
 Mining: Mineral _____
 Power: Type _____ MW _____
 Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____
 Hazardous Waste: Type _____
 Other: Irrigation Facilities

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- Aesthetic/Visual Fiscal Recreation/Parks Vegetation
 Agricultural Land Flood Plain/Flooding Schools/Universities Water Quality
 Air Quality Forest Land/Fire Hazard Septic Systems Water Supply/Groundwater
 Archeological/Historical Geologic/Seismic Sewer Capacity Wetland/Riparian
 Biological Resources Minerals Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading Growth Inducement
 Coastal Zone Noise Solid Waste Land Use
 Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous Cumulative Effects
 Economic/Jobs Public Services/Facilities Traffic/Circulation Other:

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)
 See attachment "Notice of Preparation Modesto Irrigation District Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan Programmatic EIR"

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with and "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB #5 _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region #4 _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission | |

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date September 4, 2018 Ending Date November 2, 2018

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>Jacobs</u>	Applicant: _____
Address: <u>2525 Airpark Drive</u>	Address: _____
City/State/Zip: <u>Redding, CA 96001</u>	City/State/Zip: _____
Contact: <u>John Schoonover</u>	Phone: _____
Phone: <u>530-229-3305</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: _____

Date: 8/30/18

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

**Distribution List for the
Notice of Preparation for
MID's Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan PEIR**
(Excludes state agencies handled by State Clearinghouse)

Following is a list of the parties to whom the Notice of Preparation has been distributed:

MID INTERNAL:

Modesto Irrigation District
Ed Franciosa
P.O. Box 4060
Modesto, CA 95352-4060

Modesto Irrigation District
Legal Department
P.O. Box 4060
Modesto, CA 95352-4060

STANISLAUS COUNTY OFFICES:

Chief Executive Office
Stanislaus County
Attn: Environmental Review Committee
1010 10th Street, Suite 6800
Modesto, CA 95354

Stanislaus County
Department of Environmental Resources
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite C
Modesto, CA 95358

Stanislaus County
Community Development Department
1010 10th Street, Suite 3400
Modesto, CA 95354

Stanislaus County Emergency Services
3705 Oakdale Road
Modesto, CA 95357

Stanislaus County Fire Authority
3705 Oakdale Road
Modesto, CA 95357

Riverbank Library Reference Desk
3442 Santa Fe Street
Riverbank, CA

Salida Library Reference Desk
4835 Sisk Rd
Salida, CA
CITIES:

City of Modesto
Patrick Kelly, Planning Manager
PO Box 642
Modesto, CA 95353

City of Waterford
Tim Ogden, City Manager
City Hall
PO Box 199
Waterford, CA 95386

City of Riverbank
6707 3rd Street
Riverbank, CA

OTHER:

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD),
NORTHERN REGION
4800 Enterprise Way
Modesto, CA 9535

Tuolumne County
County Administrator
2 S Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370

USACOE Regulatory
Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

U.S. Army Corps Engineers
Regulatory Branch
1325 J Street, Room 1480
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

StanCOG
111 "I" Street, Suite 308
Modesto, CA 95354

Stanislaus County Department of Public Works
1716 Morgan Rd
Modesto, CA 95358

Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District
3324 Topeka St
Riverbank, CA 95367

IRRIGATION DISTRICTS:

Oakdale Irrigation District
Steve Knell, P.E., General Manager
1205 East F Street
Oakdale, CA 95361

Turlock Irrigation District
Casey Hashimoto, General Manager
PO Box 949
Turlock, CA 95381-0949

South San Joaquin Irrigation District
Peter Rietkirk, General Manager
PO Box 747
Ripon, CA 95366

Merced Irrigation District
Mike Morris, Associate Engineer
744 West 20th Street
Merced, CA 95340

LIBRARIES:

Waterford Public Library Reference Desk
324 E Street
Waterford, CA

Modesto County Library Reference Desk
1500 I Street
Modesto, CA