

## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

Notice of Intent to Adopt an Addendum to the Valley Springs Public Utility District's (District) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the proposed Effluent Management and Wastewater Treatment Project (Project) is hereby given. An addendum has been prepared to omit in its entirety Section 2.10.1.1.4, from the approved IS/MND document.

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the District passed Resolution NO. 15-04, which adopted the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration on July 22, 2015. The document reflected the independent judgment of the District as to the potential environmental impacts of the Project.

The District's proposed Project consists of modifications to the existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), an approximate 1.5 mile force main from the existing WWTP to the location of the new WWTP, and a new WWTP to include headworks, treatment ponds, sludge drying beds, ancillary improvements, effluent storage reservoir, and spray fields. Construction will last approximately one year and is tentatively planned to take place in 2017 and completed 2018. Overall, the proposed Project is needed to protect public health, preserve the environment, and foster community prosperity.

The District will be conducting a public hearing on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the District Office, 150 Sequoia Ave, Valley Springs, CA 95252 to approve the Addendum. All interested persons are encouraged to attend. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting please contact the District, at (209) 772-2650. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

**The Valley Springs Public  
Utility District**

**Effluent Management and  
Wastewater Treatment Project**

CEQA Initial Study / Mitigated  
Negative Declaration

**Addendum #1**

Prepared for:  
Valley Springs Public Utility District

August 26, 2015

## THE VALLEY SPRINGS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

### EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROJECT

August 26, 2015

Based on comments received from the Calaveras County Planning Department, the department does not concur that VSPUD is not subject to local zoning requirements. An exemption under this section would only apply to the location or construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, treatment or transmission of water or electrical energy. Therefore, a sewage treatment project would not be exempt from local zoning ordinances. The language in the environmental document that implies that the District is exempt from County Zoning ordinances remains inaccurate and should be removed.

This addendum has been prepared to omit in its entirety the mentioned Section 2.10.1.1.4, from the approved ISMND document. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15073.5(c)(2), recirculation of the document is not required.

#### 2.10.1.1.4 Valley Springs Public Utility District

The project is proposed by VSPUD, a special district that provides wastewater treatment services to customers throughout the community of Valley Springs. Pursuant to Government Code Section 53091 (e), VSPUD's activities are not subject to local zoning requirements, as stated below:

"Zoning ordinances of a county or city shall not apply to the location or construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, treatment, or transmission of water, or for the production or generation of electrical energy, facilities that are subject to Section 12808.5 of the Public Utilities Code. Zoning ordinances of a county or city shall apply to the location or construction of facilities for the storage or transmission of electrical energy by a local agency, if the zoning ordinances make provision for those facilities."

As a special district with equal authority, VSPUD is exempt from compliance with the goals and policies contained in Calaveras County's General Plans and Zoning Ordinances. However, it is the intent of the VSPUD to be consistent with the County's goals and policies, and is acting accordingly throughout the planning process for the proposed Project.