



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION for the Heritage Ranch Water Resource Recovery Facility Project

DATE: November 17, 2023

TO: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties

LEAD AGENCY: Heritage Ranch Community Services District

PROJECT TITLE: Heritage Ranch Water Resource Recovery Facility Project

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Heritage Ranch Community Services District (HRCSD) has prepared a Draft Initial Study-Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) for the project listed above pursuant to the *State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines* Section 15000 et seq. Anyone desiring to comment on the IS-MND may do so in writing within the 30-day public review period from Friday, November 17, 2023 through 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2023.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The project site is located in Lake Nacimiento, a census-designated place in unincorporated San Luis Obispo County, and is comprised of the existing HRCSD wastewater treatment plant, a replacement effluent pipeline alignment, and an existing HRCSD spray field. The wastewater treatment plant location (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 012-181-085) is comprised of an approximately 5.5-acre site at 4870 Heritage Road in Paso Robles, and the spray field location (APN 012-361-018) is comprised of an approximately 1.6-acre site at the end of a private road that proceeds from the northern terminus of Parkway Circle. Both parcels are owned by HRCSD. The replacement effluent pipeline alignment is comprised of an approximately 2,800-linear-foot alignment along Heritage Road and Gateway Drive. The alignment proceeds from the southeastern corner of the wastewater treatment plant location on Heritage Road, south to Gateway Drive, and east on Gateway Drive to the Gateway Drive and Longhorn Lane intersection. The two parcels have a County of San Luis Obispo General Plan land use designation of Public Facilities. Both parcels have a County of San Luis Obispo combining designation of Geologic Study Area, and a small portion of APN 012-361-018 has a County of San Luis Obispo combining designation of Renewable Energy. The pipeline alignment is within the public right-of-way. See Figure 1 and Figure 2 for maps of the project site. No hazardous waste sites identified on lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 are present on the project site.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project includes upgrades to the existing HRCSD water treatment plant and spray field to comply with Waste Discharge Order No. R3-2017-0026. The proposed project would include modification and demolition of the existing HRCSD wastewater treatment plant elements and construction of new water resource recovery facility elements and supporting facilities with an average annual daily flow capacity of approximately 0.29 million gallons per day. In addition, a new, eight-inch-diameter effluent pipeline would be installed along Heritage Road and Gateway Drive to replace the existing, aging six-inch diameter pipeline. Modifications at the spray field location would consist of demolition and abandonment of the sand filters and replacement of the de-chlorination facilities with a more robust de-chlorination process. No modifications to the storage pond located adjacent to the existing spray field would occur, and discharges to the storage pond would remain the same as under existing conditions. The total wastewater treatment capacity of HRCSD under the proposed project would not be



increased as compared to the existing capacity of HRCSD's wastewater treatment facility (i.e., no net increase in wastewater treatment capacity).

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

Pursuant to the requirements of CEQA, an Initial Study was prepared for the project. The Initial Study describes the environmental impacts of the proposed project and suggests mitigation measures where necessary to reduce impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, paleontological resources, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, transportation, and wildfire to less-than-significant levels. The proposed mitigation measures will be implemented as part of the project such that the project will not generate a significant adverse impact on the environment during construction and operation. Due to this assessment, a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/REVIEW:

In accordance with Section 15073 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, the Draft IS-MND is available for public review for 30 days from November 17, 2023 through December 18, 2023 at:

- HRCSD Website (<https://heritageranchcsd.ca.gov/water-resource-recovery-facility>)
- HRCSD Office (4870 Heritage Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446) during normal business hours

Written comments must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2023. Please address comments to:

Scott B. Duffield, PE
General Manager
4870 Heritage Road
Paso Robles, CA 93446

or by email to: scott@heritageranchcsd.ca.gov (reference "Heritage Ranch Water Resource Recovery Facility Project Draft IS-MND" in the subject line)

The date, time, and place of the HRCSD Board of Directors meeting at which the Final IS-MND will be considered for adoption is not known at this time. Information on upcoming Board meetings is available online at: <https://heritageranchcsd.ca.gov/board-meetings>

Dated: 11/14/2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott B. Duffield".

Scott B. Duffield, P.E.
General Manager



Figure 1 Project Site Location – Wastewater Treatment Plant (APN 012-181-085) and Replacement Effluent Pipeline Alignment



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Fig 2 Project Location



Figure 2 Project Site Location – Spray Field (APN 012-361-018)

