

**Final  
INITIAL STUDY/  
NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

**for the**

**MONTEREY ONE WATER**

**PLANNED SERVICE AREA EXTENSION**

Prepared for:



Monterey One Water

5 Harris Ct # D

Monterey, CA 93940

Prepared by:



Denise Duffy & Associates

947 Cass Street, Suite 5

Monterey, CA 93940

**August 2019**

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## **Chapter 1. Introduction**

### **1.1 BACKGROUND**

This document, together with the Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration (Draft IS/ND), constitutes the Final Initial Study/Negative Declaration (Final IS/ND) for the Monterey One Water Planned Service Area Expansion (project or proposed project). The Monterey One Water (M1W) is the lead agency for the project. The Final IS/ND consists of an introduction, comment letters received during the 30-day extended public review period, responses to comments, and revisions to the Draft IS/ND, if deemed applicable. The Draft IS/ND was prepared to inform the public of the potential environmental effects of the project and identify possible ways to minimize project-related impacts.

### **1.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15073(a), the Draft IS/ND was circulated for a 30-day review period during which comments could be submitted. On July 15, 2019, the Draft IS/ND was distributed for the public review period to responsible and trustee agencies, interested groups, and individuals. The review period was from July 15, 2019 to August 13, 2019. The project was heard by the M1W Recycled Water Committee on August 15, 2019, and a public comment period was made available during this meeting. The project is scheduled to be heard in front of the M1W Board of Directors on August 28, 2019 to consider the adoption of the Final IS/ND and approval of the project.

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## Chapter 2. Response to Comments

### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes comments received from the public and public agencies during the circulation of the Draft IS/ND. This section contains all information available in the public record related to the Draft IS/ND as of August 19, 2019. **Section 2.3** below responds to comments received during and after the review period.

### 2.2 LIST OF COMMENT LETTERS

The following is a list of comment letters/email comments received on the Draft IS/ND and the dates these letters were received:

#### Comment Letters

- |    |  |                 |
|----|--|-----------------|
| A. | State Clearinghouse, Office of Planning and Research (OPR) | August 14, 2019 |
| B. | State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)                | August 14, 2019 |
| C. | Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD)                | August 13, 2019 |
| D. | City of Gonzales   | August 15, 2019 |

### 2.3 RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Each letter received on the Draft IS/ND is presented in this chapter, as identified in **Section 2.2** above. Individual comments in each letter are numbered. Correspondingly numbered responses to each comment are provided in the discussion following the comment letter.

If comments raised environmental issues that required additions or deletions to the text, tables, or figures in the Draft IS/ND, a brief description of the change is provided, and the reader is directed to **Chapter 3, Revisions to the Draft IS/ND**. The comments received on the Draft IS/ND did not result in a "substantial revision" of the negative declaration, as defined by CEQA Guidelines §15073.5, and the new information added to the negative declaration merely clarifies, amplifies, or makes insignificant modifications to the IS/ND. No new, avoidable significant effects were identified since the commencement of the public review period that would require mitigation measures or project revisions to be added in order to reduce the effects to insignificant.



Gavin Newsom  
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Kate Gordon  
Director

August 14, 2019

Received

AUG 16 2019

Mike McCullough  
Monterey One Water  
5 Harris Court, Building D  
Monterey, CA 93940

Monterey One Water  
Administration

Subject: Planned Service Area Extension Project  
SCH#: 2019079049

Dear Mike McCullough:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named NEG to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on 8/13/2019, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, please visit: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2019079049/2> for full details about your project.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan  
Director, State Clearinghouse

A-1



## **Letter A: State Clearinghouse, Office of Planning and Research (OPR)**

- A-1:** The letter states that the State Clearinghouse submitted the Draft IS/ND to selected state agencies for review and identified that no state agencies submitted comments to the State Clearinghouse during the public review period. No further response is required.

**Subject:** FW: Comments on Monterey One Service Area Extension Project

**From:** Sweigert, Jan@Waterboards <[Jan.Sweigert@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Jan.Sweigert@waterboards.ca.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2019 8:08 AM

**To:** Mike McCullough <[MikeM@my1water.org](mailto:MikeM@my1water.org)>

**Cc:** Rosilela, Sherly@Waterboards <[Sherly.Rosilela@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Sherly.Rosilela@waterboards.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** Comments on Monterey One Service Area Extension Project

Mike – Our office received the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Neg Dec on July 18 for Monterey One’s proposed wastewater service area extension. The comment period ended yesterday. I have been on an extended vacation and just returned to the office this week, so was not able to submit comments by August 13. I have the below comment.

Separation between potable water and sewer lines is specified in State regulations as 10 feet horizontal and one foot vertical with the sewer line located below the potable line and distances measured from the outside edge of pipe. In addition, where such pipelines cross, the vertical separation is one foot with potable line above the sewer line and the crossing angle no less than 45 degrees. These minimum separation standards are designed to minimize risk of breaking one pipe when maintenance or construction is being done on the other pipe, and thereby reducing risk of contamination of the potable water line. The state regulations are written to apply to design and installation of new potable lines. However, in order to ensure the protection of public health through minimizing risk of contamination of potable drinking water pipes, these minimum separations should be implemented for the design and installation of sewer lines as well.

B-1

Thanks,

*Jan R. Sweigert, P.E.*

District Engineer, Monterey Office  
SWRCB Division of Drinking Water

Office: 831-655-6939 Direct Line: 831-655-6934

[jan.sweigert@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jan.sweigert@waterboards.ca.gov)

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## Letter B: State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

- B-1:** The comment letter outlines minimum separation standard for sewer and water lines. As the proposed project is a service area expansion there is no construction of water or sewer lines proposed. As stated throughout the Draft IS/ND, any future infrastructure improvements will require further environmental review at the time actual facilities or infrastructure improvements are proposed. The comment is noted and referred to M1W for consideration in future potential projects; no further response is required.

**Subject:** FW: MBARD Comment NOI for the Monterey One Water Planned Service Area Extension Project

**From:** Hanna Muegge <[HMuegge@mbard.org](mailto:HMuegge@mbard.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2019 5:02 PM

**To:** Mike McCullough <[MikeM@my1water.org](mailto:MikeM@my1water.org)>

**Cc:** David Frisbey <[DFrisbey@mbard.org](mailto:DFrisbey@mbard.org)>; Richard Stedman <[Rstedman@mbard.org](mailto:Rstedman@mbard.org)>

**Subject:** MBARD Comment NOI for the Monterey One Water Planned Service Area Extension Project

Mike,

Thank you for providing the Monterey Bay Air Resources District with the opportunity to comment on the **NOI for the Monterey One Water Planned Service Area Extension Project**. The Air District has reviewed the project and has no comments at this time.

C-1

Sincerely,

Hanna Muegge, Air Quality Planner



24580 Silver Cloud Court

Monterey, CA 93940

Office: 831-647-9411; Direct: 831-718-8021

[www.mbard.org](http://www.mbard.org)

[mbard.org](http://mbard.org) - Monterey Bay Air Resources District

[www.mbard.org](http://www.mbard.org)

Our Mission. The mission of the Monterey Bay Air Resources District is to Protect Public and Environmental Health while balancing Economic and Air Quality Considerations.

**Warning: This email originated from outside of Monterey One Water. Unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the message, do not click links or open attachments.**

## **Letter C: Monterey Bay Air Resources Board (MBARD)**

**C-1:** The letter states that MBARD has reviewed the Notice of Intent (NOI) and has no comment at this time. No further response is required.



# City of Gonzales

P.O. BOX 647  
PHONE: (831) 675-5000

147 FOURTH ST.  
FAX: (831) 675-2644

GONZALES, CALIFORNIA 93926  
[www.gonzalesca.gov](http://www.gonzalesca.gov)

Received

AUG 19 2019

Monterey One Water  
Administration

August 15, 2019

Maria Orozco  
Mayor

Mike McCullough  
5 Harris Ct #D  
Monterey, CA 93940

Scott Funk  
Mayor Pro Tem

Re: Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration for the Monterey One Water Planned Service Area Extension Project

Liz Silva  
Councilmember

Mike:

Lorraine Worthy  
Councilmember

Thank you for distributing the Notice of Intent ("Notice") to Adopt a Negative Declaration for the Monterey One Water Planned Service Area Extension Project.

Paul Miller  
Councilmember

I have reviewed the Notice and have specific comments.

René L. Mendez  
City Manager

Section 3.8, Page 3-9: You indicated a population of 8,187 based on the 2010 census data. You should know that per the 2019 California Department of Finance data, the City's population is estimated to be 8,677.

D-1

Figure 9: this figure is not legible in the electronic form it was delivered to the City.

D-2

Section 4.0, Table 1: The existing population is 8,677, not 9,025.

D-3

Section 5.2, Page 5-6: middle of page states development "north of" – it should read "east of".

D-4

Section 7.1, Page 7-1; last sentence should read "[...] for new development east of Highway 101"

D-5

The City appreciates the work effort your agency put into preparation of the Monterey One Water Service Area Extension Project Notice.

Best Regards,

Matthew Sundt, Community Development Director

*Gonzales will continue to be a safe, clean, family-friendly community, diverse in heritage, and committed to working collaboratively to preserve and retain its small-town charm*

## Letter D: City of Gonzales

- D-1:** The comment letter notes that the population estimate figure for the City of Gonzales, located on page 15 of the Draft IS/ND, should be updated to the most recent data available from the California Department of Finance. This comment is noted and the updated population count of 8,677 has been included in the Draft IS/ND. Please refer to **Section 3.0, Revisions to the Draft IS/MND** for more information.
- D-2:** The comment letter indicates that Figure 9 is not legible in the electronic form in which it was provided. The Draft IS/ND does not contain a Figure 9, thus this is likely from the M1W 2017 Focused Wastewater Service Area Study prepared by V.W. Housen. The comment is referred to Monterey One Water to provide this figure in an appropriate form to the City.
- D-3 through D-5:** These comments are in reference to needed corrections in language contained in the M1W 2017 Focused Wastewater Service Area Study (2017 Focused WWSA Study or Study) and are not comments specific to the Draft IS/ND. These comments are referred to the lead agency for correction in the Study. As noted above in **Response D-1**, the Draft IS/ND has been updated to reflect the corrected population count of 8,677.

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## Chapter 3 Revisions to the Draft IS/ND

The following section includes revisions to the text of the Draft IS/ND, in amendment form. The revisions are listed numerically by page number. All additions to the text are shown underlined and all deletions from the text are shown ~~stricken~~.

### Chapter 1. Introduction and Project Description

**Page 15, Section 1.5 Project Description** has been amended as follows:

- City of Gonzales: The City of Gonzales is located along Highway 101, approximately 17 miles south of the City of Salinas. The City of Gonzales has a population of 8,677 ~~8,487~~ (California Department of Finance, 2019 U.S. Census, 2010). The City's wastewater collection system includes gravity sewer mains, three (3) lift stations that convey flow from east to west across Highway 101, and a trunk system that conveys the flows east to the City's wastewater treatment plant. The treatment plant is located approximately two miles west of the intersection of South Alta Road and Gonzales River Road, at the end of Short Road. The wastewater treatment plant operates under RWQCB Order No. R3-2006-0005. The plant was upgraded between 2006 and 2011 to provide 1 MGD average daily flow, which is sufficient to service the existing population plus planned infill. The current National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharge permit lists the treatment plant as having permitted capacity of 1.3 MGD after completion of the Phase I improvements.

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