



300 Richards Boulevard, Third Floor
Sacramento, CA 95811

DATE: June 20, 2025

TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Scott Johnson, Principal Planner
Community Development Department

RE: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
REPORT FOR THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO WATER+ TREATMENT
PLANTS RESILIENCY AND IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

COMMENT PERIOD: June 20, 2025 – August 4, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Notice is hereby given by the City of Sacramento (City) that the Water+ Treatment Plants Resiliency and Improvements Project (proposed project) Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) is available for public review and comment. The City of Sacramento is the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has prepared this Notice of Availability (NOA) for the proposed project in compliance with Section 15087 of the CEQA Guidelines.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is designed to provide treatment resiliency for changing water quality in the American and Sacramento rivers; to address reliability of water treatment facilities with aging infrastructure; and to meet the City's projected potable water demands. The proposed project includes two phases of work relating to the City's water treatment plants, raw water supply, and potable water transmission pipelines: an "initial phase" to occur between 2026 and 2037, followed by a "project buildout" to occur between 2040 and 2050.

The initial phase of the proposed project would improve treatment reliability at both water treatment plants by replacing facilities that have reached the end of their effective lives. The initial phase would also provide resiliency within each treatment system through the addition of ozone treatment, to help address changing water quality in the Sacramento and American Rivers, and the conversion from chlorine gas to sodium hypochlorite, a safer and more reliably available chemical for disinfection. The project buildout phase of the proposed project would be staged to meet the increasing water demands of the City's service area through 2050 by further increasing the capacity of the SRWTP to treat water diverted from the Sacramento River.

In summary, the proposed project includes the following components.

- Facility and treatment process improvements at both the FWTP and the SRWTP including replacement of aging infrastructure; integration of ozone into the treatment processes; and conversion from chlorine gas to sodium hypochlorite as the primary chemical for disinfection of the water.
- Upgrades to existing utilities that serve the FWTP and SRWTP (i.e., storm drainage systems and electrical service line connections).
- Construction of a new Sacramento River water intake and pump station, and installation of a new raw water conveyance pipeline to transfer raw water from the supply source (Sacramento River) to the SRWTP facilities.
- Improvements to the existing Sacramento River water intake and associated facilities, and installation of a second new pipeline to transport sediment deposited within the intake to SRWTP (following approximately the same alignment as the raw water conveyance pipeline described above).
- Improvement of the potable water transmission system in the vicinity of SRWTP to address critical hydraulic constrictions.

ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

As required by CEQA (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2), the Draft EIR objectively assesses and discloses potential environmental effects of the proposed project. Significant and unavoidable impacts were identified related to water supply (i.e., increased diversion associated with operation of the proposed new intake) and cultural resources (i.e., construction of the SRWTP treatment plant improvements). The document also identifies potentially significant impacts that can be mitigated to a less than significant level for: air quality; biological resources – aquatic; biological resources – terrestrial; cultural resources; hazards and hazardous materials; noise and vibration; transportation; tribal cultural resources; and wildfire.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

This Draft EIR is available to federal, state, and local agencies and interested organizations and individuals who may want to review and comment on the adequacy of the analysis. The Draft EIR can be reviewed online at the following website:

<https://www.cityofsacramento.gov/community-development/planning/environmental/impact-reports>

Publication of the Draft EIR marks the beginning of a 45-day public review period. The 45-day public review period for this Draft EIR is Friday, June 20, 2025, through 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 4, 2025. During the public review period, written comments should be postmarked by August 4, 2025, and mailed or emailed to:

Charlie Tschudin, Senior Planner
City of Sacramento Community Development Department
300 Richards Blvd., Third Floor
Sacramento, CA 95811
Phone (916) 808-8145
Email: ctschudin@cityofsacramento.org

Please use "Water+ Project Draft EIR Comments" in the subject line. Also, if submitting comments on behalf of an agency, tribal group, or organization, please include the name of a contact person and the name of the group that the comments are coming from. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official public administrative record.