



**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project**

DATE: March 7, 2025

TO: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties

LEAD AGENCY: El Toro Water District

PROJECT TITLE: Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that El Toro Water District (District) 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 32-day public review period from Friday, March 7, 2025 through 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 7, 2025.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station located at Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community in the city of Laguna Woods, Orange County. See Figure 1 for a map of the project site. The project site does not contain hazardous waste sites identified on lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (herein referred to as "project" or "proposed project") includes demolition, abandonment, removal, relocation, reconfiguration, and conversion of various components of the existing lift station; construction of a new wet well, new electrical building, two new emergency discharge manholes, a new force main connection, and a new access driveway on Avenida Sevilla; replacement of the existing emergency generator and portions of the existing block wall; and removal of approximately 15 trees. The proposed project would not expand the footprint of the Aliso Creek Lift Station beyond its current boundaries. The purposes of the project are to increase pump performance to allow the lift station to operate at a 4,100-gallon-per-minute design capacity, address the maintenance issues of the existing piping and equipment, simplify maintenance activities, and accommodate existing flows as well as the additional wastewater flows anticipated to be generated by the planned Village at Laguna Hills development.

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 project and suggests mitigation measures where necessary to reduce impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials (emergency response), hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, transportation (emergency access), and mandatory findings of significance to less-than-



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significant levels. The proposed mitigation measures would be implemented as part of the project such that the project would not generate a significant adverse impact on the environment during construction and operation. Based on 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 32 days from March 7, 2025 to April 7, 2025 at:

- El Toro Water District Website (<https://etwd.com/aliso-creek-lift-station-project/>)
- El Toro Water District Office during normal business hours (24251 Los Alisos Boulevard, Lake Forest, CA 92630)
- El Toro Library during normal business hours (24672 Raymond Way, Lake Forest, CA 92630)

Written comments must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 7, 2025. Please address comments to:

Hannah T. Ford, Director of Engineering
El Toro Water District
24251 Los Alisos Boulevard
Lake Forest, California 92630
or by email to: hford@etwd.com



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Figure 1 Project Site Map



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CRFig 2 Project Site