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## State Water Resources Control Board

### **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency CEQA Document Consideration, Adoption, and Determination**

#### **Project Information**

**CEQA Document Title:** Plainview Nitrate Relief Project (Project).

**Lead Agency:** State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board)

**Applicant:** Plainview Mutual Water Company (Applicant)

**Project Number:** 5410039-003C      **State Clearinghouse Number:** 2023020511

**Project Location:** The Project site is located within the unincorporated community of Plainview, within Tulare County.

**Project Description:** The Applicant is proposing to achieve nitrate compliance, replace a failing distribution system, and provide adequate backup storage capacity. The Project includes the construction and operation of a water storage tank, a new well and pump station, replacement of the distribution pipeline system, installation of approximately 43 service connections and meters, and related appurtenances in the Plainview community. Approximately 187 existing meters will require upgrades that allow remote meter readings.

The State Water Board is the Lead Agency under CEQA for this Project. The State Water Board, in coordination with the Applicant, has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) titled Plainview Nitrate Relief for the Project in accordance with CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 6. As the Deputy Director for the State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance, I have been delegated the authority to approve and execute financing agreements and to perform associated acts for projects that are routine and non-controversial. The authority to adopt the IS/MND and approve the Project necessarily accompanies the delegation to approve and execute financing agreements.

The IS/MND, including a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), was circulated through the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse (No. 2023020511) for a 30-day public review period beginning February 22, 2023 and ending March 23, 2023. No written comments were received during the review period.

Plainview Nitrate Relief Project  
Initial Study/Mitigate Negative Declaration

I have considered the IS/MND, the MMRP and all comments that were received during the public review period. On basis of the whole of the record, I find that:

- The IS/MND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the State Water Board Staff.
- The IS/MND and the MMRP for the Project are prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 6.
- There is no substantial evidence in the record before me that the Project will have a significant effect on the environment.
- Mitigation measures are made a condition of approval for the Project. The MND and MMRP include mitigation measures for biological resources, cultural resources, hydrology and water quality, and geology and soils that mitigate potential environmental impacts to less than significant levels for these impact categories.

Based on the foregoing, I have determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and adopt the IS/MND and MMRP pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 6, section 15074 and approve the Project. The Applicant will be responsible for carrying out the Project and implementing the MMRP.

This action to approve the Project does not constitute an approval of financial assistance/financing, which will require the execution of a financial assistance/financing agreement.

A final copy of the IS/MND, the MMRP, comments and responses and the record of approval for the Project are available to the general public at the State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance at 1001 I Street, 16th Floor, Sacramento CA 95814.

(Signature on File)

Joe Karkoski, Deputy Director  
Division of Financial Assistance