

PUBLIC NOTICE

Wastewater Collection and Treatment System for the Community of Palo Verde Palo Verde, California

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is considering authorizing the award of a Border Environment Infrastructure Fund (BEIF) grant to the Palo Verde County Water District (PVCWD) for the construction of a wastewater collection and treatment system to eliminate failed and nonconforming septic systems that are in generally poor condition.

The proposed project would provide increased health, sanitation, and security to residents within Palo Verde. The proposed wastewater collection and treatment system would use an aerated facultative pond with percolation/evaporation basins, and would eliminate wastewater overflows and leaks through the abandonment of existing failed and nonconforming septic systems in the area. The project would also address issues of non-compliance through the elimination of septic systems located within 50 to 100 feet of the Palo Verde Lagoon and Outfall Drain, which is designated as a setback area. The proposed wastewater system would protect groundwater and the Palo Verde Lagoon, thereby improving water quality and providing potential health benefits by reducing the elevated levels of *E. coli* and other fecal coliform bacteria.

The Final Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and FONSI are on file and are available for public inspection at the EPA Region 9 Office, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, and at the PVCWD Office at 1065 Desert View, Palo Verde, CA 92266 by contacting Kathi Frice-Sanders at (760) 854-3519. In addition, the EA and FONSI will be posted on the EPA website at www.epa.gov/regiong/nepa/epa-generated/index.html#paloverde and the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC) website at https://www.cocef.org. Comments on the EA and FONSI may be submitted to the EPA until June 22, 2015, and can be sent via letter or email to:

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EPA will take no administrative action on this project during the comment period.