CITY OF SALINAS
Public Works Department
200 Lincoln Avenue, Salinas, CA 93901

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The project described below has been reviewed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has been determined to have an insignificant effect upon the environment.

Project's Common Name: Salinas Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Project

Project Applicant: City of Salinas Public Works Department

Project Location: The Salinas Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility (IWTF) Improvements Project includes improvements at the following two locations: the IWTF, which is located south of the City of Salinas (City) just west of Davis Road and north of the Salinas River in the unincorporated County of Monterey (County), and the Airport Lift Station, which is located at the south end of Airport Boulevard near Hansen Street in the City of Salinas.

Project Description: The City of Salinas Public Works Department is proposing to implement improvements to its industrial wastewater treatment system, which treats wastewater from local agriculture-based industries to provide operational and efficiency improvements as well as capacity reliability and redundancy enhancements for the industrial users.

Determination: The attached Initial Study has been prepared for the above project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and procedures established in the *CEQA Guidelines* adopted by the City of Salinas. On the basis of the Initial Study, the City of Salinas makes the following determination:

☐ The above project will not have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION is hereby approved.

☒ The above project could have a significant effect on the environment but WILL NOT have a significant effect in this case because the attached mitigation measures have been made by or agreed to by the applicant which will avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects will occur. Furthermore, there is no substantial evidence before the City of Salinas that the proposed project, as revised, may have a significant effect on the environment. A (MITIGATED) NEGATIVE DECLARATION is hereby approved.

Mitigation measures, if any, included in the project to avoid potentially significant effects:

(See attached Mitigation Monitoring Program)

Further information about this project and about its probable environmental impact will be on file in the Public Works Department, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Salinas, CA 93901.

By: Adriana Robles
Adriana Robles, P.E.
City Engineer

Date: 11/29/2022

Attach: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Salinas Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Project
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Mitigation Number	Nature of Mitigation	Result after Mitigation	Party Responsible for Implementing	Party Responsible for Monitoring: Method to Confirm Implementation	Timing for Implementation
3.4.a. Biological Resources	Ground disturbance and vegetation removal shall take place outside of the active nesting bird season (i.e., January 1–August 31), when feasible, to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Should project activities (such as vegetation removal, initial ground disturbance, or operation of heavy equipment) be initiated during the nesting bird season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a nesting bird survey no more than 30 days prior to any ground disturbance or vegetation removal to ensure that birds are not engaged in active nesting within or immediately adjacent to the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility (IWTF) project site. If nesting birds are discovered during preconstruction surveys, the biologist shall identify and delineate an appropriate buffer (depending on the circumstances and specific bird species) where no clearing, grading, or construction activities with potential to have direct or indirect impacts on the nesting birds are allowed to take place until after the birds have fledged from the nest, or the qualified biologist has determined that the nest is no longer active. If a nesting bird survey is required, written results of the survey by the biologist shall be submitted to the	Minimize impacts to nesting birds during project construction.	Project Contractor; Qualified Biologist	Public Works Department – Review survey results and monitor buffers during construction	Prior to the start of construction and throughout the construction period, if construction occurs during the active nesting season

Mitigation Number	Nature of Mitigation	Result after Mitigation	Party Responsible for Implementing	Party Responsible for Monitoring: Method to Confirm Implementation	Timing for Implementation
	City of Salinas (City) prior to the start of ground- disturbing activities.				
3.4.b. Biological Resources	Prior to the start of construction, the Project Contractor shall clearly delineate all construction areas and equipment staging areas. The designated areas shall be located in such a manner as to prevent any loose soil or spill runoff from entering the irrigation canal, the Salinas River, or adjacent riparian vegetation communities. All equipment maintenance, staging, and dispensing of fuel, oil, or any other such activities used by the Project Contractor shall occur in these designated staging areas. Prior to the start of construction, adequate erosion and sedimentation barriers (e.g., silt fencing) shall be installed around the perimeters of work areas by the Project Contractor and remain in place during project construction to prevent any sediment or debris from entering the adjacent irrigation canal or Salinas River. For work areas adjacent to the Salinas River or irrigation canal, barriers shall consist of a minimum 3-foot-tall silt fencing buried to a depth of approximately 3–6 inches below the soil surface (or as otherwise specified in a project-specific erosion control or spill prevention plan). These barriers shall be inspected by the Project Contractor on a regular basis,	Minimize indirect impacts to riparian areas and jurisdictional waters	Project Contractor	Public Works Department – Monitor during construction	Prior to the start of construction and throughout the construction period

Mitigation Number	Nature of Mitigation	Result after Mitigation	Party Responsible for Implementing	Party Responsible for Monitoring: Method to Confirm Implementation	Timing for Implementation
	and maintained and repaired as necessary to ensure that there are no holes or tears that could entrap and pose a hazard to wildlife.				
3.4.c. Biological Resources	Any non-native plants removed during the course of construction shall be contained and properly disposed of off site. All mulch, topsoil, seed mixes, or other plantings used for erosion-control shall be free of invasive plant species seeds or propagules. No plant species listed on the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) inventory shall be installed in the project sites, and all plant palettes proposed to be installed on the project sites shall be reviewed and approved by a qualified biologist..	Minimize potential indirect impacts to aquatic resources	Project Contractor; Qualified Biologist	Public Works Department – Monitor during construction	During project construction
3.5.b. Cultural Resources	An archaeologist (either an archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Archeology or an archaeologist supervised by such an archaeologist) shall monitor all ground-disturbing activities associated with project implementation at the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility (IWTF) site. In the event that archaeological resources are identified during project activities at either the IWTF site or Airport Lift Station site, work shall be halted immediately within 50 feet of the find until a qualified professional archaeologist can assess the nature and significance of the find	Ensure protection of on-site cultural resources	Project Contractor; Project Archaeologist	Public Works Department – Retain qualified archaeologist and monitor compliance during construction	During project construction.

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	and determine if any additional study or treatment of the find is warranted. The archaeologist shall then develop proper mitigation measures required for the discovery per California Code of Regulations [CCR], Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15064.5(f)). Additional studies could include, but would not be limited to, collection and documentation of artifacts, documentation of the cultural resources on State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Series 523 forms, or subsurface testing. Archaeological monitoring shall be conducted until grading and excavation are complete or until the monitoring archaeologist determines, based on field observations and in consultation with the qualified archaeologist, that there is little likelihood of encountering archaeological cultural resources. Archaeological monitoring may be reduced from full-time to part-time or spot-checking if determined appropriate by the qualified archaeologist based on monitoring results. Upon completion of monitoring activities, the archaeologist shall prepare a report to document the methods and results of monitoring activities. The final version of this report shall be submitted to the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System.				

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3.7. a, d Geology/Soils	Prior to excavation and construction of any proposed improvements, a design-level geotechnical report shall be prepared by a licensed professional and submitted to the City of Salinas for review and approval. The geotechnical review shall specifically address potential adverse geological conditions at the site, including, but not limited to, liquefaction and seismic shaking and verify that the project plans incorporate the current California Building Code requirements and other applicable design standards. All design measures, recommendations, design criteria, and specifications set forth in the design-level geotechnical review shall be implemented as a condition of project approval.	Minimize on-site seismic impacts	Public Works Department	Public Works Department – Review geotechnical report and ensure measures are incorporated into project design	Plan submittal stage
3.7. a, d Geology/Soils	All construction shall meet the seismic building standards required in the most recent adopted edition of the California Building Standards Code.	Minimize on-site seismic impacts	Public Works Department	Public Works Department – Review project plans and ensure seismic design standards have been incorporated	Plan submittal stage