

Notice of Intent to Adopt a
Negative Declaration



In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.) and CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Sections 15000 et seq.), an Initial Study was prepared to evaluate environmental impacts of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan. Based on the Initial Study, it has been determined that a Negative Declaration (ND) is the appropriate level of review. This is a Notice of Intent to adopt a ND for this project in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15072.

Project Title: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan

Project Description: Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) has prepared a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (GHGRP) that meets the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5 to establish a comprehensive, programmatic strategy for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with its operations and activities. The GHGRP includes an updated inventory of historical emissions (2017-2021), forecasts of future emissions through 2045, and establishes emissions reduction targets and a carbon budget consistent with State policies, including Assembly Bill 1279. The Plan identifies a suite of reduction measures, such as use of zero emission fuels, facility electrification, and carbon sequestration, to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5, Valley Water intends to use the GHGRP for tiering and streamlining of the GHG analysis for future Valley Water projects through 2045, that have environmental documents, such as Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), which have not yet initiated the public review process and/or do not already include actions to achieve a net zero increase in GHG emissions. To determine project consistency with the GHGRP, Valley Water has developed a GHGRP Consistency Review Checklist (Consistency Checklist). Valley Water will use the Consistency Checklist to determine whether a proposed Valley Water project is consistent with the GHGRP. Valley Water projects that demonstrate consistency with the GHGRP may be able to conclude that they cause no additional significant environmental effects with respect to GHG emissions in their CEQA review.

Project Location: The GHGRP would be implemented within Valley Water's service area, encompassing the entirety of Santa Clara County.

Public Review: The Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration (Draft IS/ND) is available online at: www.valleywater.org/public-review-documents. Hard copies of the Draft IS/ND will be available for public review at the following location:

- Valley Water, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San José, CA 95118

Public comments on the Draft IS/ND should be submitted by mail or email by **5 p.m. on Monday June 8, 2026** to:

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Attn: Nick Mascarello, Senior Environmental Planner
5750 Almaden Expressway
San José, CA 95118

Email: nmascarello@valleywater.org
Subject Line: "Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan"

For additional information, please contact Nick Mascarello at 408-630-3147.