



May 30, 2024

Notice of Availability and Public Hearing Final Environmental Impact Report Walnut Creek Water Treatment Plant Pretreatment Project

The Board of Directors of the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) is scheduled to consider certification of the Walnut Creek Water Treatment Plant Pretreatment Project (Project) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and approval of the Project, on June 11, 2024, at the regularly scheduled meeting which begins at 1:15 p.m. in the Board Room at EBMUD's Administration Offices, 375 11th Street, Oakland, CA. Board meetings are conducted in person and via teleconference and/or videoconference. Links to view and participate in the Board meeting are available at <https://www.ebmud.com/index.php/about-us/board-directors/board-meetings/>.

The Walnut Creek Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is the primary water treatment plant serving approximately 225,000 customers in EBMUD's East-of-Hills service area, which includes portions of Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek, Alamo, Lafayette, Danville, Blackhawk, and San Ramon Valley communities. The Walnut Creek WTP is located at 2201 Larkey Lane in Walnut Creek on an approximately 50-acre site in the City of Walnut Creek, CA. The Project also includes improvements at the Lafayette WTP, an approximately 24-acre site located in the City of Lafayette, CA. The Walnut Creek WTP is bounded by Alfred Avenue to the east, Briones to Mt. Diablo Regional Trail to the north, and Acalanes Ridge Open Space to the south and west. The Walnut Creek WTP primarily treats Mokelumne River water stored in the Sierra foothills at Pardee Reservoir, but also treats water stored locally in Briones Reservoir. EBMUD can also pump and treat water from the Sacramento River via its Freeport facility, as well as from neighboring water agencies through untreated water agency interties. The proposed Project would add pretreatment facilities to the Walnut Creek WTP that would allow EBMUD to more reliably treat a broader range of untreated Pardee and Briones Reservoir water resulting from high rainfall runoff, wildfires, algae blooms, climate change and emerging contaminants, and improve the ability to treat supplemental supplies from Freeport or the interties during planned and unplanned outages and during future droughts. The Project would also improve treated water taste and odor by removing organics and by adding ozone treatment and increase the Walnut Creek WTP capacity to meet planned future demands, improve water system reliability and operational flexibility, and allow for the potential decommissioning of the Lafayette WTP.

The proposed Project would be designed and constructed in two separate phases. Phase 1 improvements include new pretreatment and ozone facilities that would allow the Walnut Creek WTP to more reliably treat a broader range of untreated water quality up to a capacity of 125 million gallons per day (MGD), while Phase 2 improvements would include additional pretreatment and ozone facilities that would allow EBMUD to treat up to 160 MGD. EBMUD plans to construct the Phase 1 improvements from 2027 to 2030. The construction timing of the Phase 2 improvements is not firmly established but would depend on untreated water quality conditions in the future and the timing of future water demands. Hydraulic changes at the Walnut Creek WTP requires modification of weir structures at the Lafayette WTP.

A Draft EIR was prepared for the Project and released for a 45-day public review on September 28, 2023. All comments received on the Draft EIR have been compiled and responded to in the Final EIR, and revisions or changes to the Draft EIR are also included. Copies of the Final EIR are available for public review during office hours at the EBMUD Administration Offices located at 375 11th Street in Oakland or by download at <https://www.ebmud.com/wcwtppretreatment>.

Persons interested in receiving a copy of the Final EIR or reviewing documents referenced in the EIR should contact Chien Wang at wcwtppretreatment@ebmud.com.

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