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## State Water Resources Control Board

### **Notice of Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Pursuant to Section 21092 of the Public Resources Code

The staff of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has prepared a proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration setting forth the findings that the following proposed action will have a less than significant effect on the environment.

**Project Title:**

Garden Highway Mutual Water Company Winter Water Rights Application A031191

**Applicant:**

Garden Highway Mutual Water Company  
12755 Garden Highway, Yuba City, CA 95991

**Project Location:**

The project associated with Application A031191 for Garden Highway Mutual Water Company is located approximately two miles north-west of the town of Nicolaus in Sutter County, California. This project site is within various sections of Townships 12 North and 13 North, Range 3 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.

**Project Description:**

On February 20, 2001, Garden Highway Mutual Water Company filed an application to appropriate water by permit (A031191) with the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights. Application A031191 requests a permit for the direct diversion at a maximum direct diversion rate of 86.0 cfs not to exceed 4,320 acre-feet (af) per diversion season of water from Feather River in Sutter County. The point of diversion (POD) is an existing pump station located at the end of an approximately 850-foot pump intake channel connected to the Feather River. The pump station consists of three vertical turbine pumps installed on a piled support structure. The appropriated water will be used for flooding rice fields during the season of diversion for rice straw decomposition, incidental irrigation of food and cover crops. The proposed season of diversion is from October 1 of each year to March 31 of the succeeding year.

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E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Project Consideration and Approval:**

Prior to approving the project, the Division shall consider the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process. The Division shall only approve the proposed project if it finds, on the basis of the whole record before it, that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment.

**Document Availability:**

The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Initial Study in support of the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are available on the Division of Water Rights website at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/ceqa/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/ceqa/)

A hard copy of these documents or additional information concerning the proposed action may be obtained by writing to State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights, Attn: Phillip Zoucha, P.O. Box 2000, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000, by email at [phillip.zoucha@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:phillip.zoucha@waterboards.ca.gov), or by phone at (916) 323-4641.

**Opportunity for Comment:**

Persons who disagree with the conclusions set forth in the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration or who disagree with the information contained therein are invited to furnish written comments to Phillip Zoucha at the above mail or email address. The comments should summarize the specific substantive and factual basis for disagreement. The 30-day public review period for the Mitigated Negative Declaration is from February 14, 2024 to March 15, 2024. Comments must be received or postmarked by **4:30 p.m.** on March 15, 2024.