# STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE AND

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Date of Issuance: February 9, 2022

Co-Lead Agencies: Kennewick Irrigation District and Washington State Department of Ecology,

Office of Columbia River

#### **Agency Contact:**

Seth Defoe Land and Water Resources Manager Kennewick Irrigation District sdefoe@kid.org (509) 460-5437 G. Thomas Tebb, LG., LHG., LEG Director, Office of Columbia River Washington State Department of Ecology GTEB461@ecy.wa.gov (509) 574-3989

Agency File Number: TD 2021-02

**Description of Proposal:** Working in partnership with Ecology's Office of Columbia River (OCR), the Kennewick Irrigation District (KID) is proposing to build an on-district storage reservoir to provide storage for improved water management and drought relief. The proposal will include at least two alternatives (No-action and a Draft Preferred Alternative for an approximately 12,000 acre-feet capacity storage reservoir at Badger Canyon Road) as well as a programmatic level review of a phased approach that could incorporate future options such as additional storage sites, filling scenarios and alternate water sources, instream flow benefits in the lower Yakima River, and conjunctive uses with managed aquifer recharge and hydropower generation.

**Location of Proposal:** The Badger Canyon site consists of approximately 330 acres spanning 6 parcels (Benton County parcel numbers 107882000001002, 107882000001003, 118881000002000, 117882000003000, 118884000000000, and 117883000001000) currently owned by the KID. The site is bounded by South Badger Canyon Road on the north, East Badger Road on the east, residential properties on the south, and the KID main canal to the west.

### Applicant/Proponent:

Charles Freeman
District Manager
Kennewick Irrigation District
(509) 586-6012
cfreeman@kid.org

The Kennewick Irrigation District and Washington State Department of Ecology Office of Columbia River have determined that this proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on

the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c) and will be prepared. An environmental checklist or other materials indicating likely environmental impacts is attached to this notice.

**Scoping:** Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. You may comment on alternatives, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and licenses or other approvals that may be required. The method and deadline for giving us your comments is:

E-mail: CentralStorageEIS@kid.org

Website: www.kid.org/kid-capital-projects

Mail: Central Storage EIS Scoping

c/o Seth Defoe 2015 S Ely St

Kennewick, WA 99337

Comments must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 11th, 2022, at 5:00PM to be considered.

#### Responsible Officials:

Seth Defoe

Land and Water Resources Manager

Kennewick Irrigation District

sdefoe@kid.org

(509) 460-5437

Signature 9

(electronic signature or name of signor is sufficient)

Date 02-05-2022

G. Thomas Tebb, LG., LHG., LEG

Director, Office of Columbia River

Washington State Department of Ecology

GTEB461@ecv.wa.gov

(509) 574-3989

electronic signature or name of signor is sufficient)

Date 02-07-2022

Appeal Process: This Determination of Significance (DS) is issued under KID Regulation and WAC 197-11-360. There is no administrative appeal provided. Any appeal of this DS must be filed with the governmental action. RCW 43.21C.075.