Community Accountability and Engagement Plan

(rev. 5/2022)

South Kern Mutual Water Company
9820 Par St., Bakersfield, CA 93311

April 2024

Completed by Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group

Approved by: State Water Board | DATE

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Executive Summary

This Community Accountability and Engagement Plan (Plan) was prepared by **Provost and Pritchard Consulting Group,** the current Administrator for **South Kern Mutual Water Company, located at 9820 Par St., Bakersfield, CA 93311.**

This Plan provides a framework for the appointed Administrator to engage meaningfully with the community served by **the South Kern Mutual Water Company (MWC).**

The purpose of this Plan:
As Administrator, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group (P&P) is responsible to act in the best interests of the South Kern MWC and the community it serves including ratepayers, renters, and property owners. As part of carrying out its responsibility, P&P will ensure transparent, accurate, and timely communications regarding plans, actions, and priorities to bring the community water system into compliance. In addition to developing and distributing meaningful communications to the community, P&P will ensure regularly occurring opportunities exist for community members to provide input and feedback.

P&P will jointly manage the South Kern MWC and Old River MWC due to their close proximity. As a result, the water systems will share communications and outreach efforts.

The main means of communication on a regular basis will be:

- Website posting on admin.provostandpritchard.com/south-kern-old-river/ including but not limited to emergency drinking water notices, meeting notices, meeting agendas, and meeting summaries.
- Direct mail to water customers.
- Email newsletters to community members providing project updates and other key information as needed.
- Water bill inserts to share billing and other regulatory information.
- In-person at Douglas J. Miller Elementary School located 7345 Mountain Ridge Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93313, or virtually via tele/video conference.
- Community members can ask questions or provide comments by mail to Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group c/o Hamish Kellam, 455 W. Fir Ave., Clovis, CA 93611, by phone Monday – Friday during business hours between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM at (559) 449-2700, or by email at southkernoldriver@ppeng.com.
- Video recordings will be posted to the South Kern/Old River MWC webpage on the P&P Administrator website within two weeks following the meeting date.

The Administrator will be reviewing questions and comments:

- Submitted by community members via mail, phone, email, and in-person at Community Engagement Meetings and will make reasonable efforts to respond within two weeks after receipt.
- Community Engagement Meetings will include a designated time for public comment and Q&A with P&P. P&P will field and respond to questions at the meeting or will make reasonable effort to follow-up within two weeks if additional information is needed to respond.

The Community Accountability and Engagement Plan will include:

- Community Engagement Meetings will be held quarterly at Douglas J. Miller Elementary School, 7345 Mountain Ridge Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93313, or other appropriate locally accessible venue, with the first meeting taking place in early May 2024. The community will be informed of meetings via a mailed meeting notice and agenda that will also be posted on admin.provostandpritchard.com/south-kern-old-river/.
- Community members can provide feedback and comments via multiple channels including by mail, phone, email, and in person at Community Engagement Meetings. P&P will be available to address public questions and concerns on an ongoing basis.
- A spreadsheet matrix will be created and used to record and organize comments and questions from community members. If it is determined that a comment needs to be addressed, the action or response will be recorded in the matrix. A summary matrix will be made available through a web-based sheet and linked from the South Kern & Old River MWC webpage. The matrix will be updated on an ongoing basis.
- Development of a webpage to house public information related to the project. This may include but is not limited to Community Engagement Meeting information, outreach flyers, past Community Engagement Meeting resources, contact information for questions, comments, and feedback, and a digital survey to solicit information for regarding communication methods and preferences. The webpage is a sub-page on the P&P Administrator website.
- P&P will notify community members of upcoming Community Engagement Meetings via direct mail notification to community members' residences, a newly created community member email distribution list, water bill inserts, and via website posting to the South Kern & Old River MWC webpage at admin.provostandpritchard.com/south-kern-old-river. P&P will make reasonable efforts to provide a ten-day minimum notice to members via one or any combination of the methods listed.
- A survey will be developed and distributed to community members in person at Community Engagement Meetings and online at the South Kern

& Old River MWC webpage to solicit feedback from community members. The purpose of the survey is to understand community members' communication channel preferences, gather demographic information, collect email addresses for an email distribution list for meeting notices and newsletters, and obtain other general outreach method feedback.

- Development of a project factsheet to provide community members with key project information and background.

SAFER Drinking Water Program

Roles and Responsibilities

Administrator

All actions taken by an Administrator shall be in the best interests of the community served and are intended to ensure the designated water system has adequate technical, managerial, and financial capacity to deliver an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water so that the services of the Administrator are no longer necessary.

The specific Administrator responsibilities are detailed in the Administrator Policy Handbook Section 9: Obligations of Full-Scope Administrators in the Administrator Policy Handbook. For a copy of this handbook, please contact **DDW-Administrator@Waterboards.ca.gov**.

State Water Resources Control Board

The Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Program is a set of tools, funding sources, and regulatory authorities designed to ensure Californians who currently lack safe and affordable drinking water receive it as quickly as possible:

Through its Division of Drinking Water (DDW), the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is responsible for enforcing federal and state drinking water statutes and regulating over 7,400 public water systems.

Through its Office of Public Participation (OPP), the SWRCB provides community engagement assistance to support effective public participation in SWRCB decisions and actions.

1.0 Introduction

This Community Accountability and Engagement Plan (Plan) describes the activities **Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group (P&P)** will take to meaningfully engage with the community, how the Administrator will communicate and provide project information to the community, a timeline for public participation activities and public meetings, how the Administrator will incorporate input from the community, and how the Administrator will be held accountable. The Administrator will update the Plan, as necessary, to reflect changes in this process or surrounding community.

This plan is organized in the following sections:

- Section 2.0: **South Kern MWC**
    - 2.1 Water System Issues
    - 2.2 Community Profile
- Section 3.0 Community Engagement and Communications
    - 3.1: Public Meetings
    - 3.2: Public Meeting Logistics
    - 3.3: Recommendations
    - 3.4 Communication Strategies
    - 3.5 Accountability
- Section 4.0: Appendices
    - Appendix A – Sample Meeting Notification
    - Appendix B – Sample Meeting Agenda
    - Appendix C – Sample Water Bill Insert
    - Appendix D – Sample Community Survey
    - Appendix E – Sample Meeting Notice Mailer
    - Appendix F – EJScreen Community Report

2.0 South Kern MWC

2.1 Water System Deficiencies

The South Kern MWC water system is located at **9820 Par St., Bakersfield, CA 93311.**

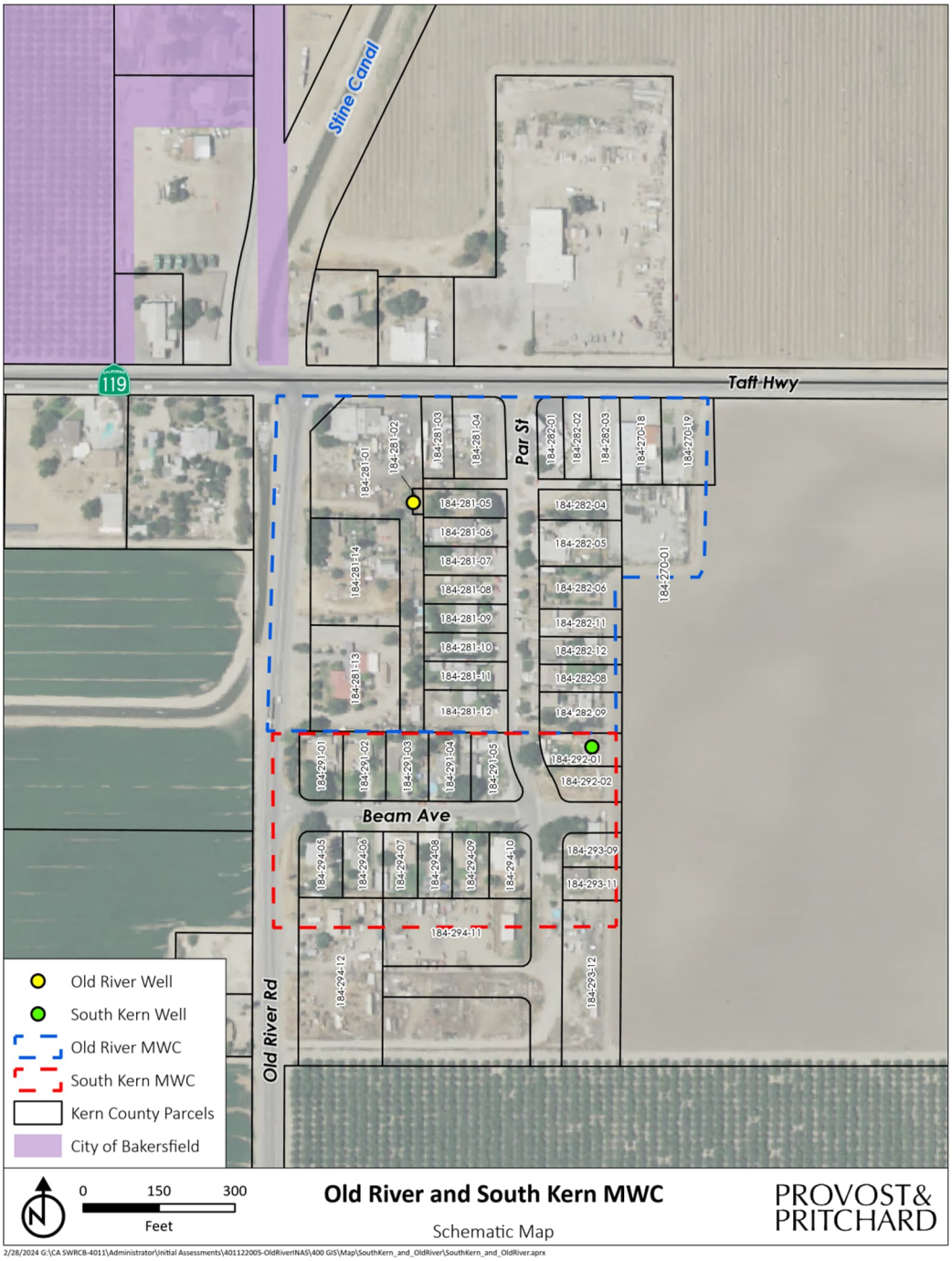
(Figure 1) Water System Deficiencies

Primary MCL Violations	Above the uranium and 1,2,3-TCP maximum contaminant level (MCL) set by the California Code of Regulations. <u>Uranium</u> South Kern MWC was issued a compliance order in October 2016 for failure to meet uranium MCL. Water samples from May 2021 through May 2022 confirmed that the South Kern MWC has consistently been over the uranium MCL amount. The running average during this timeframe was about 3 picocuries per liter (pci/L) above the MCL of 20 pci/L. <u>1,2,3-TCP</u> South Kern MWC was issued a compliance order by the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) in July 2018 for failing to meet the 1,2,3-TCP. The sampling results from 2018-2021 show that the 1,2,3-TCP has consistently been over the 0.005 milligram per liter (ug/L) MCL since 2018.
Governance or Board Challenges	South Kern MWC has failed to provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water. The water system has consistently failed to meet uranium and 1,2,3-TCP MCLs. In September 2020, South Kern MWC neglected to respond to a notice from DDW regarding this failure. South Kern MWC has not taken any steps necessary to address these deficiencies and provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water for its residents. South Kern MWC lacks technical, managerial, and financial capacity to operate the water system while

	meeting state and federal requirements. Additionally, the water system lacks the full board necessary to support managerial efforts. In 2018, the water system was issued a mandatory consolidation order to consolidate with the City of Bakersfield but lacked an operating Board of Directors to support consolidation efforts.

(Figure 2) – South Kern MWC & Old River MCW Map

This map shows the service area boundaries for the South Kern MWC and Old River MCW along with the locations of their respective wells. The South Kern MWC and Old River MCW are situated in an unincorporated area of Kern County, approximately one mile southwest of the City of Bakersfield's water system.



2.2 Community Profile

P&P is managing the Old River MWC and South Kern MWC systems congruently. Communication with the two communities will be formed and distributed jointly. Because they are classified as the same community, the EJScreen report applies to both water systems.

The **South Kern MWC** serves 32 people across 15 service connections, all of which are residential. Information regarding the demographics of the **South Kern MWC** community was obtained from census tract data obtained from EJScreen (epa.gov) American Community Survey (ACS) Summary Report is summarized in the table below. See attached PDF in Appendix F for full report.

EJSCREEN is an environmental justice mapping and screening tool that provides a nationally consistent dataset and approach for combining environmental and demographic indicators: https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/what-ejscreen.

Table 1 – Old River/South Kern Population Details[1]

Category	Count	Percentage
Total Population	**67**	**100%**
Population Reporting One Race	67	100%
White	5	7%
African American	0	0%
Asian	34	50%
Native American	0	0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0%
Two or More Races	0	0%
Hispanic or Latinx	29	43%
Population by Sex		
Male	43	64%
Female	24	36%
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment		

Less than 9th Grade	9	14%
Linguistically Isolated Households		
Total Limited English households	**4**	**6%** of all households
Speak Spanish	0	0%
Speak other Indo-European Languages	0	0%
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	4	100% of linguistically isolated households
Households by Household Income		
Number of Households	15	
Per capita income	**$23,838**	
Low income	3	4%
Unemployed	0	0%
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure		
Total	**15**	**100%**
Owner Occupied	12	81%
Renter Occupied	3	19%

[1] EJ Screen Community Survey (ACS) Summary Report U.S. Census Bureau.

The demographic information indicates within the population of the South Kern MWC and Old River MWC community, 50% identify as Asian, 43% as Hispanic or Latino and 7% as White. In addition, 14% of the population have less than a ninth-grade education; the rest of the population's education is unknown. To continue, 4% of the population are low income, with a per capita income of $23,838.

While the EJScreen community report states that 100% of linguistically isolated households speak an Asian-Pacific Island language, it does not specify the language spoken. Additionally, the community report shows that 43% of the population is Hispanic, with 0% of linguistically isolated households speaking Spanish. However, local operators have indicated the need for Spanish language speaking staff for communications with the community. For more details, see the community report in Appendix F.

https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30

3.0 Community Engagement and Communications

3.1 Public Meetings

It is anticipated that the community will be interested in the actions and activities of the designated Administrator because it includes work that directly impacts residents and customers within this water system. The activities described below will be conducted to provide accurate information to facilitate understanding and input.

Regular Public Meetings: P&P will host a public meeting at minimum once every three months. The public meetings will provide the community updates on the following items:

- The performance of the water system.
- The water system's financial health.
- Major projects or plans.
- Changes to water rates; and
- Other significant matters related to the designated water system.

Additional Public Meetings: Prior to taking any of the following actions, **P&P** will discuss these actions during a regularly scheduled public meeting or convene an additional meeting as needed.

- Development of Community Accountability and Engagement Plan.
- Development of Post-Administrator Drinking Water Service Plan.
- Establishing a final operating budget.
- Entering significant long-term contracts.
- Approving and/or entering contracts for significant planning projects or infrastructure improvements,
- Entering significant financing commitments, including any financing contracts with the SWRCB,
- Adoption of final system policies, and
- Altering water rates.

3.2 Public Meeting Logistics

- **Location** – Meetings will be held in accordance with what is convenient for the community, in-person or through a combination of in-person and virtual methods (hybrid).
- **Meeting Notice** – The Administrator will provide a public notice to all affected ratepayers, renters, and property owners a minimum of ten days prior to the public meeting. (See Appendix A)

- **Meeting agenda** – The Administrator will provide a meeting agenda for each public meeting (See Appendix B)
- **Meeting summaries** – The Administrator will provide a public meeting summary to the State Water Board within two weeks after the meeting.
- **Public comments** – The Administrator will provide the public with an opportunity to provide public comments at every public meeting.
- **Language access services** – The Administrator will provide translated written materials and oral interpretation in a language other than English if another language is requested by the public.

Meeting logistics:

As of **April 2024,** public meetings will be held:

☐ In-person at

☐ Virtually via

☒ Hybrid – virtually and in-person

At the **Douglas J. Miller Elementary School, 7345 Mountain Ridge Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93313, or other appropriate locally accessible venue,** and via Zoom meetings

☐ Unsure: _____

☒ **Public meeting notice:** The Administrator will make reasonable effort to provide a meeting notice at least 10-days before the meeting, in the language spoken in the community and will include details that include date, time, and location or meeting platform and point-of-contact information.

☒ **Meeting agenda:**
The Administrator will provide a meeting agenda at every public meeting.

☒ **Meeting summary:**
The Administrator will provide a meeting summary to the State Water Board at least two weeks after a public meeting has taken place.

☒ **Language access:**
Based on the census tract data for the **South Kern MWC** community demographics, materials will be provided in the following languages:

☒ **English**

☐ Spanish

☐ Other _____

3.3 Recommendations

Pre-Meeting Recommendations

- While not required, the Administrator can use the sample ***community survey*** template to assess the level of community interest in the project, preferred ways to communicate, language(s) spoken, and most suitable dates and times to host public meetings (see Appendix D).
- Prepare ***public meeting notice***, ***meeting agendas***, and/or ***water bill inserts*** along with other meeting appropriate materials (see Appendices A, B, and C).

Post- Meeting Recommendations

- While not required, the Administrator will upload meeting recordings onto the water system website.

P&P will take the following pre- and post-meeting actions:

☒ Conduct a community survey
☒ Use public meeting notices
☒ Use meeting agendas
☐ Use bill inserts
☒ Develop e-mail reminders
☒ Regularly update website
☒ Develop meeting summaries
☒ Upload meeting recording to website
☐ Other _____

3.4 Communication Strategies

It is expected that the appointed Administrator implements each of the following communication strategies:

- **Means of communication:** The Administrator will provide regular updates to the community served by the best means identified or recommended by community and may include public meeting notices, newsletters, emails, the water system's website, billing flyers, posting of flyers at central locations within the community, community repository, and/or other similar means of communication.
- **Language services**: The Administrator will provide written materials in a language other than English if it is known that at least 5% of the community speaks that language or another language if requested by the public.

Translations will be provided by professional, certified translators. If a need for another language identified, a member of the public can request these services by contacting the office by mail: **Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group, c/o Hamish Kellam, 455 W. Fir Ave., Clovis, CA 93611**; by phone: **(559) 449-2700**; or by email: **southkernoldriver@ppeng.com** at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

- **Fact sheets/updates:** The Administrator will provide fact sheets/updates in easy-to-understand non-technical language and should contain graphics/visuals to facilitate understanding by a lay audience. P&P will provide translation for updates to the community based on languages spoken.
- **Point-of-contact:** A designated point-of-contact will be listed on all communications materials for the public to contact for more information regarding actions and activities.
- **Mailing and key stakeholder e-mail lists:** P&P will request electronic copies of the mailing list and key stakeholder list from the State Water Board. If the State does not have a mailing list and key stakeholder list, P&P will work on developing their own using the customer list provided. P&P will use the water system mailing list and key stakeholder email distribution list to mail and/or email informational materials and public meeting notices. The key stakeholder list consists of representatives from community organizations and local and state agency representatives. These lists will be updated regularly by **P&P** to ensure accuracy and to add the addresses of individuals who request to be on the list. Copies of the mailing list and key stakeholder list will be provided to the Administrator electronically by the SWRCB.

P&P has identified the following methods as the most appropriate means of communicating with this community:

☒ Mail
☒ Email: southkernoldriver@ppeng.com
☐ Text messages
☒ Fact sheets
☐ Newsletter
☒ Water system website: admin.provostandpritchard.com/south-kern-old-river
☐ Post flyers at identified centers of community (i.e., post office, markets)
☐ Water bill inserts
☐ Community partners
☐ Other _____

Point-of-contact name and contact information:

Name: **Hamish Kellam**
Organization: **Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group**
Address: **455 W. Fir Ave., Clovis, CA 93611**
Phone: **(559) 449-2700**
Email: **hkellam@ppeng.com**

Table 3 – Community Accountability and Engagement Plan Timeline

Type of Action or Activity	Description or Purpose	Timeframe
Hold initial Community Engagement Meeting in early May 2024, followed by quarterly meetings (August, November, and February)	*The meeting will be offered as a hybrid, in-person at Douglas J. Miller Elementary School, 7345 Mountain Ridge Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93313, or other locally accessible location, and via Zoom video/teleconference*	Quarterly
Questions and comments can be submitted at any time via multiple communications channels, including phone, email, mail, and in person at Community Engagement Meetings	*Provide clear pathways for community members to ask questions about the program and project and submit their comments and feedback*	Ongoing
Develop internal comment and question tracking matrix	*Develop organized system to coordinate question and comment responses, and track feedback overtime*	April 2024
Develop external comment and question tracking matrix	*Record and organize comments and questions from community members to be accessible for public viewing online*	April 2024
Develop email distribution list for email newsletter updates and meeting notices	*Provide timely and transparent communications to community members*	Begin May 2024
Create a dedicated webpage for South Kern MWC & Old River MWC on the P&P Administrator website to include meeting agendas, meeting notices, and resources	*Create a digital location as another form of communication and to house background information, outreach materials, upcoming event information, and past event resources*	Completed March 2024

Type of Action or Activity	Description or Purpose	Timeframe
Conduct survey with community members	*Understand community members' communication preferences, gather demographic information, collect email addresses, and obtain general outreach method feedback*	Begin May 2024
Develop project fact sheet	*Provide clear and transparent information to the community*	Completed April 2024
Send direct mail notifications to community members' residences	*Notify community members of upcoming Community Engagement Meetings*	Begin May 2024 then ongoing

3.5 Accountability

The SWRCB holds a deep appreciation for community engagement and active involvement. P&P places a strong emphasis on our responsibility to our communities, ensuring that the project consistently aligns with their best interests.

Respond to and incorporate community input: Community input will be documented, considered, and incorporated in the following ways:

A question and comment tracking matrix will be developed to record all questions and comments received. Community input will be reviewed and evaluated by P&P, who will summarize, record responses, follow-ups, and action items taken as necessary. An external matrix will consist of summarized comments and responses to be posted on admin.provostandpritchard.com. Key matrix information will be reported to community members at the quarterly Community Engagement Meetings and summarized and posted to the external matrix.

- **Public access to records**: The Administrator shall make available the following documents to the public during business hours **Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.**
- The current operating budget
- The organization chart of all designated water system employees and management
- Ownership information for the designated water system
- Reports by auditors or other financial professionals regarding the budget or finances of the designated water system
- Current contracts for professional services

- All complaints regarding water system services to customers
- Any approved Post Administrator Drinking Water Plan

Optionally, such services can be offered through the establishment of an information repository at a central location in the community such as a public library, community center, school, etc. throughout the duration of the Administrator. If feasible, the Administrator shall make these documents available on the designated water system's website.

- **SWRCB Process to Submit Complaints and Petitions**: Any ratepayer, renter, or property owner who receives water from a designated water system which receives services from the Administrator is entitled to submit a complaint or file a petition to the SWRCB for the reversal or modification of a decision of an Administrator or substitution of the Administrator.

To submit a complaint, contact:

Caitlin Juarez, Water Resources Control Engineer
Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board
Phone: (559) 447-3395
Email: DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov
Mail: 265 W. Bullard Avenue, Suite 101, Fresno, CA 93704

To submit a petition:

Petitions may be submitted the following ways:

In person**:**

State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Chief Counsel
1001 "I" Street, 22nd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Pamela Downing, Legal Secretary

By mail:

State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Chief Counsel
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100
Attn: Pamela Downing, Legal Secretary

By email: DrinkingWaterPetitions@waterboards.ca.gov

By fax: (916) 341-5199

For more information, visit: Drinking Water Petitions for Reconsideration | California State Water Resources Control Board

4.0 Appendices

Appendix A – Sample Meeting Notification

Appendix B – Sample Meeting Agenda

Appendix C – Sample Water Bill Insert

Appendix D – Sample Community Survey

Appendix E – Sample Meeting Notice Mailer

Appendix F – EJSCREEN Community Report

Appendix A – Sample Public Meeting Notice

JOIN US!

ADMINISTRATOR FOR SOUTH KERN AND OLD RIVER MUTUAL WATER COMPANIES (MWC)

COMMUNITY MEETING

Provost & Pritchard technical consultants have been appointed and funded by the California State Water Resources Control Board to provide safe and affordable drinking water for South Kern MWC and Old River MWC.

You are invited to learn more about your drinking water, water rates, and upcoming plans to improve your drinking water system.

We will cover:

- [SPECIFIC TOPICS FOR THIS PUBLIC MEETING]
    - [Example – Updates on water system performance]
    - [Example – Overview of water system financial health]

Date/Time:

[DATE AND TIME]

In-person location:	Join online via Zoom:	Join by phone:
[LINK TO JOIN]	[ADDRESS]	[PHONE & MEETING ID]

For more information, contact:
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
Hamish Kellam
(559) 449-2700, southkernoldriver@ppeng.com
445 W. Fir Ave., Clovis, CA 93611

Appendix B – Sample Public Meeting Agenda Template

ADMINISTRATOR PROGRAM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETING # (Insert Meeting Number)

Provost & Pritchard
South Kern & Old River Mutual Water Companies

DAY OF THE WEEK, MONTH, DAY, YEAR from 00:00 PM – 00:00PM

AGENDA

I. Introductions & Administrator Program Overview
II. Work underway:
    a. Community Accountability and Engagement Plan
    b. Performance of the Water System
    c. Emergency Response
    d. Overview of the Water System's finances
    e. Update on major projects or plans
    f. Update on any changes to water rates
    g. Update on significant matters related to the Water System
III. Public comments, questions, and answers
    a. Public comments will be recorded and considered by the Administrator
IV. Next projected meeting date is [insert next meeting date]
    a. Look for email, website, and mail communications
V. Adjourn

Appendix C – Sample Water Bill Insert

Dear Resident:

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group (Provost & Pritchard) has been assigned by the State Water Resources Control Board to serve as an Administrator.

A water system Administrator is an entity or person appointed and funded by the State Water Board that helps failing water systems address their drinking water needs and find long-term solutions to water quality and system management.

To keep you up to date on the activities taking place to improve the Old River Mutual Water Company and South Kern Mutual Water Company Water Systems, Provost & Pritchard will be hosting a public meeting at a minimum every 3 months.

The first meeting will be held in May 2024 at Douglas J. Miller Elementary School, located at 7345 Mountain Ridge Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93313.

For more information, call (559) 449-2700 or email: southkernoldriver@ppeng.com

Sincerely,

Hamish Kellam, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group

Appendix D- Community Survey Template

South Kern & Old River Mutual Water Companies
Community Survey

Please Print Clearly
Full Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

☐ Add me to the email updates list for project updates and public meeting information.

Phone Number: _____

1) Have you participated in any public meetings regarding drinking water issues for South Kern & Old River Mutual Water Companies? (circle) Yes No

If no, why not?

_____

3) What language(s) are spoken in this community? _____

4) Do you prefer in-person, virtual (Zoom), or hybrid (in-person and Zoom option) meetings?

_____

5) What is the best day of the week and time to hold a public meeting?

_____

6) What is the preferred location of the public meeting?

_____

7) What is the best way to provide you with information regarding the South Kern & Old River Mutual Water Companies Water System? Please rate the following communication tools on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = least preferred and 5 = most preferred):

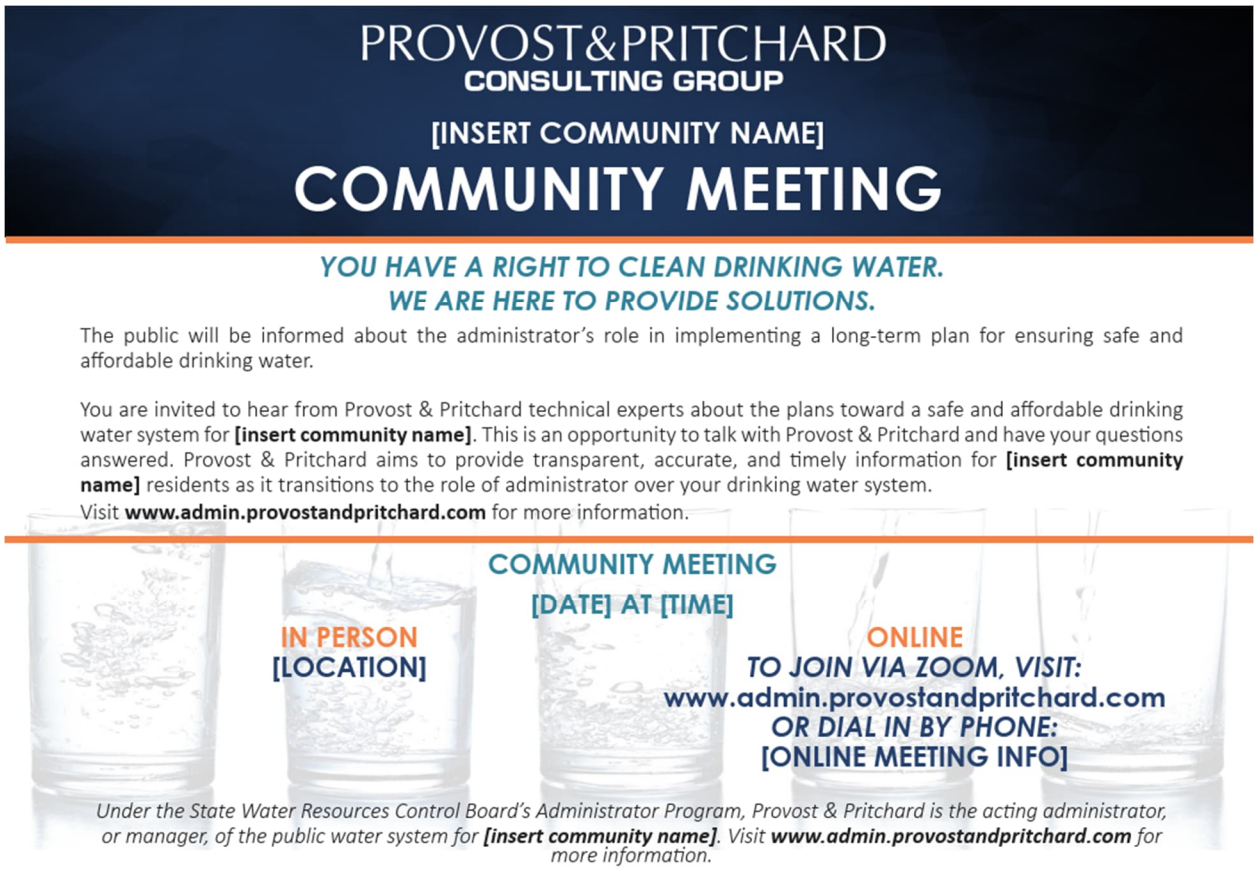
Direct mail	1	2	3	4	5
Mailed fact sheets	1	2	3	4	5
Website/internet	1	2	3	4	5
Information through schools	1	2	3	4	5

Information through churches	1	2	3	4	5
Public notices in a newspaper	1	2	3	4	5
Community/public meetings	1	2	3	4	5
E-mailed information	1	2	3	4	5
Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)	1	2	3	4	5
Information posted in public areas	1	2	3	4	5
Press releases/newspaper articles	1	2	3	4	5

8) Are there other ways for us to keep you better informed? (circle) Yes No

Please describe.

Appendix E – Sample Meeting Notice Mailer



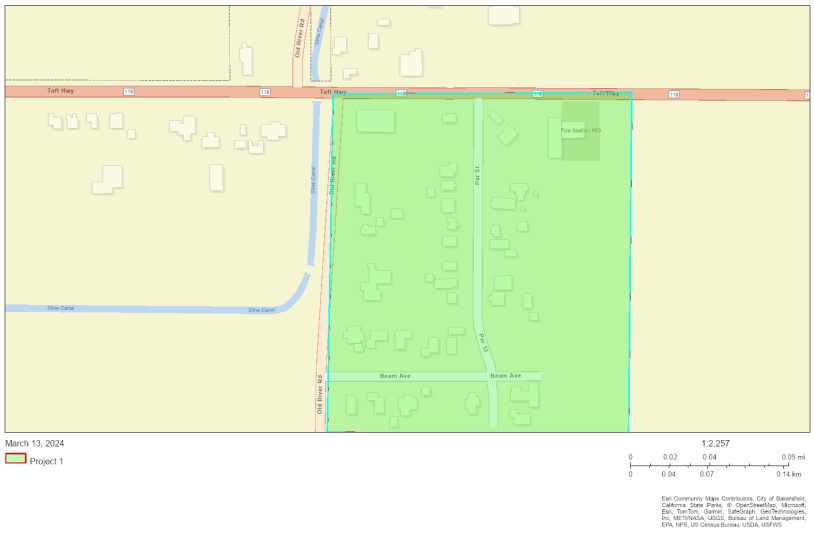
EJScreen Community Report

This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

Old River, CA

the User Specified Area
Population: 67
Area in square miles: 0.03

A3 Landscape



LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
No language data available.	

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

- Low income: 4 percent
- People of color: 93 percent
- Less than high school education: 14 percent
- Limited English households: 6 percent
- Unemployment: 0 percent
- Persons with disabilities: 5 percent
- Male: 64 percent
- Female: 36 percent
- 78 years — Average life expectancy
- $23,838 — Per capita income
- Number of households: 15
- Owner occupied: 81 percent

BREAKDOWN BY RACE

- White: 7%
- Black: 0%
- American Indian: 0%
- Asian: 50%
- Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 0%
- Other race: 0%
- Two or more races: 0%
- Hispanic: 43%

BREAKDOWN BY AGE

From Ages 1 to 4	0%
From Ages 1 to 18	18%
From Ages 18 and up	82%
From Ages 65 and up	8%

LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN

Speak Spanish	0%
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	0%
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	100%
Speak Other Languages	0%

Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2017 -2021. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

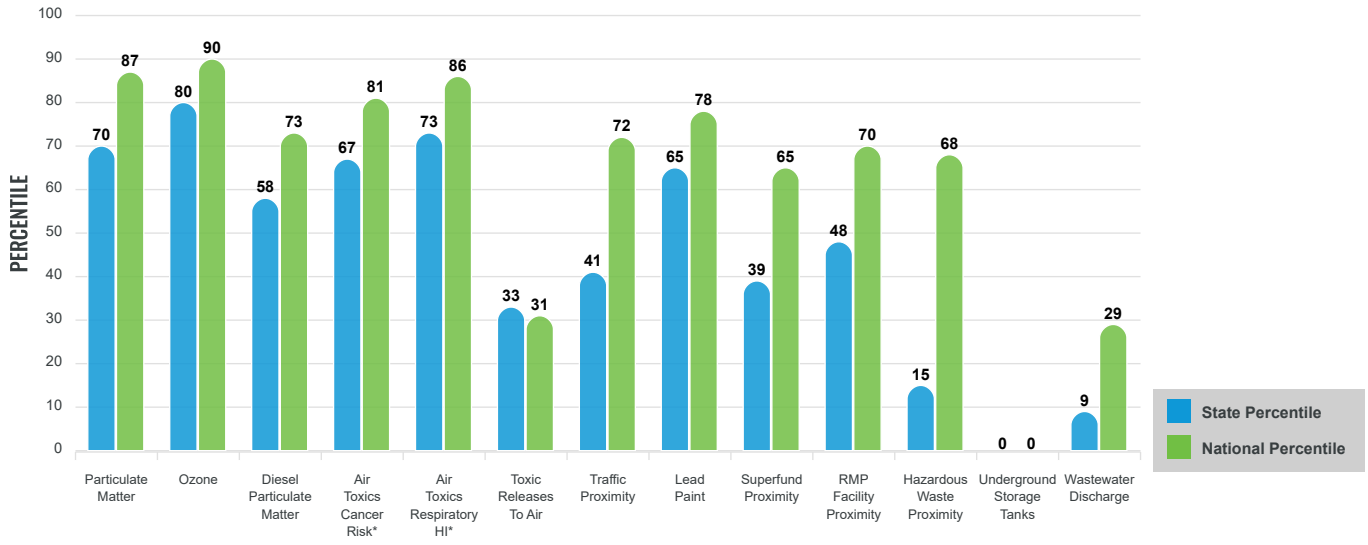
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen EJ indexes and supplemental indexes in EJScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EJ and supplemental indexes, please visit the EJScreen website.

EJ INDEXES

The EJ indexes help users screen for potential EJ concerns. To do this, the EJ index combines data on low income and people of color populations with a single environmental indicator.

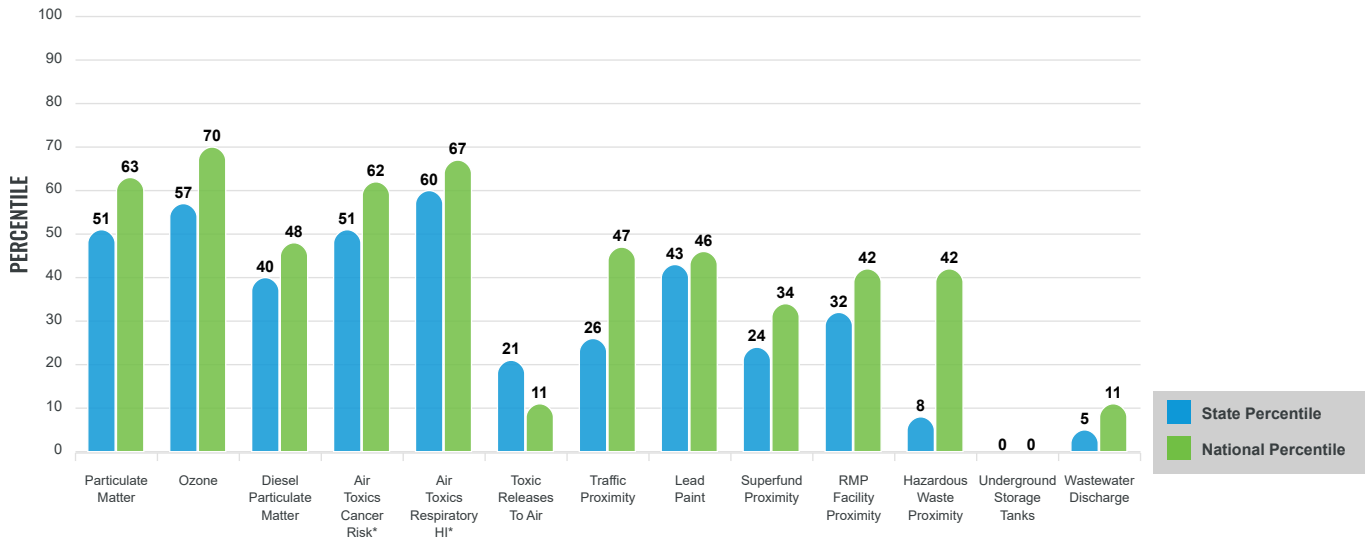
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on percent low-income, percent linguistically isolated, percent less than high school education, percent unemployed, and low life expectancy with a single environmental indicator.

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state or nation.

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter (µg/m^3)	9.77	8.65	68	8.08	87
Ozone (ppb)	75.9	65.9	83	61.6	98
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m^3)	0.243	0.26	50	0.261	56
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	30	27	42	25	52
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.4	0.34	58	0.31	70
Toxic Releases to Air	26	780	23	4,600	13
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	100	510	31	210	57
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.33	0.31	58	0.3	60
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.044	0.17	27	0.13	39
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.16	0.57	38	0.43	49
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.46	5.9	9	1.9	48
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km^2)	0	1.5	0	3.9	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	3.5E-06	4	6	22	12
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	49%	45%	57	35%	73
Supplemental Demographic Index	9%	15%	26	14%	27
People of Color	93%	61%	85	39%	91
Low Income	4%	28%	7	31%	6
Unemployment Rate	0%	7%	0	6%	0
Limited English Speaking Households	6%	9%	57	5%	79
Less Than High School Education	14%	16%	57	12%	68
Under Age 5	0%	6%	0	6%	0
Over Age 64	8%	16%	22	17%	18
Low Life Expectancy	20%	18%	74	20%	54

*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update.

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	0
Air Pollution	0
Brownfields	0
Toxic Release Inventory	0

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	0
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	0

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	Yes
Impaired Waters	No

Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands*	No
Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEJST)" disadvantaged community	No
Selected location contains an EPA IRA disadvantaged community	Yes

Report for the User Specified Area

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	20%	18%	74	20%	54
Heart Disease	3.6	5.2	11	6.1	7
Asthma	9.2	9.5	40	10	30
Cancer	3.5	5.3	12	6.1	6
Persons with Disabilities	8.2%	10.9%	30	13.4%	20

CLIMATE INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Flood Risk	0%	13%	20	12%	13
Wildfire Risk	23%	30%	66	14%	83

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	10%	10%	61	14%	47
Lack of Health Insurance	13%	7%	88	9%	80
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for the User Specified Area