A state-named "Nitrate Relief Project" — Plainview, Tulare County

Plainview's nitrate problem is documented almost entirely through the state's own paperwork — a formally named "Plainview Nitrate Relief Project" working its way through California's environmental-review and water-board process.

2023

Year the Plainview Nitrate Relief Project's environmental review documents first appear in the state clearinghouse record.

2026

Year a public notice on Plainview's drinking water system still appears in state water board records — suggesting the issue remained active years after the project was first filed.

What happened

The Plainview Nitrate Relief Project moved through California's environmental-review process starting in 2023, under a Notice of Determination and an initial study filed with the State Water Resources Control Board. A separate public notice regarding Plainview's drinking water system appears in the state's 2026 records, and a notice of cancellation also appears for Plainview in the same filing year — details we could not fully reconcile in this pass; it's unclear from the documents reviewed whether the cancellation refers to the relief project itself or to a separate, unrelated filing.

Impact — what we know, and what we don't

- **What, specifically, was cancelled in the 2026 filing:** Not resolved in this pass — the document title references cancellation, but the content wasn't retrievable in enough detail to confirm what it cancelled.
- **Population and farm-labor share:** Not captured in this pass.
- **Current nitrate levels:** Not established.

Part of a larger pattern

Plainview is the thinnest-sourced case in this Tulare County pass, included deliberately as an honest example of a water problem that's documented in state paperwork but not yet in independent reporting — a contrast with the richly sourced **Earlimart** and **Tooleville** cases, and a reminder that this project's record is only as complete as the public sourcing allows.

Sources

- California State Water Resources Control Board, "Plainview Nitrate Relief Project," CEQA filings (2023) and related public notices (2026). Access: not-captured — a public URL exists for this source and this project has not recorded it.

Full citation detail and source archive: **Data**. Back to **water insecurity in the Central Valley**.