

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**2019058330**

<p><b>TO:</b> Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222 Sacramento, CA 95814 Attn: State Clearinghouse</p> <p>County Clerk County of Riverside 2720 Gateway Drive Riverside, CA 92507</p>	<p><b>FROM:</b> Western Municipal Water District 14205 Meridian Parkway Riverside, CA 92518</p>
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1.	Project Title:	2019 Water Use Efficiency Master Plan Update (the "Plan Update")
2.	Project Location:	The Plan Update relates to Western Municipal Water District's (the "District") service area, which encompasses several cities located within western Riverside County. A map of the District's service area, which identifies these cities, is attached as Exhibit "A."
3.	Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:	<p>Western Municipal Water District (the "District") previously developed and adopted a Water Use Efficiency Master Plan in 2008 ("2008 Plan") to help the District and its customers use water more efficiently.</p> <p>The Plan Update builds upon the 2008 Plan to provide water use efficiency solutions for the District and its customers. In particular, the Plan Update consists of: (1) a comprehensive customer survey about customer attitudes and beliefs about water use efficiency, (2) a program plan based on the responses to the survey to increase water efficiency, and (3) a marketing plan to educate and empower the District's ratepayers to use water more efficiently.</p> <p>The District's Board of Directors approved the Plan Update on May 1, 2019.</p>
4.	Name of Public Agency approving project:	Western Municipal Water District
5.	Name of Person or Agency carrying out project:	Western Municipal Water District
6.	Exempt status:	The Plan Update, and the District's approval thereof, is (1) categorically exempt from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines section 15306, and (2) additionally exempt from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3).
7.	Reason why project was exempt:	<p>State CEQA Guidelines section 15306 exempts from CEQA basic data collection and resource evaluation activities "that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource." The exempt data collection or resource evaluation activity "may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action [that] a public agency has not yet approved, adopted or funded."</p> <p>Here, the Plan Update falls within the Section 15306 categorical exemption because the Plan Update seeks to collect data about customer attitudes and beliefs about water use efficiency through the use of a comprehensive customer survey. This data will then be used to educate ratepayers of programs that would allow the ratepayers to</p>

	<p>use water more efficiently. Moreover, the Plan Update will not “result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.” (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15306.) To the contrary, the Plan Update seeks to survey ratepayers about their attitudes about water use efficiency and use this information to improve water use efficiency and better conserve water. The Plan Update will have no adverse physical impact on the environment. For the foregoing reasons, the Plan Update is exempt from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines section 15306.</p> <p>Moreover, none of the exceptions to the applicability of State CEQA Guidelines section 15306, as set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2, apply here. Notably, the Plan Update will have no direct physical impact at all and will have no reasonably foreseeable adverse indirect physical impact. Rather, the Plan Update will allow the District to collect data that will allow it to better promote water use efficiency amongst its ratepayers.</p> <p>The Plan Update is additionally exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3), which exempts activity from CEQA “[w]here it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.” In particular, the Plan Update does not involve any construction, will not result in growth-inducing impacts, does not seek to increase demands on any environmental resource, and will not have any adverse physical impact on the environment. There is no possibility that the Plan Update—e.g., surveying ratepayers about water use efficiency, proposing means to be more water efficient to those ratepayers based on their responses, and marketing to educate and empower those ratepayers to use water more efficiently—will have a significant adverse effect on the environment. The Plan Update is thus exempt from CEQA.</p>
8. Contact Person:	Rob Whipple, Water Resources Specialist II
Telephone:	(951) 789-5109

Date Received for Filing: \_\_\_\_\_

*Rob Whipple*  
 Signature (Lead Agency Representative)

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

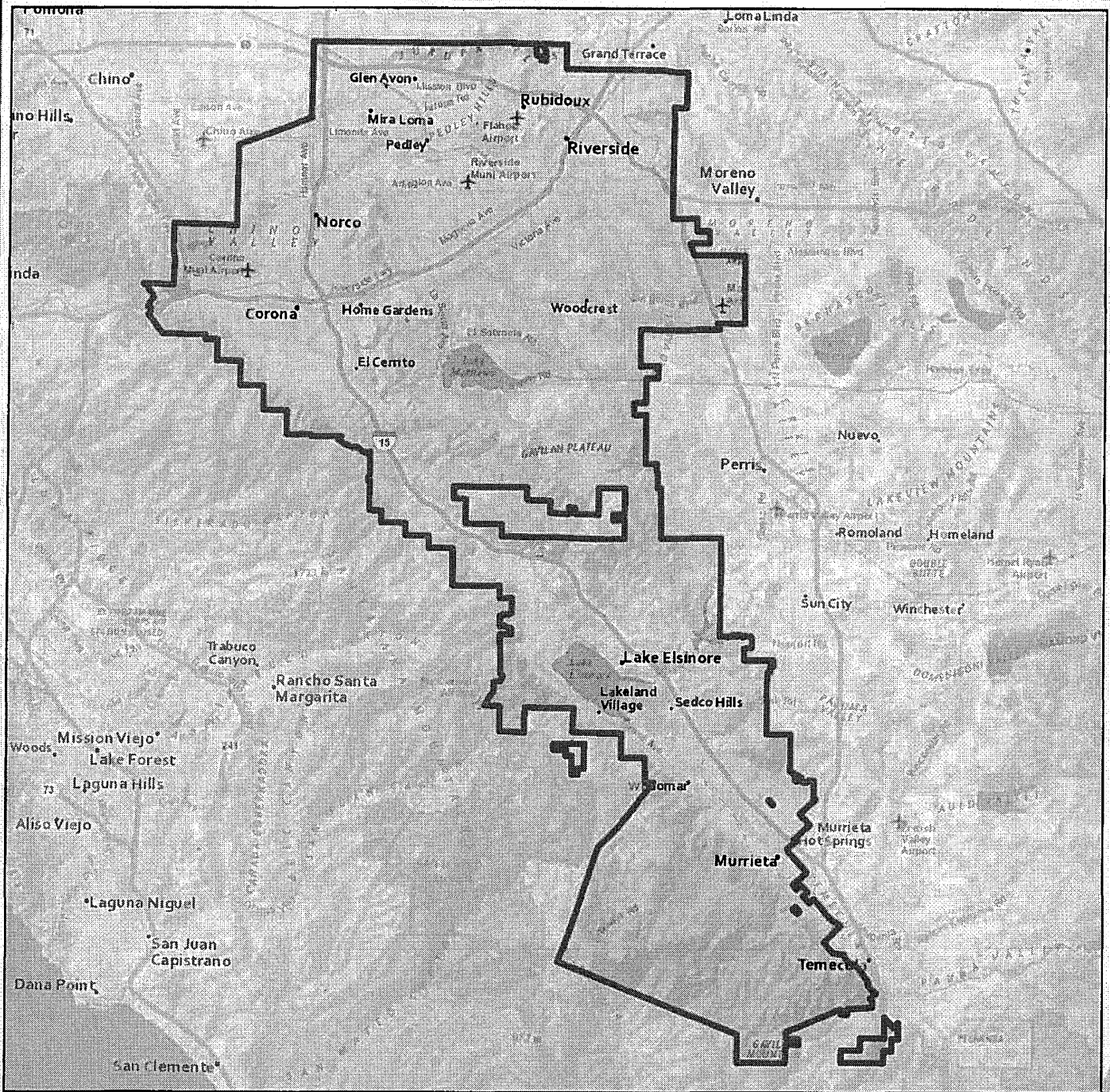
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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

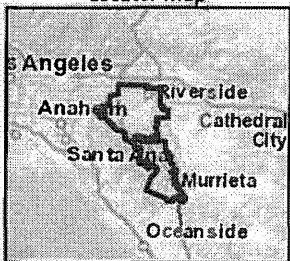
# WMWD General District Boundary



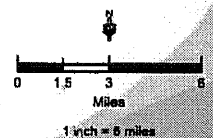
Securing Your Water Supply



Locator Map



WMWD General District Boundary



2019058330

Sheila Brown

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**From:** Tammy Ingram <Tammy.Ingram@bbklaw.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2019 9:53 AM  
**To:** OPR State Clearinghouse  
**Subject:** Western Municipal Water District Notice of Exemption for Water Use Efficiency Master Plan Update  
**Attachments:** WMWD\_Notice of Exemption (NOE) for Water Use Efficiency Master Plan-c2.PDF

Please file and post the attached Notice of Exemption for the 2019 Water Use Efficiency Master Plan Update for Western Municipal Water District. Please return a conformed copy by email.

Thank you,

Tammy



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