

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019070949

TO: Governor’s Office of Planning and Research FROM: State Water Resources Control Board
 State Clearinghouse Santa Ana District Office
 P.O. Box 3044 2 MacArthur Pl., Suite 150
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Santa Ana, CA 92707
 Contact: Ashley Dummer
 Phone number: 714-558-4410

SCH#: N/A

WATER SYSTEM #: 3000980

PROJECT TITLE: Santa Margarita Water District-Nichols Institute (Nichols) – Upgrading of Reservoir A with PAX Mixer and Chloramine Facility and Reservoir B with PAX Mixer Project (Project)

PROJECT LOCATION: The reservoirs are located on private property owned by Quest Diagnostics (Nichols’s owner) at 33608 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675 but within Santa Margarita Water District (District) easement on the south side of Ortega Highway-6.7 miles east of the Antonio Parkway

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), as the responsible agency, has issued a water supply permit. The District proposed Project provides upgrades to the existing reservoirs to improve water quality, including these additional facilities:

- A PAX water mixer to improve water circulation within each existing reservoir (Reservoir A and Reservoir B)
- Chloramine facility for Reservoir A and Reservoir B to improve water quality control
- New chemical piping connections to the existing Reservoir A and Reservoir B
- Existing storage building to house chemical tanks, pumps and other related equipment to deliver chemical treatment to reservoirs

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT AND CARRYING OUT PROJECT: This is to advise that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has issued a drinking water supply permit **05-08-19PA-003** for the above described Project on **July 22, 2019**. A record of permit issuance for the Project is available to the general public at the State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water District Office noted above.

Categorical Exemption Status:

- Class 1 Existing Facilities
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301)
- Class 2 Replacement or Reconstruction
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15302)
- Class 3 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15303)
- Class 4 Minor Alterations to Land
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15304)
- Class 6 Information Collection
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15306)

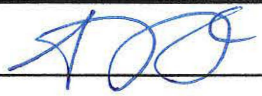
Statutory Exemption Status:

- Feasibility and Planning Studies
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15262)

- Emergency Project
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15269)
- Right of way pipelines of less than one mile
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15282 (k))

Reason why Project is exempt: The Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CCR, Title 14, Section 15301(f), Class 1 exemption for minor alteration of existing public facilities, involving no expansion of use, and addition of health protection devices for use in conjunction with existing facilities. The Project is also exempt pursuant to Section 15303(d), Class 3 exemption for construction of limited numbers of new, small structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure within a water utility.

LEAD AGENCY: Santa Margarita Water District
CONTACT PERSON: Daniel Peterson, Operations Business Manager
PHONE NUMBER: (949) 459-6594

Signature:  Date: 7/22/2019

Name: ASHLEY DUMMER Title: District Engineer

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JULY 22 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE