

2019080247

Notice of Exemption  
**FILED**

To:  County Clerk  
County of Merced  
2222 M. Street  
Merced, CA 95340

From: Merced Irrigation District  
744 W. 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merced, CA 95340

2019 APR 24 AM 8:32  
MERCED COUNTY CLERK  
BY: [Signature]  
DEPUTY

**Project Title:** Projects funded under California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act benefitting Severely Disadvantaged Communities. El Nido Groundwater Monitoring Wells.

**Project Location:** Merced County

**Project Location- City:** **Project Location - County:** Merced County

**Project Description (Describe Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project):**

The proposed project would include the installation of 2 groundwater monitoring wells along Hwy 59 near the town of El Nido, and almost immediately north of the Chowchilla River. Each will be designed to be a nested well to contain multiple 2-inch pipes measuring groundwater at multiple isolated depths, possibly reaching below the Corcoran formation.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Merced Irrigation District

**Exempt Status:**

- General Rule Exemption. See CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical CEQA Guidelines 15301(class 1), 15303(class 3), 15304(Class 4), 15306(Class 6)

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The proposed project is exempt from CEQA because it falls within the so-called "common sense" exemption pursuant to CEQA guidelines, section 15061(b)(3), which indicates that CEQA only applies to projects that have a "significant effect on the environment". The proposed actions are categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines §15301(class 1), covering operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures 15303(class 3), covering the construction of new small structures or facilities §15304(class 4) covering minor public or private alterations to the condition of land or water §15306(class 6) covering data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:**

John Sweigard, General Manager – 209-722-5761 or 744 West 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced, CA 95340

**Signature:** [Signature] **Date:** 4/16/19  
**Title:** John Sweigard, General Manager  
Merced Irrigation District

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

AUG 13 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

DATES POSTED  
FROM: 4/25/2019  
TO: 5/24/2019  
MERCED COUNTY CLERK