California Environmental Quality Act: Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

From: The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, California 90054-0153

Project Name: Casa Loma Siphon No. 1 and San Jacinto Pipeline Temporary Hazard Mitigation Project

Project Location - Specific: The project is located where Metropolitan’s Casa Loma Siphon No. 1 and San Jacinto Pipeline cross underneath the San Jacinto River, near San Jacinto, California. The project coordinates are 33.819945°, -116.970439° (see attached figure).

Project Location - County: Riverside

Description of Project: In order to provide adequate weight and protection over the two pipelines, Metropolitan proposes to temporarily place steel plates and k-rails over the Casa Loma Siphon No. 1 and San Jacinto Pipeline where they cross at the San Jacinto River.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Exempt Status: (check as applicable)
- Ministerial (Public Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines
- Emergency Project (Public Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines)
- Categorical Exemption, Class 1, State CEQA Guidelines §15301
- Other, State CEQA Guidelines

Reasons why project is exempt:
The proposed action is exempt from the requirements of CEQA because the purpose is to protect the existing Casa Loma Siphon No. 1 and San Jacinto Pipeline that became exposed during an extreme rain event which was proclaimed an emergency by the Governor (dated February 21, 2019) pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code. In addition, the proposed action consists of emergency repairs to a publicly owned service facility necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare, and is necessary to prevent or mitigate and emergency. Additionally, the proposed activity consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographic features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency’s determination.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Daniel Cardoza at (213) 217-5602

Signature: Jennifer Harriger, Interim Manager, Environmental Planning Section
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Date received for filing: