

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 624-7000
Attn: hguerra@co.tulare.ca.us

Applicant(s): Tri-County Water Authority GSA
944 Whitley Ave, Ste E
Corcoran, CA 93212
(559) 762-7240

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK

Project Title: Tule Subbasin Advisory Committee/Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition (TBWQC) Monitoring Wells TSMW-5U and TSMW-5L

Project Location - Specific: The project is located approximately 1,180 feet east of Avenue 28 and 850 feet north of Avenue 24, approximately 3.3 miles south of Alpaugh, Tulare County, within County APN 330-070-053.

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 17, Township 24 S, Range 23 E of the Hacienda Ranch USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle

Project Location - City: South of the Community of Alpaugh

Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: This project includes the installation of two groundwater monitoring wells within the Tule Subbasin consistent with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The wells have been designed and will be located in an area considered "data-gap" based on existing wells and monitoring data. The wells will be located approximately 100 feet from each other. Well TSMW-5U will be drilled to a depth of 310 feet and Well TSMW-5L will be drilled to a depth of 1,010 feet.

Exempt Status: (check one)

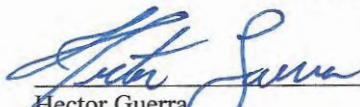
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- General Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 3 Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures**
- Statutory Exemptions:

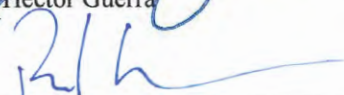
Reasons why project is exempt: This action is consistent with Class 3 Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, as activities associated with the project include the drilling, construction, and testing of two groundwater monitoring wells consistent with Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements. The project site is located on previously disturbed agricultural land and no other construction-related activities are proposed with the project. As such, Section 15303 is applicable and appropriate for this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Project Planner/Representative: Aaron R. Bock, Associate Director

Area Code/Telephone: 559-624-7000

By:  Date: 6/9/20 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Hector Guerra

By:  Date: 6/9/2020 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant