

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FROM: Orange County Water District, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

TO: California State Clearinghouse, 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: OCWD Monitoring Well FM-35

Project Location: The Project would be located within an industrial property at 2100 E. Valencia Drive in the City of Fullerton, California

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed Project involves the construction of a new monitoring well cluster, designated FM-35, within the paved parking lot of an industrial property in the City of Fullerton. OCWD installed extraction well EW-1 in 2008 as part of a network of six extraction wells to capture and contain groundwater containing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the northern area of the Orange County Groundwater Basin, referred to as North Basin. EW-1 is the easternmost of the six extraction wells.

After the six extraction wells, including EW-1, were installed, that project was put on hold for reevaluation and construction of the wellheads was not completed. However, due to an imminent threat to the Principal Aquifer and down-gradient City of Fullerton production wells, construction of EW-1 was completed and the well started operating in September 2017.

The RWQCB and SWRCB requested OCWD install a monitoring well cluster directly down-gradient of EW1 and upgradient of Fullerton production well F-10 in order to (1) measure depth-discrete water levels down-gradient of EW-1 to assist with the preparation of groundwater contours that depict the approximate capture zone of EW-1; (2) evaluate depth-discrete VOC concentrations down-gradient of the EW-1 capture zone; and (3) Provide data to support potential adjustments to EW-1's pumping rates under varying groundwater levels and gradients.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Orange County Water District, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Orange County Water District - Attn: Shawn Nevill

Exempt Status: (Check One)

Not a Project (Section 15378)

Ministerial (Section 15268)

Feasibility and Planning Study (Section 15262)

Emergency Project (Section 15269)

Categorical Exemption. (Class 3, Section 15303)

Not to be approved (Section 15270)

Reasons why project is exempt: The proposed project involves limited construction of a monitoring well cluster within a paved parking lot on an industrial (warehouse) site devoid of any sensitive habitat and falls within Class 3 descriptions for the new construction of small structures.

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding

2. Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?

Yes No.

Signature: Shawn A

Contact Person: Shawn Nevill

Principal Planner (714) 469-5740
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Jun 22 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Date Received for Filing: _____

Exhibit 1

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

18700 Ward Street

Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Name of Project: OCWD Monitoring Well FM-35

Location: The Project would be located within an industrial property at 2100 E. Valencia Drive in the City of Fullerton, California

Entity or Person Undertaking Project: Orange County Water District, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Staff Determination: The staff of the Orange County Water District (District), having undertaken and completed a preliminary review of this project in accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines has concluded that this project does not require further environmental assessment because:

1. The project involves another public agency which constitutes the Lead Agency.

Name of Agency _____

2. The proposed action does not constitute a project within the meaning of Section 15378.

3. The project is a Ministerial Project under Section 15268.

4. The project is an Emergency Project under Section 15269.

5. The project constitutes a Feasibility or Planning Study under Section 15262.

6. The proposal will not be approved as provided in Section 15270.

7. The project is Categorical Exempt under Article 19 commencing with Section 15300 - Applicable Exemption Class 3.

Signature: 

Contact Person: Shawn Nevill, Principal Planner - (714) 469-5740

Date: June 17, 2020