

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2020070278

TO: Governor's Office of Planning and Research FROM: State Water Resources Control Board
State Clearinghouse Monterey District Office
Office P.O. Box 3044 1 Lower Ragsdale Dr. Bldg 1, Suite 120
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Monterey, CA 93940

SCH#: N/A

WATER SYSTEM #: 3500929

PROJECT TITLE: Reiter Berry - Farm Housing Project (Project)

LEAD AGENCY: State Water Resources Control Board
CONTACT PERSON: Jan Sweigert
PHONE NUMBER: (831) 655-6939

PROJECT LOCATION: 4660 San Juan Road, Hollister, within San Benito County

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Reiter Berry proposes to install a water system and build farm worker housing to facilitate continued farming around the land.

Currently, the site has a 400-foot domestic well with a demand of 500 gallons per day (gpd), which will increase to an average of 7,000 gpd with the completion of the Project. The Project will add two 2.5-hp pumps to the existing domestic well, along with 1,400 feet (ft) of three-inch, 1,400 ft of four-inch, and 1,400 ft of six-inch PVC water line. There is a San Benito County Water Agency (SBCWA) connection on the property for agricultural water use that will be used to supplement any need for fire control. The Project will include the installation of two 3.5-hp pumps and a SBCWA pipeline valve to support the above fire control. In addition to an existing 30-gallon pressure tank, storage tanks for the Project will include two-10,000 gallon polyethylene tanks and two 80-gallon pressure tanks. The tanks will be in the storage yard of the farm, a fenced area where farm equipment is kept. July 2020 Update: Temporary point of use (POU) units were installed under the kitchen tap of all 13 dwelling units for temporary nitrate MCL compliance after the well was measured above the nitrate MCL in May and June 2020.

The Project's housing will involve the construction of 12 mobile homes, including minor grading to create building pads and drainage around the homes. Additional structures will include 24 base rock parking spaces (18ft x 8.5ft) and three unenclosed shade structures (7ft x 18ft). The housing will be occupied during the farming season, roughly between June and November, with an average monthly occupancy of 34 employees. The operation of the water system will be in conjunction with the occupancy of the housing.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT AND CARRYING OUT PROJECT: This is to advise that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has determined that the Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act and will issue a drinking water supply permit for the operation of the above described Project. 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.

Exemption Status:

[X] Common Sense Exemption
(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15061 (b)(3))

Reason why Project is exempt: The Project site has been previously disturbed through excavation and soil disturbance typical of agriculture. The Project site is not satisfactory to farming and has not been farmed in five to seven years. Due to the location of the Project, the condition of the land, and the lack of suitable habitat there is no possibility of a significant effect on the environment.

Signature: Jan Sweigert Date: 7/10/2020 Governor's Office of Planning & Research
Name: Jan Sweigert Title: District Engineer Jul 14 2020