

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: City of Orange Wells PFAS Water Treatment Plant Project

Project Locations: The Project would consist of facilities that would be located at four (4) separate locations in the City of Orange as detailed below.

- **Well No. 9.** An existing potable well site owned by the City of Orange located at 1709 W. Katella Avenue in the City of Orange. The well site is surrounded by commercial land uses and would occur within an existing developed production well site.
- **Well No. 19.** An existing potable well site owned by the City of Orange located at 2930 E. Collins Avenue in the City of Orange. The well site is located at the rear of a City of Orange Fire Station #2.
- **Well No. 23.** An existing potable well site owned by the City of Orange located east of the easternmost terminus of East Walnut Avenue near the intersection of East Walnut Avenue and Prospect Avenue. The well site is located east of a channelized portion of Santiago Creek with residences to the west.
- **Well No. 24.** An existing potable well site owned by the City of Orange located at 637 W. Struck Avenue in the City of Orange. The existing well site is surrounded by commercial land uses.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The Project consists of the installation of small treatment plants at each of the four existing City of Orange groundwater production well sites for the treatment of PFAS contaminants. The treatment plants would use an ion exchange (IX) treatment protocol through the use of cartridge filtration and IX vessels. New cartridge filters and IX treatment vessels would be installed at all four well sites. A new booster pump would be added at well site 24 to accommodate the changed hydrologics introduced by the treatment facility. Each of the four sites have been previously disturbed by the development of the existing groundwater production wells, the Project would not require any new ground disturbances. The facilities would treat water pumped from the existing production wells and would convey it to existing water distribution pipelines for potable water consumption. The Project would not require any native vegetation removal and each facility is located within urbanized portions of the City of Orange.

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 falls under the Exemption for New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (Class 3) because it consists of the construction and operation of a small treatment plants at a previously disturbed sites representing the development of limited numbers of new, small facilities or 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

Date Received for Filing: _____

Exhibit 1

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

18700 Ward Street

Fountain Valley, CA 92708

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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.

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

Signature: Shawn A

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

Date: March 7, 2020