

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
Post Office Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

County Clerk
County of Riverside
Post Office Box 751
Riverside, CA 92502

County of Imperial
Imperial County Clerk/Recorder
940 West Main Street, Suite 202
El Centro, CA 92243

State Clearinghouse
Office of Planning and Research
Post Office Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County of San Diego
Recorder/County Clerk's Office
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260
Post Office Box 121750
San Diego, CA 92112-1750

Project Title: Highway 86 Phases 3 and 4 Preliminary Engineering Report Project (geotechnical borings)

Project Location: Three geotechnical borings are proposed along existing Highway 86 in Riverside and Imperial Counties associated with Coachella Valley Water District's (CVWD) existing Highway 86 Transmission Main - Phases 3 and 4 pipeline replacement project, which begins in Riverside County at the intersection of Lincoln Street and Highway 86 and extends south into Imperial County where it ends at the eastern end of Diamond Avenue. The proposed borings are located approximately at the intersections of Highway 86 and 84th Avenue, 86th Avenue, and Coombs, respectively. Boring locations will take place within the existing roadway right-of-way, in previously disturbed soils. Boring locations will avoid all sensitive areas including any habitat for special status species and endangered species, unique habitat, important farmland, wetlands, wild & scenic rivers, officially designated scenic areas, known archaeological sites, tribal and federal lands, floodplains, dry washes, and hazardous waste sites.

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: CVWD operates and maintains its domestic water system to provide water supply to the residents and businesses of the Coachella Valley. CVWD is proposing to Phases 3 and 4 of the Highway 86 Transmission Main Project within its Cover Community System which would replace approximately 13 miles of the transmission main slightly north of the Riverside/Imperial County line south to Salton City. The pipeline that would be replaced in Phases 3 and 4 is aging, leaks, and is in need of replacement. Most of the pipeline was installed in the 1960's with a newer section of pipeline installed in 1989. CVWD plans to complete the Highway 86 Phases 3 and 4 Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) Project (a planning effort) in order to perform the preliminary planning needed to progress the phases into design and ultimately to construction. As part of the planning effort, CVWD proposes to conduct three geotechnical borings at 10 to 20 foot depths along the existing Highway 86 Phases 3 and 4 alignment to collect soil samples, perform necessary laboratory testing, and evaluate the general nature of the anticipated site soils. The borings are for information collection only and will not result in any permanent impacts at the boring site such as traffic impacts, increased fuel consumption, changes in noise or vibration levels, increased emissions of dust, or changes in demand for municipal services.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: CVWD, Dan Ruiz, Engineering Manager

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION (continued)

Exempt Status:

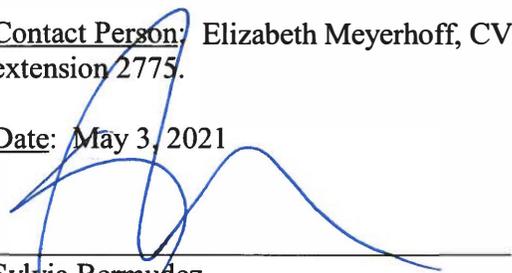
- Not a project: State CEQA Guidelines §15378
- Review for Exemption "Common Sense" Exemption: State CEQA Guideline §15061(b)(3)
- Ministerial (Pub. Res. Code §21080(b)(1)) State CEQA Guideline §15262
- Declared Emergency (Pub. Res. Code §21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guideline §15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Pub. Res. Code §21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guideline §15269(b)(c))
- Statutory Exempt: State CEQA Guidelines §____
- Categorically Exempt: State CEQA Guidelines § 15306 Class 6

Reasons why project is exempt:

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 Class 6 categorically exempts information collection projects that consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. Exempt studies may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. The project would consist of geotechnical borings for information gathering purposes only related to groundwater levels and soil characteristics such as corrosivity, and would not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource; therefore, the project qualifies as exempt under this CEQA Guidelines Section 15306.

Contact Person: Elizabeth Meyerhoff, CVWD Environmental Specialist, Phone: (760)398-2661 extension 2775.

Date: May 3, 2021



Sylvia Bermudez
Clerk of the Board
Coachella Valley Water District

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.