

Exhibit 1
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Name of Project: Orange County Water District East Newport Mesa Hydrogeologic Investigation Project

Location: The Project would be located along the southern portion of the property located at 2242 Dupont Drive in the City of Irvine (APN: 445-111-05).

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: Shawn A

Contact Person: Shawn Nevill, Principal Planner
(714) 378-3256

Date: 08/20/2021

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

TO: County of Orange
630 North Broadway
Suite 106, Bldg. 12
Santa Ana, CA 92702
Attention: Public Services Division

Project Title: Orange County Water District East Newport Mesa Hydrogeologic Investigation Wells Project

Project Location: The Project would be located along the southern portion of the property located at 2242 Dupont Drive in the City of Irvine (APN: 445-111-05).

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The proposed project involves the installation of three monitoring wells in support of the Orange County Water District's (OCWD) continued effort to investigate the regional groundwater conditions in the cities of Costa Mesa, Newport Beach, and Irvine. The proposed monitoring wells would allow for a better understanding of the relationship between the shallow and deep aquifers in relation to the Dyer Road Wellfield located downgradient of the Project site. The three monitoring wells would be housed in 12-inch and 24-inch diameter below-ground vaults and the site would be restored to its original condition following the completion of well installation. Well construction would occur during daytime hours only (between 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM Monday through Friday) over approximately one month. After construction, OCWD staff would monitor the wells approximately 12 times per year.

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, 15303)
- Not to be approved (Section 15270)

Reasons why project is exempt: The proposed project involves limited construction of below-ground facilities within the paved parking lot of a fully developed site 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?
__X__ Yes ___ No.

Signature: Shawn A

Contact Person: Shawn Nevill
Principal Planner (714) 378-3256

Date Received for Filing: _____