

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812

FROM:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
1001 I Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: N/A

PROJECT NUMBER: 1600507-002C

PROJECT TITLE: Hardwick Safe Drinking Water Project (Project)

PROJECT LOCATION: Hardwick Community, within northern Kings County. The Project site is adjacent to Excelsior Avenue between 15th Avenue and 14 ¼th Avenue.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is the Lead Agency for the Project. The State Water Board's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program is financing the Project. The Project will involve the replacement of existing water mains for Hardwick Water Company and installation of new water mains, services, meters, and fire hydrants within the Project area, including on private property. This will include abandoning the old water mains in place and installing approximately 2,900 linear feet (lf) of new 6-inch water main. The new infrastructure will allow the currently connected 21 properties to connect or remain connected to the 6-inch main (existing or proposed) and water well, and allow up to 19 more properties currently on private domestic wells to connect to the community water system; private wells in Hardwick are known to exceed arsenic and uranium MCLs.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT AND CARRYING OUT PROJECT: The State Water Board has approved SRF financing for the Project described above on August 25, 2021 and determined that the Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. The Hardwick Water Company will be carrying out the Project.

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION STATUS:

Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction

(California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 19, section 15302)

Class 3: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

(California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 19, section 15303)

STATUTORY EXEMPTION STATUS:

Other Statutory Exemptions (right of way pipelines less than one mile)

(California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 18, section 15282)

REASON WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The Project has been determined to meet the requirements of the exemptions selected above and will not have a significant impact on the environment. Replacement or reconstruction of existing water supply distribution lines of substantially the same size. New construction of water supply lines and distribution lines of less than 16 inches in diameter and less than 1-mile in length, and installation of meters and services. The Project involves the installation of new pipeline as set forth in Section 21080.21 of the Public Resources Code, as long as the project does not exceed one mile in length. The Project has been determined to meet the requirements of the above exemptions and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

LEAD AGENCY: State Water Resources Control Board

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: Abbygayle Britton

PHONE NUMBER: (916)-319-0180

A record of financing approval for the Project is available to the general public at the State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance at 1001 I Street, 16th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. Pursuant to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Code, Section 711.4(d)(1), the CDFW environmental review filing fees do not apply to exempt projects.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: Bridget Binning

Title: Sr. Environmental Scientist Phone: (916)-449-5641