

## 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, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER:** 2022030223

**PROJECT NUMBER:** 2410018-003C

**PROJECT TITLE:** Residential Water Meter Improvement Project (Project)

**PROJECT LOCATION:** In the vicinity of Vera Cruz Drive and Santa Nella Boulevard, Merced County.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is a Responsible Agency for the Project. The State Water Board's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program is financing the Project referred to internally as Residential Water Meter Improvement Project. The purpose of the Project is to improve system operation and maintenance and promote water conservation by implementing a consumption-based billing structure. The Project includes the replacement of the existing water meters and water meter lids on residential services with Sensus water meters and Smart Point readers for remote recording of water usage. The Project consists of the installation of 192 new Sensus meters, 335 new Smart Point readers, and 335 new meter lids on existing service laterals and meter boxes.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT AND CARRYING OUT PROJECT:** The State Water Board has approved SRF financing for the Project described above on September 6, 2023 and determined that the Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. The Santa Nella County Water District 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

**REASON WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** The Project has been determined to meet the requirements of the exemption(s) selected above and will not have a significant impact

on water quality. The Project involves replacement of existing water meters in the same location with the same purpose and capacity, and new construction or conversion of a small structures.

**LEAD AGENCY:** Santa Nella County Water District

**LEAD AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Amy Montgomery

**PHONE NUMBER:** (209) 826-0920

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, 16<sup>th</sup> 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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