

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 – 10th Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Office of Facility Planning, Construction and Management
9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95827

PROJECT TITLE: Chuckawalla Valley State Prison Potable Water Well Replacement

PROJECT LOCATION(S): Chuckawalla Valley State Prison, 19025 Wiley’s Well Road, Blythe, CA 92225
Ironwood State Prison, 19005 Wiley’s Well Road, Blythe, CA 92225

Description Of Nature, Purpose, And Beneficiaries Of Project: The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) will design and construct two new potable groundwater wells to ensure compliance with supplying the required potable water needs of staff and inmates at Chuckawalla Valley State Prison (CVSP) and Ironwood State Prison (ISP). The project will replace Wells #1 (CVSP) and #5 (ISP). Both wells are no longer working and are now off-line. Previous studies indicate the casing for Well #1 has collapsed with major blockage occurring at 700 feet below ground surface (bgs). The casing for Well #5 failed at 70 feet bgs and the wire wrapped screens are heavily plugged with silt and debris. The scope of work includes new pumps, motors, conveyance piping, valves, electrical, and communication to a supervisory control and data acquisition system. The new wells will be within 200 ft. from the existing wells. The work areas are within areas that were previously disturbed during initial construction of the facility.

Name Of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Name Of Person Or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Office of Facility Planning, Construction, and Management, 9838 Old Placerville Road, Sacramento, CA 95827

EXEMPT STATUS:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption Class 1, CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Exiting Facilities)

Reason Why Project Is Exempt: The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the “Class 1” (14 CCR §15301) exemption per the CEQA Guidelines because the project involves negligible to no expansion of use. The project site is located within a previously disturbed area that is not considered environmentally or historically sensitive. This is one of a class of projects that the Secretary for Resources has found do not have a significant effect on the environment, and therefore is declared to be categorically exempt from the requirement for preparing an environmental document.

Contact Person: Peter J Connelly, Jr, Environmental Planner, 916 255-3010
Telephone No.:

Date Received For Filing:

August 17, 2022

Peter J Connelly, Jr
Peter J Connelly, Jr, Environmental Planning Section
Office of Facility Planning, Construction, and Management
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation