

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
Coachella Valley Water District
Post Office Box 1058
Coachella, California 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: Salt and Nutrient Management Plan Monitoring Well Project – Phase 1

Project Location: The project sites are located on developed, CVWD-owned parcels, and existing well sites, in eastern Coachella Valley, Riverside County, CA.

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) proposes to construct eight perched aquifer groundwater monitoring wells within the Coachella Valley's Indio and Desert Hot Springs Sub-basin at various previously developed well site locations. The proposed monitoring wells will be used to monitor groundwater in the perched and shallow aquifers to address gaps and provide an improved overall understanding of water quality. The locations of the proposed monitoring well sites are:

1. Gap Well 17 – APN 696-180-067 (City of Indio well site; Ave. 44, Indio)
2. Gap Well 18 – APN 757-250-021 (CVWD Well Site 6807, Ave. 60, Coachella)
3. Gap Well 19 – APN 759-020-029 (CVWD Well Site 6805, Airport Ave., La Quinta)
4. Gap Well 20 – APN 737-200-023 (CVWD parcel at Ave. 83 Drain, Oasis)
5. Gap Well 21 – APN 751-340-018 (CVWD parcel at Ave. 74 and Polk St., Oasis)
6. Gap Well 22 – APN 729-120-020 (CVWD Booster/Reservoir Site 7990, Mecca)
7. Gap Well G3 – APN 654-190-036 (CVWD Reservoir Site 3501, Desert Hot Springs)
8. Gap Well G4 – APN 750-030-009 (CVWD Booster/Reservoir Site 4701, Desert Hot Springs)

Construction is anticipated for the duration of one week at each existing site and will be contained within each existing site. The wells will be installed using a hollow-stem auger, sonic drilling, direct circulation, or mud rotary methods. Initially, the drilling process will require setting a conductor casing and drilling a 4-inch borehole to a varying depth of 50- to 350 feet for each well. Samples of the drill cuttings will be obtained and logged at 10-foot intervals. Upon completion of drilling, geophysical logging of the test bores will be performed. The wells will be designed based on the information obtained from each borehole. Monitoring will occur at each site as needed and conducted by CVWD staff.

The project sites are not located within a conservation area associated with the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP). CVWD Reservoir/Booster Station 4701

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION (Continued)
Coachella Valley Water District

is adjacent to the Indio Hills/Joshua Tree National Linkage Conservation Area and subject to the CVMSHCP Land Use Adjacency Guidelines for drainage, noise, toxics, lighting, and invasives. The sites are not subject to the CVMSHCP development mitigation fee because the sites are previously developed.

Lead Agency Approving Project and Contact: Coachella Valley Water District; William Patterson
Environmental Supervisor / Phone: (760) 398-2651

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 §15268)
- 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 §15301, §15303, §15306

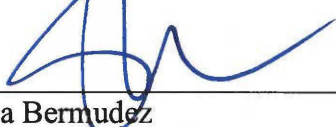
Reasons why project is exempt:

State CEQA Guidelines §15301 (Existing Facilities). This class 1 exemption allows for the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The project consists of minor alterations on an existing domestic well site and does not involve a significant use expansion.

State CEQA Guidelines §15303 (New Construction and Conversion of Small Structures) consists of the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure.

State CEQA Guidelines § 15306 (Information Collection). This class 6 exemption consists 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.

Date: 10/5/2022



Sylvia Bermudez
Clerk of the Board

Authority cited:
Reference:

File No. 0423.25, 0710.1017.14