

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: East Side Dike Realignment Project

Project Location:

Project is located in Indio, CA on parcels APN 696-290-005 and APN 696-300-004 located in Riverside County.

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

CVWD proposes to realign and rehabilitate approximately 3,400 linear feet of the existing East Side Dike (Dike) beginning at the Dike's intersection with Wasteway No. 3 and continuing in an easterly direction ending at the Dike's intersection with Dillon Road. In the existing condition, the proximity of the Dike to the Terra Lago development prohibits CVWD maintenance equipment from accessing the toe of the Dike. Additionally, it was discovered that a portion of the Dike adjacent to the Terra Lago development is not within CVWD's right-of-way and is on a private property. Overtime the earthen facility has naturally shifted and settled in minor deviation from its as-built position; primarily due to erosion, sloughing and wind-blow sand settling. The purpose of the project is to realign and make improvements to the section of Dike adjacent to the Terra Lago development to provide CVWD maintenance access to landside slope while also resolving the right-of-way issue.

The earthen material comprising the existing Dike on the subject parcels would be excavated and relocated to the new Dike alignment. This material would be placed on prepared subgrade in lifts and compacted to meet design specifications. The realigned Dike would be reconstructed to meet the original United States Bureau of Reclamation design standards and dimensions, with one exception being that the landside slope of the Dike would be constructed at a milder 3:1 slope to reduce the potential for erosion to convey sediment towards the CVWD right-of-way. A maintenance access road would be constructed near the landside toe of the Dike. A concrete drainage channel would be located along the edge of the maintenance access road to convey stormwater to the west for discharge into Wasteway No. 3 and to the east for storage and infiltration in a new stormwater detention basin. A concrete pad would be installed adjacent to Wasteway No. 3 to better facilitate vehicle turning onto an existing access ramp to the top of the Dike. The existing ramp will be improved by placing a 3-inch-thick layer of aggregate base to provide a stable driving surface.

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A total of roughly 81,000 cubic yards of cut from the existing Dike footprint is available on the subject parcels. A total of roughly 119,000 cubic yards of fill will be needed for the new Dike realignment. To balance cut/fill quantities a borrow area will be used to supply the balance of 38,000 cubic yards. The borrow area will be located within the work limits just north of the footprint of the realigned Dike.

The temporary work area required for construction is 41.5 acres. Roughly 26.4 acres of the East Indio Hills Conservation Area will temporarily be impacted by project construction under the assumption that the boundary of the conservation area begins at the northern toe of the existing Dike. Construction equipment required at the site includes excavators, dozers, backhoe, graders, concrete trucks, dump trucks, water trucks and utility trucks. Construction is estimated to take approximately 100 workdays. A Cultural and Biological resources report has been prepared for this project. The Cultural Report found the project would have no adverse effect to historic properties. The Biological Report found no special-status plant species were detected during field reconnaissance and the project site is not located within an established wildlife migration corridor, or jurisdictional waters; and the potential impacts to localized wildlife movement would be less than significant. A Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP) Joint Project Review Process (JPR) is not required for Operation and Maintenance projects. However, CVWD's Operation and Maintenance Manual for work in conservation areas will apply. Mitigation measures for noise, stormwater pollution and dust control are included in the project specifications as standard Best Management Practices.

Lead Agency Approving Project and Contact: Coachella Valley Water District; Carlos Huerta, Environmental Specialist / 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, §15302

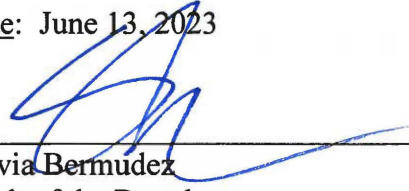
Reasons why project is exempt:

State CEQA Guidelines §15301 (Existing Facilities) 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 existing or former use.

State CEQA Guidelines §15032 (Replacement or Reconstruction) allows for projects consisting of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

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Date: June 13, 2023



Sylvia Bermudez
Clerk of the Board

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

File No.