

Fee exempt per Government Code section 6103

### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

- To:  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814
- Tulare County Clerk  
Room 105, Courthouse  
221 South Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93291

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TULARE COUNTY  
  
JUN 15 2023  
  
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Lead Agency: County of Tulare c/o Resource Management Agency  
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000  
Attn: [hguerra@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:hguerra@tularecounty.ca.gov) and [jwillis@tularecountv.ca.gov](mailto:jwillis@tularecountv.ca.gov)

Applicant(s): County of Tulare c/o General Services Agency  
2637 W Burrel Ave. Suite 100 Visalia, CA 93291  
Visalia, CA 93291 (559) 205-1100

Project Title: Ledbetter Park Emergency Well Construction  
Project Location - Specific: Ledbetter Park, 40779 Road 128, Cutler, CA 93615  
Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 19, Township 16S, Range 25E, M.D.B. & M.  
Project Location - City: unincorporated community of Cutler, CA Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The irrigation well at Ledbetter Park (Park), located at 40779 Road 128, Cutler, CA 93615, is the only source of irrigation for the entire park. After many failed attempts to repair it, the irrigation well has collapsed and is not functioning. Due to this failure, there is a high risk of losing trees and other vegetation. The well-replacement project will create a reliable irrigation system for the trees and vegetation (i.e., shrubs, grass, and other plants) within the park. At present, due to the failure of the well, Ledbetter Park's sole source of irrigation is inoperable. An accelerated project delivery time is necessary to remediate risks to property (landscaping). Furthermore, given the current demand for drilling services, General Services Agency (Capital Projects Division) estimates that the design process for a new well at Ledbetter Park will take two to three months, and that bidding, and construction will take an additional three months. These projections place the operational date for a new well in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of this year (approximately five to six months).

- Exempt Status:
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
  - Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
  - Common Sense Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
  - Categorical Exemption:
  - Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why project is exempt: This action is consistent with Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, § 15269 sets forth emergency projects that are exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"). The installation of the new, replacement well at the Park falls within the scope of CCR § 15269(c) as it is a specific action "necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency." Public Resource Code §21080(b)(4) also exempts the installation of the new well from CEQA as "necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency." Therefore, the application of CEQA Section 15269 is applicable and appropriate for this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare County General Services Agency

Project Planner/Representative: Albert Cendejas, Manager, Parks Division Telephone: (559) 205-1110

Signature:  Date: 6/15/23 Title: Chief Environmental Planner  
Hector Guerra

Signature:  Date: 6/15/23 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer  
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency Date submitted to the OPR/SCH: \_\_\_\_\_