

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: Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Project Location: Coachella Valley Water District's (CVWD) service area

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) proposes to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan (2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update). The 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (Update) is needed for long-term and short-term policies, programs, projects, and other activities to protect people and alleviate property damage and service interruptions that can result from a natural disaster. CVWD has developed a hazard mitigation plan to reduce risk for District assets that are vital for its continuity of operations following hazard events. The contents of this plan comply with the requirements of the federal Disaster Mitigation Act, under which communities with approved hazard mitigation plans are eligible for various hazard mitigation programs. These funds primarily fall under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) program. Grant programs available to CVWD under HMA include the following:

- Hazard Mitigation Program
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Fire
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation
- Public Assistance

The development of this Update was funded and managed by the District. The Update brings together a framework for developing feasible and cost-effective mitigation projects. The plan remains a living document with implementation and evaluation procedures established to help achieve meaningful objectives and successful outcomes over time. No ground disturbance or construction is included within the plan Update.

Lead Agency Approving Project and Contact: Coachella Valley Water District; Sabrina Nies, Engineering Manager / Phone: (760) 398-2651

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION (Continued)
Coachella Valley Water District

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:** 15269(b)
- Statutory Exempt:** State CEQA Guidelines §15262
- Categorically Exempt:** State CEQA Guidelines: §15306

Reasons why project is exempt:

State CEQA Guidelines §15262 (Feasibility and Planning Studies) A project involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the agency, board, or commission has not approved, adopted, or funded does not require the preparation of an EIR or Negative Declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors.

State CEQA Guidelines §15306 (Information Collection). This class 6 exemption allows for basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

State CEQA Guidelines §15378 (Project) This action is exempt from CEQA because it is not a “project,” i.e., the action has no potential to result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change to the environment because the action will have no potential to cause any direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect change to the environment.

The 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update is also exempt under the “common sense” exemption in State CEQA Guidelines §15061, subdivision (b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the actions may have a significant effect on the environment. None of the exceptions to the use of the “common sense” exemption as identified in State CEQA Guidelines §15300.2 exist with the recommended actions.

As an exempt project, no further environmental review is required and a Notice of Exemption will be filed with the County Clerk.

Environmental Contact Person: Carlos Huerta, CVWD Environmental Specialist, Phone (760) 398-2651

Date: April 9, 2024



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. 0001.3 & 0091.15.2