

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812

FROM:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
1001 I Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: [\(generated by CEQAnet\)](#)

PROJECT NUMBER: 8764-110

PROJECT TITLE: Recycled Water Feasibility Study (Project)

PROJECT LOCATION: The Project is in the City of Banning (City) in the northwestern portion of Riverside County, California approximately 25 miles east of downtown Riverside and approximately 30 miles west of the City of Palm Springs. The Project bound by the City of Beaumont to the west and southwest; unincorporated County area to the south; the San Jacinto Mountains to the southeast; and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians and unincorporated community of Cabazon to the east. The City's total land area is 14,848 acres or 23.2 square miles. The City's water service area comprises 100 percent of the population residing within the City limits, and a small unincorporated area of Riverside County.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is a Responsible Agency for the Project. The State Water Board's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program is financing the Project referred to internally as Recycled Water Feasibility Study. The Project is to develop recycled water alternatives which can include wastewater treatment plant improvements to determine the feasibility of recycled water treatment and pipeline infrastructure for the City of Banning's service area. The Project tasks include the following: Identify potential non-potable uses of recycled water; evaluate distribution pipeline and booster station system requirements to potential customers; develop model to determine the feasibility of the project including a) infrastructure construction (pipelines and wastewater treatment plant modifications) and operational costs, b) incentives to secure customer commitments, c) timing of potential customer additions, and d) recycled water pricing. The Project will also determine feasibility of conversion process for potential customers.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT AND CARRYING OUT PROJECT: The State Water Board has approved SRF financing for the Project described above on April 30, 2024, and determined that the Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. The City of Banning will be carrying out the Project.

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION STATUS:

Class 6: Information Collection

(California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 19, section 15306)

STATUTORY EXEMPTION STATUS:

Feasibility and Planning Studies

(California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, chapter 3, article 18, section 15262)

REASON WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The Project has been determined to meet the requirements of the exemptions selected above and will not have a significant impact on water quality. The Project involves information collection and studies to assess the feasibility of future actions.

LEAD AGENCY: City of Banning

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: Art Vela

PHONE NUMBER: (951) 922-3134

Records of the financing approval for the Project is available to the general public at the State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance at 1001 I Street, 16th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. Pursuant to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Code, Section 711.4(d)(1), the CDFW environmental review filing fees do not apply to exempt projects.

Signature: _____

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