

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Desert Water Agency
1200 S. Gene Autry Trail
Palm Springs, CA 92264

Riverside County Clerk
2720 Gateway Drive
Riverside, CA 92507

Project Title:

Desert Water Agency Domestic Water System Water General Plan 2020 ("2020 Water General Plan").

Project Location:

The project planning area constitutes Desert Water Agency's institutional boundary, which encompasses approximately 335 square miles in and around the City of Palm Springs in Riverside County, California. The institutional boundary includes Desert Water Agency's service area, which constitutes that portion of Desert Water Agency territory where it provides or will provide domestic water service.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The 2020 Water General Plan is a planning tool and is intended to serve as a guide for system improvements over the next 10 to 30 years. The 2020 Water General Plan reflects current conditions within the Desert Water Agency's service area based on time-dependent trends which have developed in the intervening years, and also presents projected water requirements and recommended system improvements based on said conditions and trends. The beneficiaries of the 2020 Water General Plan are the rate payers and customers of the Desert Water Agency, as the result will be improved and more efficient facilities to serve Desert Water Agency customers.

Public Agency Approving Project:

Desert Water Agency

Agency Carrying Out Project:

Desert Water Agency

Exempt Status:

No Physical Change in Environment: State CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2)

Not a Project Defined in Section 15378: State CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3)

General Rule Exemption: State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3)

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15060(c)(2) states as follows: "The activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment". Here, the Board is only approving the 2020 Water General Plan, not any specific proposed improvement within the Plan. Any future improvement within the Plan will require future Board approval and CEQA analysis. No direct activity is authorized by Board approval of the 2020 Water General Plan.

14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15060(c)(3) states as follows: "The activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378". 14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15378(b)(5) lists a non-project as "Organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment". For the same reasons listed above, Board approval is not an activity subject to CEQA.

14 Cal. Code Reg. § 15061(b)(3) states as follows: "(b) A project is exempt from CEQA if: ... (3) The activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA."

Here, the Board is approving only the 2020 Water General Plan, not any specific proposed improvement within the Plan. Any future improvement within the Plan will require future Board approval and CEQA analysis. No direct activity is authorized by Board approval of the 2020 Water General Plan.

Agency Contact Person:

Steve L. Johnson

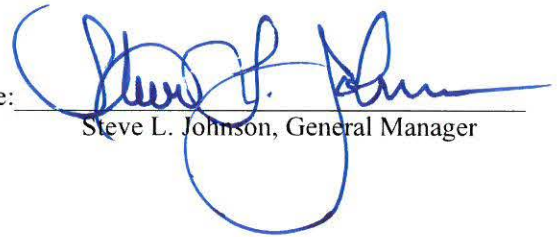
Telephone

(760) 323-4971

Date:

9.4.2024

Signature:


Steve L. Johnson, General Manager