

**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:** Reservoir (Tank) 7101-2 Construction Project

**Project Location:**

On 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 1 mile east of Vander Veer Road and 70th Avenue in North Shore, CA 92254 located in the County of Riverside (APN: 723-180-001)

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

CVWD is proposing to construct a new one million gallon (MG) above-ground steel tank for domestic water storage (Reservoir [Tank] 7101-2) to alleviate existing water storage deficiencies in CVWD's Bombay Beach Pressure Zone and the collective Pressure Zones in the Bombay Beach Production Zone. The reservoir would be on a 3.25-acre CVWD-owned site which currently houses existing Reservoir 7101-1. The new Reservoir 7101-2 would be 80 feet in diameter and 45 feet in height and would have approximately 5,000 square feet of floor area. The reservoir would be constructed with steel, a mixing system, and equipped with cathodic protection to decrease corrosion. The reservoir site would be graded such that the north and east sides of the site would slope up to the existing grade. Approximately 200 linear feet of 12-inch ductile iron pipe would be installed to connect Reservoir 7101-2 to the existing CVWD water system. The reservoir would be painted in order to blend into the surrounding landscape; no landscaping would be installed due to the remote nature of the site.

Construction is anticipated to require approximately 15 months and is anticipated to begin in Summer 2024. Construction would involve ground disturbance within the existing fenced site, including excavation to a depth of approximately 5 feet for placement of the reservoir foundations and pipe installation. Staging would occur at the project site.

The project will occur within the planning boundary of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP/NCCP) but is not a part of any CVMSHCP/NCCP Conservation Area. The closest Conservation Area is the Mecca Hills/Orocopia Mountains CVMSHCP/NCCP Conservation Area, approximately one mile north and slightly east of the APE. The surrounding land uses consist of open space and roadways. The existing reservoir will continue to store domestic water while the new Reservoir 7101-2 is being constructed causing no disruptions in services. Once new Reservoir 7101-2 construction is complete, the old reservoir will be evaluated to determine if removal is needed. Reservoir 7101-2 is not located within or adjacent to a conservation area associated with the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP). The site is not subject to the CVMSHCP development mitigation fee because the sites are previously developed.

**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 § 15277
- Categorically Exempt:** State CEQA Guidelines: §15301, §15303

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

State CEQA Guidelines §15301 (Existing Facilities) This Class 1 exemption consists of 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. The types of “existing facilities” itemized below are not intended to be all-inclusive of the types of projects which might fall within Class 1. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use.” Examples e) states that “Additions to existing structures provided that the addition will not result in an increase of more than: (1) 50 percent of the floor area of the structures before the addition, or 2,500 square feet, whichever is less; or (2) 10,000 square feet if: (A) The project is in an area where all public services and facilities are available to allow for maximum development permissible in the General Plan and (B) The area in which the project is located is not environmentally sensitive.”

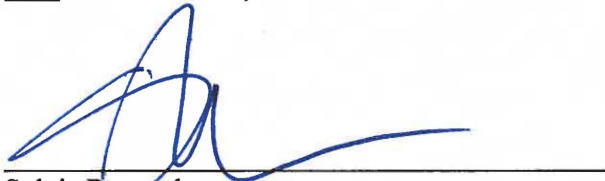
State CEQA Guidelines §15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) consists of “construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure.” The proposed project would involve construction of a single new small structure (Reservoir (Tank) 7101-2). Reservoir (Tank) 7101-2 would have a footprint of approximately 5,000 square feet. The number of new structures would be limited to one tank reservoir with a limited footprint.

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: November 12, 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. 0423.93