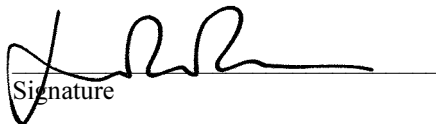


NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<p>TO: Riverside County Clerk 2720 Gateway Drive Riverside, CA 92507</p> <p>Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044</p>	<p>FROM: Name: Desert Water Agency (Public Agency) Address: P. O. Box 1710 Palm Springs, CA 92263</p> <p>Telephone: (760) 323-4971</p>
---	--

1. Project Title:	AMI Fixed Network Project
2. Project Applicant:	Desert Water Agency
3. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):	Project facilities will be located on up to twenty-seven (27) Desert Water Agency (DWA) owned sites containing existing water system facilities. All sites will be located within DWA's existing water service area.
4. (a) Project Location – City: Palm Springs and surrounding areas	(b) Project Location – County: Riverside County
5. Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:	The AMI Fixed Network Project (the Project) consists of development and construction of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) fixed network, including installation of antennas and solar power supply at strategically selected, improved DWA sites throughout DWA's service area. The Project consists of construction of up to twenty-seven (27) antennas, installation of electrical facilities necessary to allow for radio signal reads, as well as installation of SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) equipment and solar power supply at selected existing DWA sites. The Project is intended to improve understanding of water use, shorten leak awareness and response times, reduce energy and greenhouse gas emissions associated with driving to collect meter reads, and to improve customer outreach, education, and participation in conservation efforts. The Project is part of a multi-agency Regional Meter Replacement Project and is funded in part by a grant provided by the California Department of Water Resources. The beneficiaries of the Project are Desert Water Agency, its customers, and other water users in the region.
6. Name of Public Agency approving project:	Desert Water Agency
7. Name of Person or Agency undertaking the project, including any person undertaking an activity that receives financial assistance from the Public Agency as part of the activity or the person receiving a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement of use from the Public Agency as part of the activity:	Desert Water Agency

8. Exempt status: (check one)	
(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial project.	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines § 15268)
(b) <input type="checkbox"/> Not a project.	
(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project.	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(2),(4); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(b),(c))
(d) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:	Class 1: Existing Facilities (§ 15301) Class 3: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (§ 15303)
(e) <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency.	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(a))
(f) <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption. State Code section number:	
(g) <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explanation:	
9. Reason why project was exempt:	The Project includes construction and operation of a limited number (up to 27) of new, small facilities on existing improved DWA sites in order to develop the AMI Fixed Network within DWA's service area. Said facilities will result in minor alterations to the sites of existing DWA water system facilities in order to construct and install the facilities. The sites included in the Project have been previously disturbed, contain existing water system facilities, and are routinely maintained by DWA. The Project does not have the potential to result in a significant effect on the environment.
10. Lead Agency Contact Person: Telephone:	Sarah Rapolla, Desert Water Agency (760) 323-4971 ext. 127
11. If filed by applicant: Attach Preliminary Exemption Assessment (Form "A") before filing. N/A	
12. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
13. Was a public hearing held by the Lead Agency to consider the exemption? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, the date of the public hearing was: Click to enter date	


Signature

Date: November 20, 2024

James R. Beale
Name

Title: Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated
Agency Consulting Engineer

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.