Notice of Exemption

To:

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

County Clerk: Riverside County
38686 El Cerrito Road, Palm Desert, CA 92211

From:

State of California Department of Water Resources
770 Fairmont Ave, Suite 200
Glendale, CA 91203-1035

Project Title: Drilling and Construction of Monitoring Well G13 – Indio Subbasin

Project Applicant: State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Project Location – County: Riverside County

Project Location - Specific: The proposed project site is located on private property owned by the Coachella Valley Water District within the City of La Quinta in Riverside County. The drilling will occur in a fenced, 90% paved lot adjacent to a golf course and neighborhood, at the location with coordinates: 33.5985445 degrees North, -116.2340293 degrees West (WGS 1984). The proposed activities will occur on parcel APN 764-280-030 located at Section 34 of Township 6 South, Range 7 East of the "Valerie" USGS 7.5' quadrangle.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The Department of Water Resources Technical Support Services Program proposes to drill and install one single-completion monitoring well in the Indio Subbasin in cooperation with the landowner, Coachella Valley Water District. The purpose of the well is to fill data gaps within the groundwater monitoring network and provide hydrogeologic data. Construction of the wells is anticipated to last 3-4 weeks.

Drilling will consist of initially setting a 16-inch by 50-foot permanent conductor casing to advance a 10-inch-diameter boring. The monitoring well will be drilled up to 175 feet below ground surface (bgs) in the shallow aquifer zone. Geophysical surveys will be performed within the boring including: natural gamma ray; spontaneous potential; short-normal, long-normal and point electrical resistivity logs; vertical deviation; and a caliper survey. After the geophysical logs have been completed and formation samples evaluated, DWR will construct a target well screen of 50-150 feet bgs and seal for the location.

All drill cuttings will be stockpiled on-site with the potential for re-use. Fluid and drill cuttings are expected to be nonhazardous and will be sampled and analyzed for constituents for concern prior to disposal. Should soil testing within the drill cutting reveal contaminants of concern above threshold levels, cuttings are to be disposed of at a designated waste facility. All drilling fluids and borehole water will be containerized in plastic lined roll-off bins and disposed of at a designated waste facility unless otherwise specified by DWR or Coachella Valley Water District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: State of California Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: State of California Department of Water Resources

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemptions: Information Collection, Class 6, 15306, Title 14 CCR.

Reason why project is exempt: The proposed Project is categorically exempt under Class 6, Section 15306 because it consists of basic data collection and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a significant impact to an environmental resource. A preconstruction survey was conducted which revealed no sensitive resources on the proposed Project site. Overall, no significant impacts are anticipated for biological, air quality, noise, visual, water quality, land surface, or historic and archaeological resources.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Nicholas Burgos

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 818-621-6732

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving this project? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Signature: Thang Nguyen **Date:** 1/9/2025 **Title:** Southern Region Manager

☑ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

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