

SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
WORKSHEET FOR CEQA/NEPA DETERMINATION  
PART 1 - CEQA EXEMPTIONS

(Prepared by Lead Agency – Notice of Exemption, findings, and additional sheets attached as needed)

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 1. Name of Project: BEST ROAD MUTUAL WATER COMPANY (BRMWC) WATER SYSTEM CONSOLIDATION PROJECT
- 2. Project Number: FUNDING AGREEMENT # 4600015596
- 3. Name of lead agency/water system: SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT on behalf of BRMWC

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** (fill in blanks or provide attachment, e.g., application description)

- 1. Project location (give description of the precise location and boundaries and attach a location map if available): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work to be performed at three individual locations.  
 1) Installation of pipeline extension, 8" PVC pipeline connecting to existing infrastructure, installed under the asphalt of the existing roadway beginning at the intersection of Fairview Rd. and John Smith Rd., Hollister CA 95023 (36°49'57.64"N 121°21'48.81"W) and then Eastward for a distance of approximately 4300' to the intersection of Heatherwood Lane and John Smith Rd., Hollister CA 95023 (36°49'55.51"N 121°20'57.69"W) connecting with existing water system pipeline.  
 2) Abandonment of existing well and existing infrastructure, removal of all debris and restoration of area to match adjacent property (36°49'54.54"N 121°21'06.81"W).  
 3) SSCWD Wellhead #5 control and improvement connecting existing ACP pipeline to well head. All work to be completed under the existing asphalt at the well location (36°49'01.12"N 121°22'13.36"W)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 2. Facilities (indicate whether they are **new, modifications, removals, or replacements**):
  - a. Treatment facilities (give size and capacities): N/A  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

- b.** Storage facilities

(1) Tanks (*physical dimensions and capacity*): N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(2) Open reservoirs (*surface area and capacity*): N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_
- c.** Transmission facilities (*give size of pumps and size and length of mains indicating if they are in rights-of-way*): \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum Pipe diameter calculated to support existing water demand only, new 8" PVC pipeline connecting to existing infrastructure, installed under the asphalt of the existing roadway beginning at the intersection of Fairview Rd. and John Smith Rd., Hollister CA 95023 (36°49'57.64"N 121°21'48.81"W) and then Eastward for a distance of approximately 4300' to the intersection of Heatherwood Lane and John Smith Rd., Hollister CA 95023 (36°49'55.51"N 121°20'57.69"W) connecting with existing water system pipeline. All new piping will be installed under the existing roadway with new Hydrants installed adjacent to the roadway disturbing less than 200 sqft of roadway shoulder.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_
- d.** Distribution facilities (*give size of booster pumps and size and length of pipelines*): \_\_\_\_\_

Existing distribution system of BRMWC to remain.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_
- e.** Appurtenant structures: \_\_\_\_\_

Only the removal of BRMWC appurtenant structures which are no longer needed for operation are planned. No construction of new structures is required.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_
- f.** Parking facilities: N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_
- g.** Access roads: Existing

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_
- h.** Staging areas: At Well head #5 all staging will occur on existing asphalt parking area. On John Smith Rd. staging will occur on BRMWC well access driveway.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Describe any grading or excavation work:

No grading will occur except to match existing grades after well abandonment and removal of appurtenant structures.  
Excavation will only occur under the existing asphalt roadways to minimum pipeline depths per SSCWD standard details.

**REASONS WHY THE PROJECT IS CONSIDERED EXEMPT**

*Check appropriate boxes*

1. CCR, Title 22, Section 60101 Specific Activities Within Categorical Exemption Classes

(a) Class 1: Existing Facilities

(1) Addition, deletion, or modification of:

- 1. Mechanical controls for:
  - a.  Water treatment units
  - b.  Water supply systems
  - c.  Pump station buildings
- 2. Electrical controls for:
  - a.  Water treatment units
  - b.  Water supply systems
  - c.  Pump station buildings
- 3. Hydraulic controls for:
  - a.  Water treatment units
  - b.  Water supply systems
  - c.  Pump station buildings

(2) Maintenance, repair, replacement, or reconstruction to any water treatment process units, including:

- 1.  Structures.
- 2.  Filters
- 3.  Pumps
- 4.  Chlorinators

(b) Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction.

(1) Repair or replacement of:

- 1.  Water service connections
- 2.  Meters
- 3. Valves for:
  - a.  Backflow prevention
  - b.  Air release
  - c.  Pressure regulation

- d.  Shut-off
- e.  Blow-off
- f.  Flushing

(2) Replacement or reconstruction of:

1.  Existing water supply distribution lines of substantially the same size. Describe any size increase: Minimum standard pipe diameter is 8" and all piping as designed is 8"
2.  Storage tanks and reservoirs of substantially the same size. Describe any size increase: N/A

(3) Replacement or reconstruction of:

1.  Water wells of substantially the same capacity. Describe any capacity increase: Removal of existing well in exchange for use of existing well. No capacity increase is required.
2.  Pump stations and related appurtenances of substantially the same capacity. Describe any capacity increase: \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Class 3: New Construction of Small Structures:

- (1)  Construction of water supply and distribution lines of less than sixteen inches in diameter and/or less than 1 mile,
- (2)  Construction of any water storage tanks and reservoirs of less than 100,000-gallon capacity.
- (3)  Installation of water meters

(d) Class 4: Minor Alterations to land.

- (1)  Minor alterations to land, water or vegetation on any officially existing designated wildlife management areas or fish production facilities for the purpose of reducing the environmental potential for nuisances or vector production.
- (2)  Any minor alterations to highway crossing for water supply and distribution lines.

2. CCR, Title 14 (CEQA Guidelines).

- (a)  Section 15262 Planning and Feasibility studies
- (b)  15269 (a) statutory exemption for declared emergencies
- (c)  Section 15269 (b) statutory exemption for emergency repairs

- (d)  Section 15269 (c) statutory exemption for emergency prevention
- (e)  Section 15282 (k) statutory exemption for right-of-way pipelines <1mile
- (f)  Section 15282 (m) statutory exemption for water fluoridation facilities
- (g)  Other (list specific code reference)\_\_\_\_\_

**CEQA EXCEPTIONS**

A. Location in an area of Critical Concern (For Categorical Exemption Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11): *Could the project result in impacts to an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies? Discuss below all items checked yes (attach additional sheets as necessary). Some items are repeated under the Federal Crosscutters Section and may be referenced here if applicable.*

- |     | Yes                      | No                                  |   |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Special status species.   |
| 2.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Critical habitat (for special status species)                       |
| 3.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Unique habitat (e.g., wildlife refuge, deer wintering range, etc.). |
| 4.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Important farmland  |
| 5.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Wetlands  |
| 6.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Wild and scenic rivers  |
| 7.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Officially designated scenic area                                   |
| 8.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Archeological sites.  |
| 9.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Floodplains   |
| 10. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Areas of hazardous concern  |
| 11. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other _____   |

Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_

1) Special status species such as Tiger Salamander have been noted to exist on lands adjacent to this project. For this reason, all work is planned to be under existing roadways where no habitat is affected.

2) No critical habitat is impacted by this project.

3) No unique habitat exists.

4) No farmland involved or impacted by this work.

5) No wetlands involved or impacted by this work.

6) None

7) None

8) None identified. All work to be completed under previously disturbed areas and areas of roadway fill.

9) None

10) None

Unusual Circumstances (For All Categorical Exemptions): Evaluate the following elements to determine if there are any unusual circumstances. For any "Yes" answers discuss the possibility of significant environmental impact resulting from the unusual circumstance. Consider all facilities; conveyance lines; storage, points of diversion; staging areas; and affected service area as applicable. Use attachments if necessary.

- |     | Yes                      | No                                  |  |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | In an area of undisturbed, unique, or high-quality habitat.  |
| 2.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | On or adjacent to wildlife migration routes.   |
| 3.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | In an area of unique recreational facilities or resources.   |
| 4.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | On or adjacent to a unique stream or water body.   |
| 5.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves removal of mature, scenic trees (class 4).  |
| 6.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves grading in a waterway or wetland (class 4).   |
| 7.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves a substantial alteration of ground contours.  |
| 8.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves new or increased use of a critically depleted groundwater basin or groundwater basin subject to salinity intrusion. |
| 9.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | In an area with important mineral resources.   |
| 10. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves production of significant amounts of solid wastes or litter.  |
| 11. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves substantial new or increased emission of dust, ash, smoke, fumes, odors, or other pollutants.                       |
| 12. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves substantial change in noise or vibration levels in vicinity (beyond the property line).                             |
| 13. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | In an area of sensitive noise receptors.   |
| 14. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | On slopes of 10 percent or more or on highly erodible soil.  |
| 15. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | In an officially mapped area of severe geologic hazard   |
| 16. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves new or increased use or disposal of hazardous materials, flammables, or explosives.                                 |
| 17. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves substantial change in demand for municipal services.  |
| 18. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves traffic impacts in an area with traffic problems.   |
| 19. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Involves substantial increase in fuel consumption (electricity, oil, natural gas, etc.).                                     |

Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_

17) The addition of 48 customers to the SSCWD results in a 0.06% increase in municipal service for the district. This is insignificant to district operations.

B. Cumulative Impacts for All Categorical Exemptions

- Yes No
1.   Does the project involve cumulative impacts associated with successive projects of the same type in the same place? If yes, discuss the significance of the impacts.

Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

C. Scenic Highways (For All Categorical Exemptions): *Will the project result in damage to any of the following scenic resources within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway (excluding improvements required as mitigation by an adopted Negative Declaration or certified EIR)*

- Yes No
1.   Trees
2.   Historic buildings
3.   Rock outcroppings
4.   Other similar resources

D. Hazardous Waste Sites (For All Categorical Exemptions)

- Yes No
1.   Is the project located on a site that is included on any list compiled by Department of Toxic Substances Control pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code?

E. Historical Resources (For All Categorical Exemptions)

- Yes No
1.   Is there a potential for the project to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource?  
Basis for determination: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
WORKSHEET FOR CEQA/NEPA DETERMINATION  
PART 2 - WORKSHEET FOR NEPA EXCLUSIONS

Pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Rule, any applicable Categorical Exclusion (CE) from the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), can be applied by the State of California, Safe Drinking Water Program pursuant to 40 CFR 35.3580(a).

**QUALIFYING CRITERIA FOR A NEPA EXCLUSION**

*Check all boxes that apply*

Minor Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities

This includes, but is not limited to, equipment rehabilitation at existing water treatment plants, pump and storage facilities. It also includes the replacement of existing water lines constructed in already disturbed areas within the existing system service area, intended to serve existing customers. A modest growth of less than 10% expansion is acceptable. *NOTE: This category does not include actions that involve new or relocated discharges to surface or ground water; will likely result in the substantial increase in the volume or the loading of pollutant to the receiving water.*

Minor Upgrades or Expansion of Existing Facilities of Less than 10 Percent

This includes the installation of additional filters, pumps, treatment units, chemical storage areas, additional storage tanks and reservoirs to meet fire flow for contact time. Security fencing, gates, landscaping sound walls or noise barriers and equipment for security and monitoring for existing buildings. *NOTE: This category does not include actions that involve or relate to upgrading or extending infrastructure systems primarily for the purposes of future development. The total project area will disturb no more than one acre of land.*

Functional replacement of equipment

This includes equipment replacement or modification at existing water plant, pumping or storage facilities with no significant change in capacity. It also includes the replacement of new treatment processes or equipment with no generation of hazardous material.

Ancillary facilities adjacent or appurtenant to existing facilities

This includes new water lines and meters to be located in previously disturbed areas within approximately one-half mile of existing distribution system and storage facilities for the purpose of system reliability and serving primarily existing residential or commercial users. This category also includes the installation of booster stations, interties, backflow devices or new water meters within an existing distribution system.



**EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES**

Check (✓) yes or no for each extraordinary circumstance below. If any receive a "Yes" check (✓), an EA must be prepared

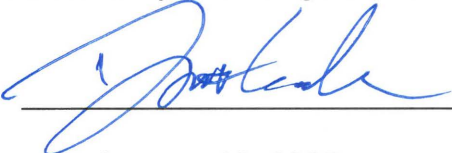
- | <b>YES</b>               | <b>NO</b>                           | <b>Will the project have:</b>   |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. Significant environmental impacts on the quality of human environment individually or cumulatively over time.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2. Disproportionately high and adverse public health/safety or environmental effects on any community, including minority, low-income, or federally-recognized Indian tribal communities.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3. Any adverse effect on species which are federally listed, or proposed for listing, as threatened, endangered, or their designated critical habitat.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 4. Significant adverse effects on national natural landmarks or any property with nationally significant historic, architectural, prehistoric, archeological, or cultural value, including but not limited to, property listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands, access by their religious practitioners, or the physical integrity of such sacred sites. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 5. Significant adverse effects on environmentally important natural resources such as significant agricultural lands, coastal zones, wild and scenic rivers, wetlands, floodplains, sole source aquifers, aquifer recharge zones, barrier islands, and other ecologically significant areas under Federal jurisdiction.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 6. Significant adverse effects on air quality.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 7. Significant effects on land use pattern and type (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential), growth and distribution, or population, including altering the character of existing residential areas, inconsistency with local, state, or federally-recognized Indian tribe approved land use plans or federal management plans.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 8. Possibility to cause significant public controversy about potential environmental impacts of proposed action.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 9. Precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle, including providing financial assistance, with potentially significant environmental effects.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 10. Possibility to conflict with federal, state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe environmental, resource-protection, or land-use laws or regulations.  |

**Sunnyslope County Water District as Lead Agency on behalf of the  
Best Road Mutual Company Water System Consolidation Project**

**Project plans prepared by:  
Wallace Group, San Luis Obispo – Job #0557-0005  
Titled – Best Roads Mutual Water Company Water System Consolidation  
Project, Sunnyslope County Water District, John Smith Rd. Hollister, CA.**

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: January 10, 2025  
Name: Drew A. Lander P.E.  
Position: SSCWD General Manager