

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning & Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Lead Agency/Applicant Name:
Kern-Tulare Water District (Public Agency)
5001 California Ave, #102
Bakersfield CA 93309
(661) 327-3132

To: Kern County Clerk
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301

To: Tulare County Clerk-Recorder
221 S. Mooney Blvd., Room 103
Visalia, CA 93291-4593

Project Title: Approval of Routine Shafter Check Maintenance

Location -- Specific: Friant Kern Canal Mile Post 137 SE NE Section 1, Township 28 South, Range 25 East, M.D.B. & M. on Friant Kern Canal at Mile Post 137 @ Canal Pump. Shafter CA 93263

Location -- County: Kern County

Description of Activity: Kern-Tulare Water District (KTWD) owns a slant pump located on the west side of the Shafter Check in the Friant Kern Canal. The pump is occasionally used by KTWD, typically to convey water in reverse flow in the Friant Kern Canal when an exchange is not available with Arvin-Edison Water Storage District. The pump was installed in 1984 and has a capacity of 30 cfs. The pump has been used periodically at least once a year since 2012, except for 2016, when it was not used at all. In late 2018, the pump was knocked off its mount. As a result, the trash cage is bent and the pipe supports for the pump need to be repaired. The pump is likely still operational at its full capacity, but it is not properly secured in place and should be re-mounted.

District will have a crane and operator to lift the pump back on to its mount. The contractor and/or staff will then test the pump by turning it on and evaluating its functionality. If there are any operational concerns, the pump will be taken to a shop for repair. If the test demonstrates the pump is functioning properly, the contractor will take necessary steps to secure the pump in place for future use. The pump's pipe supports will be reset and repaired, which may include removing the existing supports, fabricating new pipe supports, and possibly adding additional supports. District staff will also paint the pipelines and appurtenances. The trash cage on the suction side of the pump will be refurbished, repaired and repainted by District staff.

Name of Public Agencies Approving or Carrying Out Activity: Kern-Tulare Water District

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Declared Emergency
- Emergency Project
- Categorical Exemption.** State type and section number: Guidelines sections 15301, 15302, 15303, and 15304
- Statutory Exemption.**

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The project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15301 because it is a continued use of existing District facilities, with negligible or no expansion of use, and undertaken pursuant to the District's routine maintenance and contractual obligations. KTWD does not propose any expansion in its use of the pump. It will simply be re-mounted and repaired.

The project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15302 because it involves only the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced. The only work proposed is repair and re-mounting of the pump on the same site where it was previously located, and there is no proposed change to the pump's purpose or capacity.

The project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15303 because it consists of construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures and installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures. The only construction proposed is the potential replacement of the pump supports, if deemed necessary. These supports are small and will not change the purpose or function of the pump.

The project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15304 because it consists of minor alterations in the condition of land which do not involve the removal of trees.

None of the exceptions in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply. See *Berkeley Hillside Preservation v. City of Berkeley* (2015) 60 Cal.4th 1086. The project is not located in a sensitive environment, thus the exception in section 15300.2(a) is inapplicable. There is no evidence of significant cumulative impacts, thus the exception in section 15300.2(b) does not apply. There are no unusual circumstances surrounding or associated with the project, thus the exception in section 15300.2(c) does not apply. The project will not impact any scenic highway, so the exception in section 15200.2(d) does not apply. The project is not located on a hazardous waste site, thus the exception in section 15300.2(e) does not apply. Finally, there is no evidence of historical resources at the project site, and in any event, no subsurface work is proposed, so even if such resources were present they would not be impacted by the project. Therefore, the exception in section 15300.2(f) does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Steven C. Dalke

Telephone: (661) 327-3132

Signature: Steven C. Dalke
Steven C. Dalke

Title: General Manager

Date: 3/18/19

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing OPR:

Date received for filing by County Clerk: