

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Appendix E

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

County Clerk/County Recorder
County of Fresno
P.O. Box 766
Fresno, CA 93712

From: Westlands Water District
P.O. Box 6056
Fresno, CA 93703

FILED

JUN 17 2019 TIME

9:11am

FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
By: *[Signature]* DEPUTY

Project Title: Westlands Water District's Arroyo Pasajero Dry Well Pilot Recharge Test

Project Applicant: Westlands Water District

Project Location – Specific: On Westlands Water District-Owned Land, approximately 0.5 miles east of South El Dorado Avenue and 1.5 miles north of West Jayne Avenue in Fresno County. Refer to Figure 1.

Project Location – City: Coalinga

Project Location – County: Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The dry well pilot test is the installation of two (2) 4-foot diameter, 80 foot deep dry wells located on District-owned lands, that would allow the District to gather data for the development of a proposed groundwater recharge and banking facility. Furthermore, one (1) 100-foot long piezometer will be installed to monitor the movement of the supplied water. The information gathered from the pilot test will help determine the quantity of dry wells required for Westlands Water District's (District) groundwater recharge and banking project. The groundwater recharge and banking project will help reduce groundwater overdraft, a severe drought related concern in the Central Valley, by recharging the aquifer with surface water during times of excess supplies and recovering this water at a later date.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Westlands Water District, Fresno County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Westlands Water District.

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: New Construction of Small Structures, §15303; Information Collection, §15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

Since the pilot test is basic data collection and research for information gathering purposes, it is categorically exempt under Section 15306 – Information Collection. In addition, the dry well pilot test is

also categorically exempt under Section 15303 -New Construction as it is a small groundwater recharge testing facility with minimal ground disturbance.


Lead Agency

Contact Person: Russ Freeman

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559) 241-6241

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? YES NO

Signature:  Date: 6/13/19 Title: Deputy General Manager Resources

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108(b), 21152(b), Public Resources Code.

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUN 17 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

E201916000216

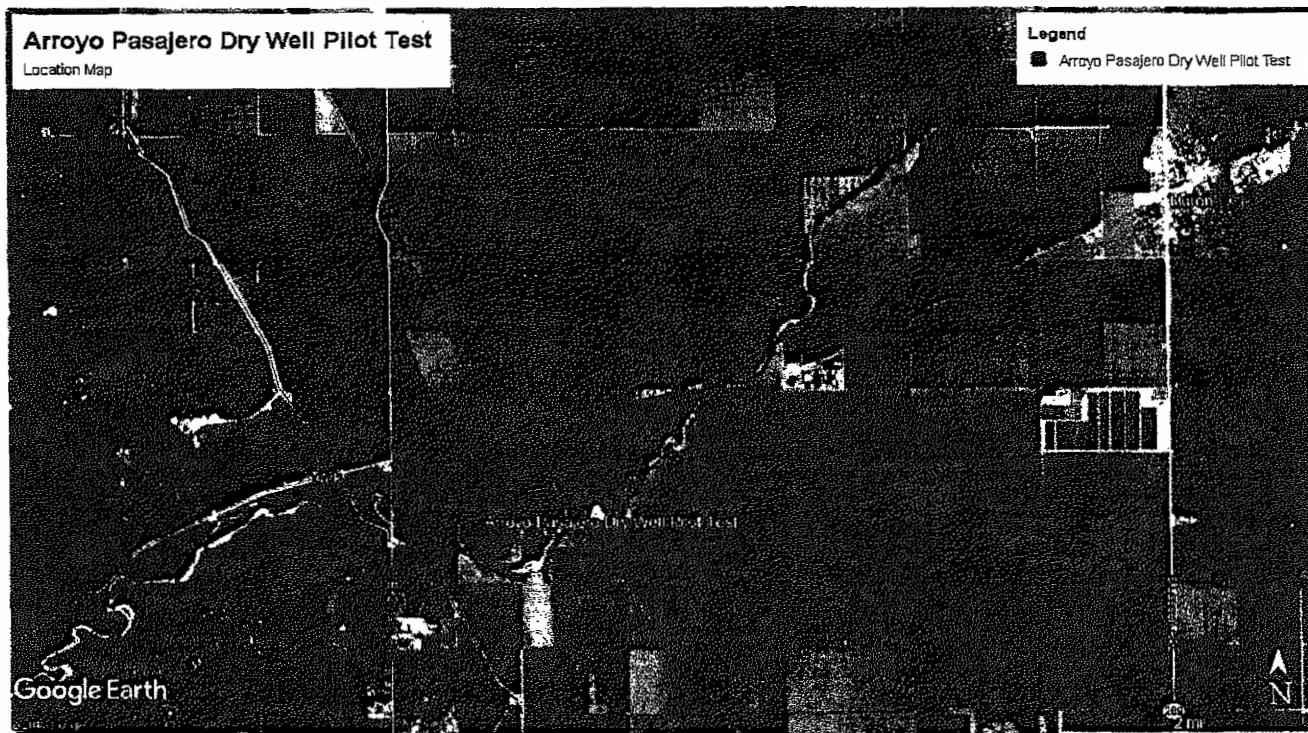


Figure 1. Arroyo Pasajero Dry Well Pilot Test Location