

Notice of Exemption

FILED

To:
 County Clerk
County of Merced
2222 M. Street
Merced, CA 95340

From:
Merced Irrigation District
744 W. 20th Street
Merced, CA 95340

2019 APR 24 AM 8:32

MERCED COUNTY CLERK

BY: [Signature]
DEPUTY

Project Title: Projects funded under California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act benefitting Severely Disadvantaged Communities. Meadowbrook Intertie Feasibility Study

Project Location: Merced County

Project Location- City: **Project Location - County:** Merced County

Project Description (Describe Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project):

The Franklin Beachwood area is generally served by the Meadow Brook branch of American Waters, a private water company. The majority of the service area is located within the Merced Irrigation/Urban GSA (MIUGSA), and a small portion is located in the Merced Subbsain GSA. The project is to complete a feasibility study for emergency action in case of a disruption of the groundwater supply wells owned and operated by American Waters. At a minimum, the feasibility study will provide cost, logistic and administrative challenges required to connect to the City of Atwater and/or the City of Merced Water supply. The project will help preparing for extreme conditions, such as those witnessed in 2015 by the general Merced Groundwater Basin community of groundwater pumpers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Merced Irrigation District

Exempt Status:

- General Rule Exemption. See CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3))
- Statutory §15262;
- Ministerial (PRC §21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268)

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project is exempt from CEQA because it falls within the so-called "common sense" exemption pursuant to CEQA guidelines, section §15061(b)(3), which indicates that CEQA only applies to projects that have a "significant effect on the environment". The proposed statutory exemption set provided for under CEQA Guidelines §15262 does not apply to feasibility or planning studies that will not have a legally binding effect on later activities, CEQA Guidelines §15268 "applies to discretionary projects proposed to be carried out or approved by public agencies,"

Lead Agency Contact Person:

John Sweigard, General Manager – 209-722-5761 or 744 West 20th Street, Merced, CA 95340

Signature: [Signature] **Date:** 4/16/19

Title: John Sweigard, General Manager
Merced Irrigation District

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

SEP 18 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

DATES POSTED
FROM: 4/25/2019
TO: 5/24/2019
MERCED COUNTY CLERK