



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3644, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

FROM: The Board of Trustees of the California State University
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California 90802-4210

Project Title: California State University, Fresno (Fresno State) – Replacement Groundwater Well 7 Project

Project Location-Specific:

Address: Fresno State campus located at 2351 E. Barstow Avenue, Fresno, California 93740

Cross Streets: Cedar Avenue and Shaw Avenue

Latitude/Longitude: 36.809° N, 119.754° E

Project Location-City: Fresno **Project Location-County:** Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

California State University, Fresno (Fresno State) is proposing to construct a new groundwater well (Well 7) on an approximately 15,000-square foot site on the Fresno State campus to replace Well 1 and to provide redundancy to the campus's potable water supply system needed to ensure peak demand can always be met (the Project). Fresno State owns and operates its own potable water supply and distribution system under Water Permit Number 03-11-11P-033 (Water System No. 1010339) issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Division of Drinking Water (DDW); an amendment to this permit would be required for the Project. To provide this redundancy and to stabilize Fresno State's water system, the instantaneous capacity of the new well is designed to match the capacity of existing Well 6 (1,500 gpm). The Project would not be designed to expand the average annual production capacity of Fresno State's water system.

Design of the well and site improvements would comply with SWRCB DDW waterworks standards. The Project would include a well, pump, discharge piping, valves, and appurtenances; site lighting, power and electrical cabinet for controls and switchgear; chlorination equipment; electrical service and transformer; connection to the communication system for integration with the Fresno State network; connection to the storm drain system for site drainage and well pump-waste discharges; standby emergency generator connection for rental generator, if needed; space reserved for future wellhead treatment equipment (if available); and perimeter fencing. An enclosure would be constructed around the well to muffle sound from well operations.

Construction of the well would occur in two phases. The first phase would consist of well drilling and water quality testing and would last 3 to 4 months, and the second phase would consist of well site improvements and would last 8 months. Construction/drilling noise best management practices would be incorporated into the Project construction specifications. Project construction specifications would also require compliance with: all relevant regulatory requirements related to stormwater and wastewater discharges; the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity, Order No. 99-08-DWQ, which requires the development and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan; all applicable San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District applicable rules and regulations, including Regulation VIII (Fugitive PM₁₀ Prohibitions); and other applicable regulatory requirements.

The Project will advance the educational mission of the California State University in general and provide both immediate and long-term benefits to the Fresno State campus in particular.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: The Board of Trustees of the California State University

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California State University, Fresno (Fresno State)

The project is exempt from CEQA under the following authority:

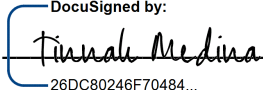
- Categorical Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs. tit.14, §15302) State class number: Class 2
- Categorical Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs. tit.14, §15303) State class number: Class 3

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project is categorically exempt under Class 2 (Replacement or Reconstruction) and Class 3 (New Construction), having met the conditions set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15302 and 15303. The Project (Well 7) would fall under Class 2 as it would replace Well 1 on the Fresno State campus and would not increase annual production capacity of Fresno State’s water system. While Well 7 is on a different site than Well 1, both wells are on developed portions of the Fresno State campus and have similar site characteristics. The instantaneous capacity of the new well is designed to match the instantaneous capacity of existing Well 6 to provide redundant capacity if Well 6 is out of service, but would not expand average annual production capacity of Fresno State’s water system. The Project would also fall under Class 3 as it constitutes a small facility, would result in the installation of small new equipment, and would be considered an accessory structure or facility to the main structures on the Fresno State campus. Additionally, the Project does not meet any of the exceptions for taking a categorical exemption, under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14, §15300.2). Specifically, the Project would not: (1) be located in a particularly sensitive environment; (2) have a significant cumulative impact; (3) have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances; (4) result in damage to scenic resources; (5) be located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to state law; and (6) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Tinnah Medina, AIA LEED AP **Area Code/Telephone:** (559) 278-2373

Signature:  **Date:** 5/21/2020

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Title: Associate Vice President, Facilities Management

Signed by Lead Agency

Governor’s Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

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