NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Coachella Valley Water District Post Office Box 1058 Coachella, California 92236

- County Clerk
 County of Riverside
 Post Office Box 751
 Riverside, CA 92502
- State Clearinghouse
 Office of Planning and Research
 Post Office Box 3044, Room 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

- County of Imperial
 Imperial County Clerk/Recorder
 940 West Main Street, Suite 202
 El Centro, CA 92243
- County of San Diego
 Recorder/County Clerk's Office
 1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260
 Post Office Box 121750
 San Diego, CA 92112-1750

<u>Project Title</u>: Water System Backup Facility Charge (WSBFC), Water Demand Offset Fee, Domestic Water Design Criteria, and the Sanitation Capacity Charge, and approve amendments to Ordinance 1399.14 and Ordinance 1427.3

<u>Project Location</u>: Coachella Valley Water District Service area in Portions of Riverside, Imperial and San Diego Counties, California.

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

CVWD has adopted the changes to the Water System Backup Facility Charge (WSBFC), Water Demand Offset Fee, Domestic Water Design Criteria, and the Sanitation Capacity Charge (SCC) and approve Ordinance No. 1399.14 amending Parts 1, 4, 5, and Appendix A-14 of the "Regulations Governing Domestic Water Service" and Approve Ordinance 1427.3, amending Table A-2 of the "Regulations Governing Sanitation Service". The new charges to be effective January 1, 2022 are:

- 1. Adopt the proposed changes to the WSBFC components and charge from the current fee of \$3,707 to \$3,757 per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) as identified in the November 2021 WSBFC Study. These changes will be adopted by Ordinance 1399.14, by updating the "Regulations Governing Domestic Water Service" Parts 1, 4, 5, and Appendix A-14;
- 2. Adopt the proposed changes to replace the SWSC with the Water Demand Offset Fee in the amount of \$1,918 per acre-foot per year of potable water use as identified in the November 2021 Water Demand Offset Fee Study. These changes will also be adopted by Ordinance 1399.14, by updating the "Regulations Governing Domestic Water Service" Parts 1, 4, 5, and Appendix A-14;
- 3. Adopt the proposed changes to CVWD's Domestic Water Design Criteria, including the following:
- a. Reduce the Peak Daily Demand (PDD) from 0.90 gallons per minute/unit (gpm/unit) to 0.81 gpm/unit based on CVWD's recent study of domestic water use trends for new developments, and;
- b. Revise the Well Site Requirements from one well site being required per 90 acres or major portion thereof, to one well site being required per 140 acres or major portion thereof, major portion being 70 or more acres. These changes will also be adopted by Ordinance 1399.14, by updating the "Regulations Governing Domestic Water Service" Part 5;

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4. Adopt the proposed changes to the SCC components and charge from the current fee of \$4,851 to \$4,533 per EDU as identified in the November 2021 SCC Study. These changes will be adopted by updating Ordinance No. 1427.3, amending Table A-2 of the "Regulations Governing Sanitation Service".

Lead Agency Approving Project and Contact: Coachella Valley Water District; William Patterson, Environmental Supervisor / Phone: (760) 398-2651

Exempt Status:

Not a project: State CEOA Guidelines \$15378

	Not a project: State CEQA Guidelines §15378
\boxtimes	Review for Exemption/Common Sense Exemption: State CEQA Guideline §15061(b)(3)
	Ministerial: (Pub. Res. Code §21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guideline §15268)
	Declared Emergency: (Pub. Res. Code §21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guideline §15269(a))
	Emergency Project: (Pub. Res. Code §21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guideline §15269(b)(c))
\boxtimes	Statutory Exempt: State CEQA Guidelines § 15273
	Categorically Exempt: State CEQA Guidelines §

Reasons why project is exempt:

The action qualifies for a Statutory Exemption per the State CEQA Guidelines §15273, and is not subject to further environmental review. Per the State CEQA Guidelines §15273, CEQA does not apply to the establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, or other charges by public agencies which the public agency finds are for the purpose of: (1) Meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, (2) Purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials, (3) Meeting financial reserve needs and requirements, (4) Obtaining funds for capital projects, necessary to maintain service within existing service areas, or (5) Obtaining funds necessary to maintain such intra-city transfers as are authorized by city charter.

The project is also exempt from CEQA based on CEQA Guideline 15061(b)(3) because there is no possibility that their adoption would have a significant effect on the environment.

Date: /12/17/2024

Sylvia Bermudez
Clerk of the Board

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

File No. 1012.3