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Notice of Exemption

TO: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

FROM: Central Valley Flood Protection Board
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 170
Sacramento, CA 95821
Jennifer Calles, (916) 837-3683
Jennifer.Calles@cvflood.ca.gov

State Clearinghouse Number: 2017051054

Project Title: Permit No. 20097 – MID Booster 5 Lateral Pipeline Authorization

Project Applicant: Merced Irrigation District; Michael Morris, Project Manager; 744 W 20th Street, Merced, CA 95344; 209-354-2882; mmorris@mercedid.org

Lead Agency: Merced Irrigation District, 744 W 20th Street, Merced, CA 95340, Bryan Kelly, Deputy General Manager; (209) 722-5761; bkelly@mercedid.org

Project Location: The 0.43-acre Project Area corresponds to a portion of Section 16, Township 8 South, and Range 16 East (Mount Diablo Base and Meridian) of the "Le Grand, California" 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. The approximate center of the Project Area is located at 37.23848°N 120.22523°W within the Middle San Joaquin-Lower Chowchilla Watershed, Mariposa Creek, Merced County.

Project Description: To authorize the Booster 5 Lateral Pipeline, a component of a lateral irrigation ditch that transports irrigation water under Mariposa Creek through an existing 30-inch diameter steel siphon pipe, which was constructed prior 1927.

Public Agency Approving Project: Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board)

Exempt Status:

☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

☐ Common Sense Exemption (CEQA Sec. 15061(b)(3))

☒ Categorical Exemption: Section 15301

☐ Statutory Exemption: _____

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:
The project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to the Class 1 (Existing Facilities) categorical exemption (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301), because the activity consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use. The project would not result in an expansion of existing or former use. Further, none of the exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption identified in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15300.2 apply.

Chris Lief 7/13/2026

Signature Chris Lief, Executive Officer Date

☒ Signed by Public Agency ☐ Signed by Responsible Agency

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