2024 242586

FILED
Nov 26 2024

Dean C. Logan, Registrar—Recorder/County Clerk
Electronically signed by BYRON PATTON JR

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: Los Angeles
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650

From (Public Agency):
Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association
6450 West Avenue N
Palmdale, CA 93551
(Address)

Project Title: Littlerock Creek Recharge Project

Project Applicant: Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association

Project Location – Specific: At the intersection of Littlerock Creek and the California Aqueduct

Project Location – City: Littlerock (unincorporated) **Project Location – County:** Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association (AVSWCA) has contracts with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for entitlement to and delivery of State Water Project (SWP) water from the California Aqueduct, which traverses the Antelope Valley. In response to DWR's request for AVSWCA to find creative ways to maximize the use of SWP water in a 100 percent SWP allocation year and proactively respond to Executive Order N-4-23 issued by Governor Newsom to maximize groundwater recharge in wet years, AVSWCA is pursuing the proposed Littlerock Creek Recharge Project (Project). The Project would involve diverting surplus SWP water from the California Aqueduct into Littlerock Creek, where it would naturally percolate into the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin. The water would be diverted using an existing turnout with a capacity of 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) located along the California Aqueduct.

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:
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:
- X Common Sense Exemption. State code number: 15061(b)(3)

THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED
ON November 26 2024
UNTIL December 26 2024
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

Reasons why project is exempt:

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), a project that qualifies for neither a statutory nor a categorical exemption may nonetheless be found exempt under what is known as the "common sense" exemption, which applies "[w]here it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment." The proposed Project would utilize existing infrastructure to divert surplus water supplies into an existing creek for groundwater recharge. The Project would not require construction activities. Operational activities would be limited to opening and closing two existing sluice gates to divert flows into the creek. No changes in other operational/maintenance activities from existing conditions would occur.

The Project does not propose physical improvements and therefore would not have the potential to have a significant effect on the environment. While the diversion of water supplies would represent a physical change in the environment, this change would not have the potential to have a significant

adverse effect on the environment. Flows diverted into the creek would be restricted to the creek's existing low-flow channel and would therefore not alter existing vegetation communities or alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area. Water recharged by the Project would be comprised entirely of SWP water; therefore, adverse water quality impacts to existing water in the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin would not occur. The quality of SWP water delivered at the Project location is tested by AVSWCA member agencies at several water treatment plant locations along the SWP, Groundwater quality is also tested at pumping wells throughout the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin.

Lead Agency: Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association

Contact Person: Tom Barnes **Area Code/Telephone Extension:** 661-943-3201

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption filing.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: Date: 11-12-2024 Title: General Manager

X Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

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

Date Received for filing at OPR:

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Dean C. Logan
Los Angeles County Registrar / Recorder
12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA
(800)201-8999

BUSINESS FILINGS REGISTRATION

NORWALK DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTER

Cashier: B. PATTON JR

20241 1261230013

Tuesday, November 26, 2024 3:29 PM

Item(s)

Fee	Qty	Total
NoE - County Posting Fee 2024242566	1	$75.00
Total		**$75.00**

Total Documents: 1

Customer payment(s):

Check $75.00

Check List:
#55577 $75.00