

# 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: Madera  
200 West 4th Street  
Madera, CA 93637

From: (Public Agency): Madera County Environmental Health Department  
200 West 4th Street  
Madera, CA 93637

(Address)

Project Title: Cedar Valley Mutual Water Company Drinking Water Test Well Project

Project Applicant: Self-Help Enterprises

Project Location - Specific:

Test well located at 44907 Lake Side Drive, Oakhurst, CA 93644

Project Location - City: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Location - County: Madera

### Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project involves the drilling of a test well to assess the feasibility of developing a new, safe groundwater source for the Cedar Valley Mutual Water Company (CVMWC), a small public water system in Madera County, California. The purpose of the project is to identify a sustainable and arsenic-compliant water source to replace the existing supply, which currently exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for arsenic. The ultimate goal is to ensure access to safe and reliable drinking water for the 137 residents served by CVMWC. The primary beneficiaries of this project are the members of the Cedar Valley community, which is designated as a disadvantaged community (DAC).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Madera County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Cedar Valley Mutual Water Company

### 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: Class 6, Section 15306 Information Collection
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

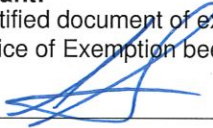
### Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to Class 6, Section 15306 – Information Collection, which applies to basic data collection, research, and resource evaluation activities that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The proposed work involves the drilling of a test well solely for the purpose of evaluating groundwater quality and capacity. It will not be used as a production well. The objective is to determine whether this source could serve as a long-term solution for the community's drinking water needs. Since the activity is limited to information gathering and does not involve physical alterations to the environment beyond minor temporary disturbance, it qualifies for this exemption.

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: Sean Anderson Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559) 675-7821

### If filed by applicant:

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

Signature:  Date: 5/15/2025 Title: Planner I

Signed by Lead Agency     Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.      Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.