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Notice of Exemption **Appendix E**

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

Project Title: Permit No. 19964 – Chowchilla Bypass Turnout Project

Project Applicant: Aliso Water District

Project Location: The project is located approximately 30 miles northwest of the City of Fresno and approximately 0.75 mile west of the intersection of Avenue 6 and Road 16, in Madera County (36.836517, -120.305084).

Project Description: To construct a new concrete groundwater recharge turnout structure consisting of a low water channel and two 168-inch cone shaped fish screens surrounded by riprap within the Chowchilla Bypass floodway, a concrete control box with a sluice gate along the waterside slope of Chowchilla Bypass east levee, and a 72-inch diameter steel pipe through the levee to a landside pump station.

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

Lead Agency, Contact, Phone Number: Aliso Water District; c/o Antonio Bejarano, Project Manager, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group; 455 W Fir Avenue, Clovis, CA, 93611; 559-449-2700, abejarano@ppeng.com

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

☐ Statutory Exemption

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:
A state of emergency was proclaimed on March 28, 2022 by Governor Newsom to address the severe drought conditions in California by suspending CEQA for the purposes of carrying out Executive Order N-7-22. The project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4) and CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15269(c), because the project involves the construction of a flow diversion structure for groundwater recharge and actions necessary to prevent or mitigate the drought emergency as described in Paragraph 13 of Executive Order N-7-22..

Chris Lief 9/17/2025

Signature Chris Lief, Executive Officer Date

☒ Signed by Public Agency ☐ Signed by Responsible Agency

Date Received for filing at the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation:

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