

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: Orange

601 N Ross St

Santa Ana, CA 92701

From: (Public Agency): South Orange County Community College District
28000 Marguerite Pkwy #3699
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

(Address)

Project Title: Easement Grant and Water Meter Installation on the ATEP Campus

Project Applicant: South Orange County Community College District

Project Location - Specific:

1624 Valencia Ave, Tustin, CA 92782

Project Location - City: Tustin

Project Location - County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

South Orange County Community College District grants easements to Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) to support the installation of three potable water meters on the Advanced Technology & Education Park (ATEP) campus. The water meters are intended to serve existing or future campus facilities by connecting to existing utility lines. Physical improvements associated with the Project include minor trenching and backfilling, installation of standard utility boxes and meters, and surface restoration. The easement action facilitates access and long-term maintenance of the meters by IRWD. No new above-ground structures of significance, grading, vegetation removal, or modification to existing buildings or land uses is proposed.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: South Orange County Community College District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: South Orange County Community College District

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: Existing Facilities (15301) and New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (15303(d))
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project is exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) as the ATEP campus is fully developed and served by existing utilities. Granting an easement and installing meters is a minor alteration of an existing utility system with no expansion of capacity, new demand, or new land uses. The installation of three water meters also qualifies under CEQA Guidelines Section 15303(d) (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) as a minor utility extension, small in scale, with no environmental disturbance.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Ann-Marie Gabel Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (949) 582-4664

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: [Signature] Date: 10/1/2025 Title: Vice Chancellor

■ 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: _____