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State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Picacho New Water Tank

LOCATION: Picacho SRA

COUNTY: Imperial

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: The current water tank at Picacho SRA has reached the end of its service life. A replacement tank is proposed in a new location to avoid erosion issues that occurred near the old tank. A 30,000-thousand-gallon tan tank, approximately 24' wide by 17' long by 12' tall, will be placed in a disturbed area near the park's fuel tank and storage yard. A new 350-foot long trench will be made to connect the new tank to the existing water inlet, then backfilled once connected. Prior to placement a geotechnical survey will be performed; up to ten bores will be made during the survey. Depending on the results of the geotechnical report, a concrete pad may be installed under the location of the new tank. A fence will be installed around the water tank. The old water tank will be decommissioned in place and staged in a storage yard prior to disposal. District standard project requirements have been incorporated into the project description.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Ocotillo Wells District

EXEMPT STATUS:
☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
☐ Statutory Exemption (Section)
☒ Categorical Exemption
Class: 3, 11 *Section:* 15303, 15311

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The proposed action complies with CEQA because it is: (1) categorically exempt under Class 3, Section 15303 of the CEQA Guidelines, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures as it involves the new construction of a water storage tank under 500 square feet; (2) categorically exempt under Class 11, Section 15311 of the CEQA Guidelines, Accessory Structures as it involves a fence in accessory to the water tank; and (3) there are no unusual circumstances or other applicable exceptions to the exemptions.

CONTACT: Sara Lockett
Ocotillo Wells District

PHONE NO.: (760) 767-1084
EMAIL: sara.lockett@parks.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:
Enrique Arroyo
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Enrique Arroyo
District Superintendent
Ocotillo Wells District

12/3/2025
DATE