# Irvine Ranch Water District
## Notice of Exemption

**To:**

☑ Orange County Clerk Recorder
County Administration South
601 N Ross Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

☑ Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:**

Irvine Ranch Water District
P.O. Box 57000
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92619-7000

**PROJECT TITLE:** Lake Forest Zone 4 El Toro Tank 1 and 2 Rehabilitation

**PROJECT LOCATION - Specific:** 22251 Byron Way – see attached Figure 1

**PROJECT LOCATION - City/County:** Lake Forest, Orange County

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The project involves rehabilitation of two domestic water storage tanks. Rehabilitation would involve the removal and replacement of interior coating, spot repair and total overcoat of exterior walls, replacement of piping and associated appurtenances, structural repairs, and site repaving. The purpose of the project is to rehabilitate the tanks, which are in poor condition due to various coating failures. No expansion of the existing or former use of the tanks is proposed, and the tanks would continue to have the same operational capacity upon project completion.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT:** Irvine Ranch Water District

**PROJECT APPLICANT:** Irvine Ranch Water District **PHONE:** (949) 453-5300

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

☑ Categorical Exemption: Class 1, "Existing Facilities", Section 15301

☐ Statutory Exemption: _____

☐ Other:

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** The proposed project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the action involves the repair, maintenance, and minor alteration of existing public utility facilities and mechanical equipment involving no expansion of existing or former use, as authorized under the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15301 (Class 1 "Existing Facilities"). Class 1 exempts from CEQA review any project involving the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, such as existing facilities of publicly owned utilities used to provide public utility services. In addition, pursuant to Section 15300.2 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, none of the exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption under CEQA are applicable.

**STAFF CONTACT PERSON:** Emily Le, Environmental Compliance Analyst **PHONE:** 949-453-5384

| Kristine Swan | District Secretary | December 18, 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| Authorized Signature | Title | Date |

FIGURE 1: PROJECT SITE MAP