

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

From: (Public Agency): Santa Margarita Water District
26111 Antonio Parkway
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

(Address)

Project Title: Eastern Transmission Main Vaults Rehab Project

Project Applicant: Santa Margarita Water District

Project Location - Specific:

Along Camino Capistrano near Avery Parkway intersection in Laguna Niguel, CA

Project Location - City: Laguna Niguel Project Location - County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Replace less than twenty feet of domestic water pipeline that is within two existing vaults.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Margarita Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Margarita Water 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: Class1: 15301 & 15302
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Work is on existing pipeline that is in critical condition and needs to be replaced.
Replacement is in kind - no change to facility footprint.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Tricia Butler

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 949-459-6554

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: Patricia Butler Date: 1/21/26 Title: Chief Engineer

■ 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: _____



ORANGE COUNTY
CLERK-RECORDER
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

Recorded in Official Records, Orange County
Hugh Nguyen, Clerk-Recorder



NO FEE

202485000737 1:05 pm 08/27/24

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THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk-Recorder

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

Eastern Transmission Vaults Rehab Project

Check Document being Filed:

- ☒ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- ☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- ☐ Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- ☐ Other (Please fill in type):

FILED

AUG 26 2024

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: [Signature] DEPUTY

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ORANGE
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER ON August 27, 2024
Posted for 30 days
DEPUTY Roberto Uriostegui

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FILED

AUG 26 2024

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: DEPUTY

TO: ☐ Office of Planning and Research P. O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044	FROM: Name: Santa Margarita Water District (Public Address: 26111 Antonio Parkway Agency) Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 Telephone: 949-459-6400
☒ Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or County Clerk (County of Orange) Address: 601 N Ross Street, Santa Ana CA 92701	County of Orange Clerk-Recorder Office

1. Project Title:	Eastern Transmission Main Vaults Rehab Project
2. Project Applicant:	Santa Margarita Water District
3. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):	Project is along Camino Capistrano near Avery Parkway intersection in the City of Laguna Niguel, California, 92675. Refer to attached map for location.
4. (a) Project Location – City: City of Laguna Niguel	(b) Project Location – County: Orange
5. Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Project:	Replace less than 20 feet of domestic water pipeline that is within two existing vaults
6. Name of Public Agency approving project:	Santa Margarita Water District
7. Name of Person or Agency undertaking the project, including any person undertaking an activity that receives financial assistance from the Public Agency as part of the activity or the person receiving a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement of use from the Public Agency as part of the activity:	Santa Margarita Water District
8. Exempt status: (check one)	
(a) ☐ Ministerial project.	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines § 15268)
(b) ☐ Not a project.	State CEQA Guidelines 15050(c)(2)-(3)
(c) ☐ Declared Emergency	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(a))
(d) ☐ Emergency Project.	(Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guidelines § 15269(b),(c))

(e) ☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:	CEQA 15301 Class 1, Existing Facilities and 15302 Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction.
(f) ☐ Statutory Exemption. State Code section number:	
(g) ☐ Other. Explanation:	
9. Reason why project was exempt:	The work is on existing pipeline that is in critical condition and needs to be replaced. Replacement is in kind so there is no change in the footprint of the facility.

10. Lead Agency Contact Person:	Pablo Marti, P.E.
Telephone:	949-459-6645
11. If filed by applicant: Attach Certificate of Determination (Form "B") before filing.	
12. Was a public hearing held by the Lead Agency to consider the exemption? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, the date of the public hearing was:	

Patricia Butler
Signature

Date: August 12, 2024

Patricia Butler
Name

Title: SMWD Chief Engineer

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

☒ Signed by Applicant

Date Received for Filing:

(Clerk Stamp Here)

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

FILED

AUG 26 2024

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY:  DEPUTY

CERTIFICATE OF DETERMINATION

(If Notice of Exemption filed by Project Applicant, Project Applicant must Attach to Notice of Exemption)

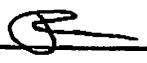
1. Name or description of project:	Eastern Transmission Main Vaults Rehab Project		
2. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):	Project is along Camino Capistrano near Avery Parkway intersection in the City of Laguna Niguel, California, 92675. Refer to attached map for location.		
3. Entity or person undertaking project:	A. Santa Margarita Water District		
	B. Other (Private) N/A		
	(1) Name	Santa Margarita Water District	
	(2) Address	26111 Antonio Parkway Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688	
4. Staff Determination:			
The Lead Agency's Staff, having undertaken and completed a preliminary review of this project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the Lead Agency's Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA has concluded that this project does not require further environmental assessment because:			
a. ☐	The proposed action does not constitute a project under CEQA.		
b. ☐	The project is a Ministerial Project.		
c. ☐	The project is an Emergency Project.		
d. ☐	The project constitutes a feasibility or planning study.		
e. ☒	The project is categorically exempt.		
	Applicable Exemption Class:	CEQA 15301 Class 1, Existing Facilities and 15302, Class 2 Replacement or Reconstruction	
f. ☐	The project is statutorily exempt.		
	Applicable Exemption:		
g. ☐	The project is otherwise exempt on the following basis:		
h. ☐	The project involves another public agency which constitutes the Lead Agency.		
	Name of Lead Agency:		

Date:
08/12/2024

FILED

AUG 26 2024

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY:  DEPUTY

Staff: Patricia Butler
Title: SMWD Chief Engineer

