

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
CEQASubmit.lci.ca.gov
 County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk
Attn: Fish and Wildlife Notices
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260, MS A-33
San Diego, CA 92101

FROM: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
Environmental Services Unit
Attn: Anissa Busch
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 410, MS O-332
San Diego, CA 92123

SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21108 OR 21152

Project Name: APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF ASSOCIATE COMMISSION MEMBER AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COASTAL WATER RESEARCH PROJECT AUTHORITY AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICTS: ALL)

Project Location: Countywide, County of San Diego

Project Applicant: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
5510 Overland Avenue, #410, San Diego, CA 92123

Project Description: To approve the County's continued partnership with Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP). The approved partnership would extend through June 30, 2031. Since 2008, the County has been an associate commission member to SCCWRP which is a joint powers authority composed of Southern California's major wastewater and stormwater agencies along with State and Federal regulatory partners. The coordinated approach improves cost efficiency, strengthens defensibility with regulators, and ensures alignment with regional co-permittees implementing the same permit conditions.

Agency Approving Project: County of San Diego

County Contact Person: Richard L Whipple Telephone: 858-694-2125

Date Form Completed: March 4, 2026


This is to advise that the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors (County decision-making body) has approved the above described project on March 4, 2026 (#3) and found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

Exempt status and applicable section of the CEQA ("C") and/or State CEQA Guidelines ("G"): (check only one)

- Categorical Exemption:** Sec. G
 Declared Emergency: Sec. C 21080(b)(3); Sec. G 15269(a)
 Emergency Project: Sec. C 21080(b)(4); Sec. G 15269(b)(c)
 General: Sec. C.
 Ministerial: Sec. C 21080(b)(1); G 15268
 Preliminary Review: Sec. G 15060 (c)(3) - Activity is exempt from the CEQA because it is not a project as defined in Section 15378.
 Statutory Exemption: Sec. G

Statement of reasons why project is exempt: Sections 15060(c)(3) and 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines provide that an activity is not subject to CEQA review where it can be determined that the action will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The proposed action would authorize the Associate Membership Agreement for Membership in the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project Authority. These activities are purely administrative in nature allowing the County to participate in regional research projects and would have no potential to cause a physical change in the environment; therefore, the action does not meet the definition of a "project" and is not subject to CEQA pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(3) and 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

The following is to be completed only upon formal project approval by the appropriate County of San Diego decision-making body.

Signature:  Telephone: (619) 415-9920
Name (Print): Emily Roberts Title: Environmental Planning Manager

This Notice of Exemption has been signed and filed by the County of San Diego.

This notice must be filed with the Recorder/County Clerk as soon as possible after project approval by the decision-making body. The Recorder/County Clerk must post this notice within 24 hours of receipt and for a period of not less than 30 days. At the termination of the posting period, the Recorder/County Clerk must return this notice to the Department address listed above along with evidence of the posting period. The originating Department must then retain the returned notice for a period of not less than nine months. Reference: CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.