

# 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: Stanislaus  
 1021 I Street, Suite 101  
 Modesto, CA 95354

From: (Public Agency): City of Waterford 50-2026-042  
 101 E Street  
Waterford, CA 95386  
 (Address)

**FILED**  
 March 11, 2026  
 DONNA LINDER  
 STANISLAUS COUNTY  
 CLERK-RECORDER

By: *Imenade*  
 Deputy Clerk

Project Title: City of Waterford 6th Cycle Housing Element (GPA 2026-0001, GPA 2026-0002, CTA 2026-0001)

Project Applicant: City of Waterford

Project Location - Specific:

City-wide, 13000 El Pomar Avenue (APN: 080-022-026), 13008 Yosemite Blvd. (APN:  )

Project Location - City: Waterford Project Location - County: Stanislaus

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

General Plan Amendment to replace the adopted Housing Element with the Final 6th Cycle Housing Element, General Plan Amendment to amend the Land Use Designation of three (3) properties, and a Code Text Amendment to add a new Chapter to the Waterford Municipal Code entitled "Regional Housing Needs Allocation".

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Waterford

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Waterford

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: 15061(b)(3) Common Sense Exemption
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project involves the adoption of the 6th Cycle Housing Element and implementation of Programs including site-specific General Plan Amendments and a Code Text Amendment. The Proposed Project does not involve physical development. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that adopting the Proposed Project would result in a significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency  
 Contact Person: Mark Niskanen Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (209) 599-8377

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: 03/06/2026 Title: Planning Manager

▪ 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: \_\_\_\_\_

4/15/26  
 Date removed from posting \_\_\_\_\_



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

**Print**    **StartOver**    **Save**

RECEIPT NUMBER:  
 50-03/11/2026-034  
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY CITY OF WATERFORD	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 03/11/2026
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING STANISLAUS COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 50-2026-042	

PROJECT TITLE  
 CITY OF WATERFORD 6TH CYCLE HOUSING ELEMENT (GPA 2026-001, GPA 2026-0002, CTA 2026-0001)

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME CITY OF WATERFORD	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (209) 599-8377
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 101 E STREET	CITY WATERFORD	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 95386

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency     School District     Other Special District     State Agency     Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

Environmental Impact Report (EIR)    \$ 4,227.50 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)    \$ 3,043.75 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW    \$ 1,437.25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Exempt from fee

Notice of Exemption (attach)

CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

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Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)    \$ 850.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

County documentary handling fee    \$ 57.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 57.00

Other    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash     Credit     Check     Other 12999    TOTAL RECEIVED \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 57.00

SIGNATURE <b>X</b> <i>Jmercado</i>	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Jennifer Mercado Deputy Clerk
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**NOTICE**

Each project applicant shall remit to the county clerk the environmental document filing fee before or at the time of filing a Notice of Determination (Pub. Resources Code, § 21152; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4, subdivision (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5). Without the appropriate fee, statutory or categorical exemption, or a valid No Effect Determination issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Notice of Determination is not operative, vested, or final, and shall not be accepted by the county clerk.

**COUNTY DOCUMENTARY HANDLING FEE**

The county clerk may charge a documentary handling fee of fifty dollars (\$50) per filing in addition to the environmental document filing fee (Fish & G. Code, § 711.4, subd. (e); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 753.5, subd. (g)(1)). A county board of supervisors shall have the authority to increase or decrease the fee or charge, that is otherwise authorized to be levied by another provision of law, in the amount reasonably necessary to recover the cost of providing any product or service or the cost of enforcing any regulation for which the fee or charge is levied (Gov. Code, § 54985, subd. (a)).

**COLLECTION PROCEDURES FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENTS**

**Filing Notice of Determination (NOD):**

- Collect environmental document filing fee or copy of previously issued cash receipt. *(Do not collect fee if project applicant presents a No Effect Determination signed by CDFW. An additional fee is required for each separate environmental document. An addendum is not considered a separate environmental document. Checks should be made payable to the county.)*
- Issue environmental document filing fee cash receipt to project applicant.
- Attach copy of environmental document filing fee cash receipt and, if applicable, previously issued cash receipt, to NOD.
- Mail environmental document filing fee for **CRP** document to CDFW prior to filing the NOD or equivalent final approval (Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14, § 753.5 (b)(5)). The CRP should request receipt from CDFW to show proof of payment for filing the NOD or equivalent approval. Mail payment to address below made attention to the Cash Receipts Unit of the Accounting Services Branch.

If the project applicant presents a **No Effect Determination** signed by CDFW, also:

- Attach No Effect Determination to NOD *(no environmental document filing fee is due)*.

**Filing Notice of Exemption (NOE) (Statutorily or categorically exempt project (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15260-15285, 15300-15333))**

- Issue environmental document filing fee cash receipt to project applicant.
- Attach copy of environmental document filing fee cash receipt to NOE *(no environmental document filing fee is due)*.

**Within 30 days after the end of each month in which the environmental document filing fees are collected**, each county shall summarize and record the amount collected on the monthly State of California Form No. CA25 (TC31) and remit the amount collected to the State Treasurer. Identify the remittance on Form No. CA25 as "Environmental Document Filing Fees" per Fish and Game Code section 711.4.

**The county clerk shall submit the documents below to CDFW on a monthly basis by mail or CDFW's File Transfer Portal (see below):**

- A photocopy of the monthly State of California Form No. CA25 (TC31)
- CDFW/ASB copies of all cash environmental document filing fee cash receipts (including all voided receipts)
- A copy of all CDFW No Effect Determinations filed in lieu of fee payment
- A copy of all NODs and NOEs filed with the county during the preceding month
- A list of the name, address and telephone number of all project applicants for which an NOD and NOE has been filed. If this information is contained on the environmental document filing fee cash receipt filed with CDFW under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 753.5, subdivision (e)(6), no additional information is required.

**DOCUMENT RETENTION**

The county shall retain a copy of the environmental document filing fee cash receipt and all documents described above for at least 12 months.

**RECEIPT NUMBER**

- # The first two digits automatically populate by making the appropriate selection in the County/State Agency of Filing drop down menu.
- # The next eight digits automatically populate when a date is entered.
- # The last three digits correspond with the sequential order of issuance for each calendar year. For example, the first receipt number issued on January 1 should end in 001. If a county issued 252 receipts for the year ending on December 31, the last receipt number should end in 252. CDFW recommends that counties and state agencies 1) save a local copy of this form, and 2) track receipt numbers on a spreadsheet tabbed by month to ensure accuracy.

**DO NOT COMBINE THE ENVIRONMENTAL FEES WITH THE STATE SHARE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE FEES.**

**For access to CDFW's File Transfer Portal, submit email to [CEQA@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:CEQA@wildlife.ca.gov) (Subject line: [County name] FTP account).**

**Mail to:**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 Accounting Services Branch  
 P.O. Box 944209  
 Sacramento, California 94244-2090