

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044	From: Turlock Irrigation District WRRRA Department 333 E. Canal Dr. Turlock, CA 95380
To: County Clerk County of Stanislaus 1021 I Street, Suite 101 Modesto, CA 95354	To: County Clerk County of Merced 2222 M Street Merced, CA 95340

Project Title: West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Monitoring Well Installations

Project Location: Cities of Hughson and Turlock, and Counties of Stanislaus and Merced (see attached)

Project Location - City: Hughson, Turlock

Project Location - County: Merced, Stanislaus

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The proposed project consists of constructing eight (8) groundwater monitoring wells, each consisting of a 2-inch casing within an approximately 8-inch borehole, ranging from 90 to 240 feet below ground surface, and secured with a protective wellhead or vault enclosure. The purpose of the project is to expand the West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's (WTSGSA) existing monitoring well network to achieve greater coverage, resolution, and accuracy to support the GSA in groundwater management decisions and the implementation of its Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), ultimately achieving sustainability within the subbasin and complying with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). All wells will be constructed in accordance with the applicable California Department of Water Resources well construction standards. Construction activities will be limited in duration, with minimal ground disturbance confined to well installation areas.

Name of Agency Approving Project: Turlock Irrigation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying out Project: Turlock Irrigation District, Water Resources and Regulatory Affairs Department

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): Class 3 – New Construction of Small Structures (Guidelines §15303); Class 6 – Information Collection (Guidelines §15306); Class 7 – Actions for the Protection of Natural Resources (Guidelines §15307)
- Statutory Exemptions (state code number):

Reasons why Project is Exempt: The project is consistent with the provisions of the Class 3, Class 6, and Class 7 categorical exemptions. The project involves installation of a limited number of small monitoring wells that will result in minimal surface disturbance, be used solely for groundwater monitoring and data collection, and support the implementation of the GSP to ultimately achieve groundwater sustainability. These categorical exemptions apply without any exceptions under Section 15300.2.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Michael Cooke, Turlock Irrigation District Telephone: (209) 883-8364

Signature: 

Date: 3/23/26

Signed by: Michael Cooke

Signed by: Lead Agency Applicant

Title: Water Resources and Regulatory Affairs Department Manager