



E202610000260 **County of Fresno**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

FILED

AUG 28 2026 TIME 11:45am
FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
BY [Signature] DEPUTY

For County Clerk's Stamp

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: ☒ Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ County Clerk, County of Fresno
2221 Kern Street
Fresno, CA 93721

FROM: Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning
Development Services and Capital Projects Division
2220 Tulare Street (corner of Tulare and "M") Suite "A", Fresno, CA 93721

PROJECT TITLE: Environmental Review No. 8979 – Coalinga Disposal Site Groundwater Monitoring Well Replacement

PROJECT APPLICANT/SPONSOR: Fresno County Resources Division

PROJECT LOCATION – COUNTY: The project site is located at 30825 Lost Hills Road, Coalinga, Fresno County.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The proposed project consists of installing groundwater monitoring well CMW-8 to replace CMW-2A within the existing monitoring network at the Coalinga Disposal Site. A small access road will be constructed for installation and monitoring of CMW-8, and CMW-2A will be decommissioned after CMW-8 is installed. Several wells in the existing network are becoming dry or contain insufficient groundwater for required monitoring and sampling because of declining groundwater levels. CMW-8 is identified as a planned detection monitoring well in Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2026-0007. The replacement is necessary to maintain compliance with Finding 28 of the Order and California Code of Regulations, Title 27, Section 21720 et seq., for protection of public health and the environment. The work will occur within the existing Coalinga Disposal Site and will not expand the existing use.

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: Fresno County Board of Supervisors

NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT: Fresno County Public Works and Planning, Resources Division, Daniel Amann, Division Manager

EXEMPT STATUS: Categorical Exemption - Section 15301, Existing Facilities; Section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction

REASONS WHY THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities). The proposed work consists of maintenance and minor alteration of the existing groundwater monitoring network through installation of one replacement monitoring well, construction of a small access road, and decommissioning of one existing monitoring well, with no expansion of the existing or former use.

The project will maintain the groundwater monitoring network required for post-closure maintenance of the Coalinga Disposal Site. Wells within the existing monitoring network are becoming dry or contain insufficient groundwater for required monitoring and sampling as groundwater levels decline, placing the network at risk of being unable to satisfy the monitoring requirements established by Water Board Order No. R5-2026-0007 and the applicable requirements of California Code of Regulations, Title 27.

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Installation of CMW-8 to replace CMW-2A is therefore necessary to maintain the required Detection Monitoring Program, thereby supporting the protection of public health and the environment. The work will occur entirely within the existing disposal site and is limited to installation of the replacement well and associated access road, together with decommissioning of CMW-2A. The project will not increase landfill capacity or change or expand the site's existing use. No significant adverse or cumulative environmental impacts are anticipated.

LEAD AGENCY

CONTACT PERSON: Alyce Alvarez

AREA CODE/TELEPHONE: (559) 600-9669

If filed by the 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: _____


Chris Motta, Division Manager

Date: _____

8/26/2026

- ☒ Signed by Lead Agency
☐ Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

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CMW-2A Decom and CMW-8 Install\ER 8979 NOE.docx

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Coalinga Disposal Site Groundwater Monitoring Well Replacement

Project Statement

The Coalinga Disposal Site (CDS) is located approximately two miles south of the City of Coalinga and one-half mile east of Warthan Creek in the western half of Section 9, Township 21 South, Range 15 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (T21S, R15E, MDB&M). Site access is from Highway 198 via Alcalde Road, and the landfill entrance gate is located at 30825 Lost Hills Road. The Site consists of two parcels totaling approximately 120 acres. County Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) are 083-020-24 and 083-040-09. Rangeland is adjacent to the Site to the east, south, and west, and irrigated row crops are located to the north of the site.

The Site operates under the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Waste Discharge Requirement Order (WDR) No R5-2026-0007 (RWQCB's WDR), which was adopted on February 27, 2026 in compliance with California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 27 §21720 et seq. WDR R5-2026-0007, Finding 28 establishes the groundwater monitoring network for the landfill. The proposed groundwater monitoring well replacement has become necessary as the current groundwater monitoring well network for the CDS is in jeopardy of not complying with the aforementioned CCR Title 27 regulations. The monitoring well network consists of monitoring wells that are becoming dry or and/or contain insufficient groundwater for monitoring and sampling purposes. To mitigate the effects of dropping water tables on regulatory compliance the County is proactively replacing the Coalinga Disposal Site monitoring well CMW-2A in the WDR R5-2026-0007 monitoring well network.

The work to be performed consists, in general, of; installation of Monitoring Well CMW-8 to replace CMW-2A, a small access road to install CMW-8, and decommissioning of Monitoring Well CMW-2A. This work will be in accordance with WDR R5-2026-0007 as required by CCR Title 27 §21720 et seq. for protection of public health and environment.



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County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING

INITIAL STUDY APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer all questions completely. An incomplete form may delay processing of your application. Use additional paper if necessary and attach any supplemental information to this form. Attach an operational statement if appropriate. This application will be distributed to several agencies and persons to determine the potential environmental effects of your proposal. Please complete the form in a legible and reproducible manner (i.e., USE BLACK INK OR TYPE).

OFFICE USE ONLY

IS No. _____

Project
No(s). _____

Application Rec'd.: _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Property Owner :** County of Fresno **Phone/Fax** 559-600-4259
Mailing Address: 2220 Tulare St., Suite 600 Fresno 93721
Street City State/Zip
2. **Applicant :** Public Works & Planning, Resources **Phone/Fax:** 559-600-4259
Mailing Address: Same as above
Street City State/Zip
3. **Representative:** Danniel Amann **Phone/Fax:** 559-600-4259
Mailing Address: Same as above
Street City State/Zip
4. **Proposed Project:** Coalinga Disposal Site groundwater monitoring well installation and decommission to maintain compliance with California Regional Water Quality Control Board Waste Discharge Requirement No. R5-2026-0007 Finding 28 and as mandated by California Code of Regulations Title 27 §21720 et seq. for protection of public health and environment.
5. **Project Location:** Coalinga Disposal Site
6. **Project Address:** 30825 Lost Hills Road, Coalinga, Ca 93210
7. **Section/Township/Range:** 9 / 21S / 15E 8. **Parcel Size:** 121 Acres
9. **Assessor's Parcel No.** 083-020-24 & 083-040-09

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

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10. Land Conservation Contract No. (If applicable): _____

11. What other agencies will you need to get permits or authorization from:

_____ LAFCo (annexation)	_____ SJVUAPCD (Air Pollution Control District)
_____ CALTRANS	_____ Reclamation Board
_____ Division of Aeronautics	_____ Department of Energy
_____ <u>X</u> Water Quality Control Board	_____ Airport Land Use Commission
_____ Other _____	

12. Will the project utilize Federal funds or require other Federal authorization subject to the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969? _____ Yes _____ X No

If so, please provide a copy of all related grant and/or funding documents, related information and environmental review requirements.

13. Existing Zone District¹: _____ AL20 _____

14. Existing General Plan Land Use Designation¹: _____ None _____

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

15. Present land use: County of Fresno Disposal Site
Describe existing physical improvements including buildings, water (wells) and sewage facilities, roads, and lighting. Include a site plan or map showing these improvements:

Describe the major vegetative cover: Regulatory required areas of cover for erosion control

Any perennial or intermittent water courses? If so, show on map: _____

Is property in a flood-prone area? Describe: _____ No _____

16. Describe surrounding land uses (e.g., commercial, agricultural, residential, school, etc.):

North: Agricultural (row crops)

South: Agricultural (Rangeland)

East: Agricultural (Rangeland)

West: Agricultural (Rangeland)

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17. What land use(s) in the area may be impacted by your Project?: None

18. What land use(s) in the area may impact your project?: None

19. Transportation:

NOTE: The information below will be used in determining traffic impacts from this project. The data may also show the need for a Traffic Impact Study (TIS) for the project.

A. Will additional driveways from the proposed project site be necessary to access public roads?
 Yes X No

B. Daily traffic generation:

I. Residential - Number of Units	<u>0</u>
Lot Size	<u>0</u>
Single Family	<u>0</u>
Apartments	<u>0</u>

II. Commercial - Number of Employees	<u>0</u>
Number of Salesmen	<u>0</u>
Number of Delivery Trucks	<u>0</u>
Total Square Footage of Building	<u>0</u>

III. Describe and quantify other traffic generation activities: None

20. Describe any source(s) of noise from your project that may affect the surrounding area: None

21. Describe any source(s) of noise in the area that may affect your project: None

22. Describe the probable source(s) of air pollution from your project: None

23. Proposed source of water:

(X) private well

() community system³—name: _____

24. Anticipated volume of water to be used (gallons per day)²: ~1,000

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25. **Proposed method of liquid waste disposal:**
() septic system/individual
() community system³-name None
26. **Estimated volume of liquid waste (gallons per day)²:** None
27. **Anticipated type(s) of liquid waste:** None
28. **Anticipated type(s) of hazardous wastes²:** None
29. **Anticipated volume of hazardous wastes²:** None
30. **Proposed method of hazardous waste disposal²:** None
31. **Anticipated type(s) of solid waste:** None
32. **Anticipated amount of solid waste (tons or cubic yards per day):** None
33. **Anticipated amount of waste that will be recycled (tons or cubic yards per day):** None
34. **Proposed method of solid waste disposal:** N/A
35. **Fire protection district(s) serving this area:** Cal Fire
36. **Has a previous application been processed on this site? If so, list title and date:** Coalinga Disposal Site Closure, March 3, 2015 (ER6939)
37. **Do you have any underground storage tanks (except septic tanks)?** Yes _____ No X
38. **If yes, are they currently in use?** Yes _____ No _____

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS TRUE.

David Amann
SIGNATURE

8/10/26
DATE

¹Refer to Development Services Conference Checklist

²For assistance, contact Environmental Health System, (559) 600-3357

³For County Service Areas or Waterworks Districts, contact the Resources Division, (559) 600-4259

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NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

INDEMNIFICATION AND DEFENSE

The Board of Supervisors has adopted a policy that applicants should be made aware that they may be responsible for participating in the defense of the County in the event a lawsuit is filed resulting from the County's action on your project. You may be required to enter into an agreement to indemnify and defend the County if it appears likely that litigation could result from the County's action. The agreement would require that you deposit an appropriate security upon notice that a lawsuit has been filed. In the event that you fail to comply with the provisions of the agreement, the County may rescind its approval of the project.

STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE FEE

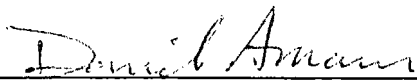
State law requires that specified fees (\$3,029.75 for an EIR; \$2,181.25 for a (Mitigated) Negative Declaration; effective January 1, 2015: \$3,069.75 for an EIR; \$2,210.00 for a (Mitigated) Negative Declaration) be paid to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for projects which must be reviewed for potential adverse effect on wildlife resources. The County is required to collect the fees on behalf of CDFW. A \$50.00 handling fee will also be charged, as provided for in the legislation, to defray a portion of the County's costs for collecting the fees.

The following projects are exempt from the fees:

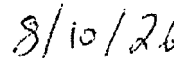
- 1. All projects statutorily exempt from the provisions of CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act).*
- 2. All projects categorically exempt by regulations of the Secretary of Resources (State of California) from the requirement to prepare environmental documents.*

A fee exemption may be issued by CDFW for eligible projects determined by that agency to have "no effect on wildlife." That determination must be provided in advance from CDFG to the County at the request of the applicant. You may wish to call the local office of CDFG at (559) 222-3761 if you need more information.

Upon completion of the Initial Study you will be notified of the applicable fee. Payment of the fee will be required before your project will be forwarded to the project analyst for scheduling of any required hearings and final processing. The fee will be refunded if the project should be denied by the County.



Applicant's Signature



Date

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CDS Monitoring Well Project Areas

