

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and
Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Central Coast Water Authority
255 Industrial Way
Buellton, CA 93427

County Clerk of the Board
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu St., 4th Floor,
Room 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Department of Water
Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Project Title: Amendment to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement with the Department of Water Resources, State of California and Authorizing the Execution Thereof

Project Location: Santa Barbara County. Existing Coastal Branch Phase II facilities of the State Water Project (SWP).

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: On October 1, 1996, the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Between the Department of Water Resources, State of California, and Central Coast Water Authority Relating to the Operation and Maintenance of the Coastal Branch, Phase II (JPA) was executed. The JPA provides the authority to CCWA to operate and maintain the Coastal Branch facilities on behalf of DWR. This amendment extends CCWA's operation and maintenance activities to December 31, 2026.

Name of Public Agencies Approving Project: CCWA

Name of Persons or Agencies Carrying Out Project: CCWA

Exempt Status: Pub. Res. Code § 21065; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15000 – 15387 (CEQA Guidelines), §§ 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense Exemption), 15378(b)(5)); Categorical Exemptions: CEQA Guidelines § 15301 (Existing Public Facilities).

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

Not a Project Under CEQA: CEQA applies only to projects that have a potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. (CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3).) A public agency may determine an activity to be exempt where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Amendment to the JPA is not a project under CEQA (Pub. Res. Code § 21065; 14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15061(b)(3), 15378) because it will not result in a direct or indirect change to the environment.

Class 1 - Existing Public Facilities Categorical Exemption: Amendment to the JPA is intended to extend CCWA's current operation and maintenance activities and not support new development or a change of land use. Therefore the Existing Public Facilities Categorical Exemption applies. (CEQA Guidelines § 15301.)

Exceptions to the Categorical Exemptions:

None of the exceptions to the Categorical Exemptions apply, as Amendment to the JPA will not: impact a designated, mapped, and officially adopted environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern; result in a significant cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place over time; have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances; damage a scenic highway or scenic resources within a state scenic highway; be located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code; nor cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. (CEQA Guidelines § 15300.2.)

Agency Contact: Peter Thompson, CCWA

Area Code/Telephone: 805-688-2292

Signature: 

Date: _____

Title: CCWA, Executive Director

Date received for filing at OPR: _____