

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: County Clerk of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 260
P.O. Box 121750
San Diego, CA 92112-1750

From: Vista Irrigation District
1391 Engineer Street
Vista, CA 92081-8836

Project Title: Flume Replacement Pipeline: D-2400

Project Location - Specific: Project spans from the Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant (EVWTP), located adjacent to Lake Dixon in Escondido, to Pechstein Reservoir, located along Buena Creek Road in between the cities of San Marcos and Vista, by way of a proposed 12-mile long, 36-inch diameter pipeline along anticipated routes including the EVWTP main access road to Valley Center Road, Burnet Drive, Jacks Creek Road, East and West El Norte Parkway, Borden Road, Rose Ranch Road, Mulberry Drive, East La Cienega Road, Sycamore Drive, Twin Oaks Valley Road, Olive Street, Cassou Road, Robinhood Road and Buena Creek Road.

Project Location - City: Vista, San Marcos, Escondido **Project Location - County:** San Diego

Description of Project: The Flume has exceeded its usable service life and serves as the Vista Irrigation District's only means of receiving local and imported water treated at the EVWTP. It also serves as the primary water supply for the District during planned 10-day shutdowns along the San Diego County Water Authority's second aqueduct. To ensure system reliability and maintain existing service levels, the project proposes to replace the aging Flume structure with an approximately 12-mile long, 36-inch diameter pipeline. The immediate phase of work is limited to information collection and preliminary design activities necessary to inform the pipeline's exact alignment and engineering parameters within or adjacent to the existing facility right-of-way. These activities include environmental resource mapping, utility potholing, topographic surveys, and geotechnical borings and assessments. All data collection efforts are strictly for information-gathering, modeling, and design purposes that are intended to inform further agency decision-making and will not result in a serious or major disturbance to any environmental resources.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Vista Irrigation District, 1391 Engineer Street, Vista, CA 92081-8836

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Vista Irrigation District

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);
- ☒ X Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1, Section 15301, Class 6, Section 15306
- ☐ o Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: The proposed facility is exempt from CEQA based on its conformity with Article 19, Class 1, Section 15301 (Minor Alteration of Existing Facilities, 14 CCR § 15301) and Class 6, Section 15306 (Information Collection, 14 CCR § 15306) of the CEQA Statute and Guidelines.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Greg Keppler

Telephone/Extension: (760) 597-3136

The General Manager Director of Engineering X Board of Directors approved the above described project on September 23, 2026, and found that the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, as amended.

If filed by applicant: N/A

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Submission of this form is optional. Local agencies may file this form with the County Clerk pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). The filing of the notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on court challenges to the approval of the project under Public Resources Code Section 21167(d). Failure to file the notice results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

Signature: Greg Kippner Date: 9/30/2026 Title: Engineering P.M.