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IID

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

■ County Clerk
County of Riverside

☐ File
IID - ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION SECTION

From: (Public Agency)
IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Address: P.O. BOX 937
IMPERIAL, CA 92251

**Project Title:** Bounty Avenue Distribution Line Upgrade Project

**Project Location - Specific:** Along Vander Veer Rd, Bounty Ave, and 68th Ave in Mecca, CA

**Project Location – City:** Mecca **Project Location – County:** Riverside

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

Upgrade approximately one mile of overhead electrical distribution line along Bounty Avenue and 68th Avenue, including pole equipment upgrades and additional conductor. The project will improve system safety, reliability, and operational flexibility within the established distribution corridor and right-of-way.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Imperial Irrigation District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Imperial Irrigation District

**Exempt Status:** ***(check one)***

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 1526(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ■ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 2, Section 15302 and Class 3, Section 15303
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

IID has determined this project qualifies for an exemption under 14 CCR §§ 15302 and 15303. The work consists of safety and reliability upgrades to electrical infrastructure within an established right-of-way to meet General Order 95 standards and support current system needs. The line will maintain its existing distribution function and alignment.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Jeremy Brooks **Area Code/Telephone Extension:** (760) 339-9632

**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:** 09/18/2026

**Title:** General Counsel

☐ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant ☐ IID Board Approved

**Date received for filing at OPR:**

IID

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**DATE:** September 18, 2026

**SUBJECT:** CEQA Exemption Finding for the Bounty Avenue Distribution Line Upgrade Project

### Project Overview

- **Project Title:** Bounty Avenue Distribution Line Upgrade Project
- **Location:** Along Bounty Ave, Vander Veer Road, and 68th Ave in Mecca, CA
- **County:** Riverside County
- **Lead Agency:** Imperial Irrigation District (IID)

### Project Description

The Imperial Irrigation District (IID) proposes to upgrade approximately one mile of an existing overhead electrical distribution line along Vander Veer Road and 68th Avenue, beginning near Bounty Avenue. The project will include replacing crossarms and pin insulators on existing utility poles, replacing conductor to meet new thermal and sag resistance standards, installing down guys, and a single intermediate utility pole within the existing distribution line alignment and right-of-way. All work will remain within the established distribution corridor and right-of-way, with access from existing roadways and no new access roads required. The purpose of the project is to meet applicable General Order 95 safety standards and improve the safety, reliability, and operational flexibility of the electrical distribution system to support current system needs.

### Environmental Determination

The IID Environmental Compliance Unit has formally reviewed the proposed scope of work and determined that the project is exempt from further environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

### The project qualifies for the following Categorical Exemptions:

- **Class 2, Section 15302:** Replacement or Reconstruction.
- **Class 3, Section 15303:** New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures.

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT
GENERAL COUNSEL'S OFFICE • 333 E. BARIONI BLVD. • P.O. BOX 937 • IMPERIAL, CA 92251
TELEPHONE (760) 339-9364 • FAX (760) 339-9062

**Justification for Exemption**

This determination is based on the following findings:

- The project consists of safety and reliability upgrades to an existing IID overhead electrical distribution line within an established utility alignment and right-of-way to meet applicable General Order 95 standards.
- Existing pole equipment will be replaced or upgraded, and conductor will be added to establish a three-phase system to support current system needs with no change in utility function.
- One new intermediate utility pole will be installed within the established alignment to safely support the upgraded distribution system.
- The project will not establish a new electrical alignment or require new right-of-way or access roads.
- None of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions identified in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to the project.

**Certification**

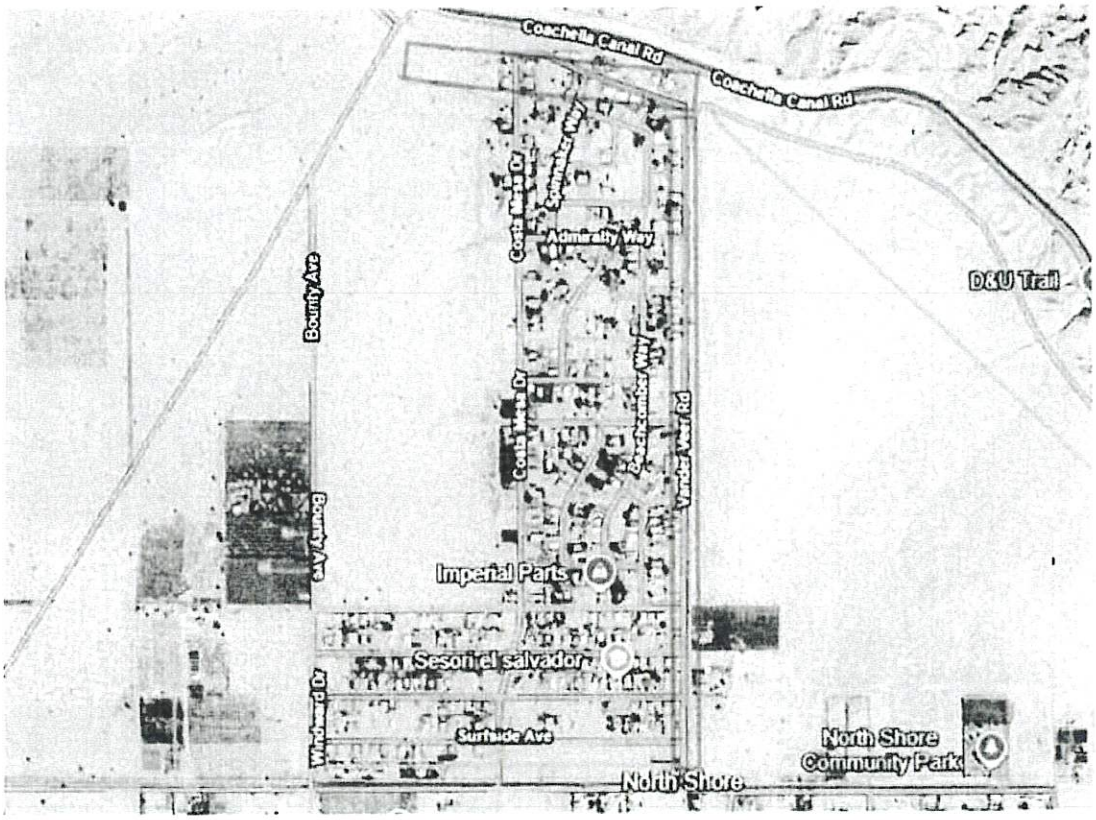
I hereby certify that the Imperial Irrigation District has reviewed the Bounty Avenue Distribution Line Upgrade Project and independently found it to be categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15302 and Section 15303 of the State CEQA Guidelines. A Notice of Exemption (NOE) will be filed with the Riverside County Clerk-Recorder and the Office of Planning and Research (State Clearinghouse) to comply with CEQA.

**Prepared By**

**Camila Bautista**
Environmental Compliance Unit
Imperial Irrigation District

**Certified By:**

**Jeremy Brooks**
Environmental Compliance Unit
Imperial Irrigation District

## Location Map

The project begins on Bounty Ave, approximately 165 ft. west of Vander Veer Road, and heads 3,400 ft. north and 2,050 ft. northwest on 68th Ave.