F I L E D / P O S T E D
County of Riverside
Peter Aldana
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder
E-202600862
10/01/2026 08:50 AM Fee: $ 50.00
Page 1 of 4
Removed: By: Deputy

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: Coachella City Switching Substation Bank 1 Transformer Replacement

Project Location - Specific: 1319 9th Street, Coachella, CA

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

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Replace the aging Bank 1 power transformer and associated equipment within the existing IID Coachella City Switching Substation. The project will improve system safety and reliability, reduce the risk of equipment failure, and maintain reliable electrical service, with all work occurring within the existing substation footprint.

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
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project consists of replacing an aging power transformer and associated equipment within the existing developed substation footprint to reduce the risk of equipment failure and maintain safe and reliable electrical service. The project will serve the same utility function at the same site and will not expand the physical footprint of the facility.

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: _____ **Date:** 08/19/2026

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: August 13, 2026

SUBJECT: CEQA Exemption Finding for the Coachella City Switching Substation Bank 1 Transformer Replacement Project

Project Overview

- **Project Title:** Coachella City Switching Substation Bank 1 Transformer Replacement Project
- **Location:** 1319 9th Street, Coachella, CA
- **County:** Riverside County
- **Lead Agency**: Imperial Irrigation District (IID)

Project Description

The Imperial Irrigation District is undertaking a project to replace the existing Bank 1 power transformer within the Coachella City Switching Substation. The scope of work includes engineering, procurement, and replacement of the existing transformer, evaluation of the existing transformer foundation, and evaluation of associated substation equipment during the engineering and design process to determine whether additional in-footprint equipment replacements are necessary as part of the project. The purpose of the project is to replace aging equipment that has exceeded its useful service life after approximately 34 years of operation, reduce the risk of equipment failure, improve system safety and reliability, and maintain reliable electrical service. All work will occur within the existing IID-owned Coachella City Switching Substation footprint and will not expand the physical footprint of the facility or alter its existing utility use.

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.

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT
GENERAL COUNSEL'S OFFICE · 333 E. BARIONI BLVD. · P.O. BOX 937 · IMPERIAL, CA 92251
TELEPHONE (760) 339-9564 · FAX (760) 339-9062

Justification for Exemption

This determination is based on the following findings:

- The project consists of the replacement of an aging power transformer and associated equipment within the existing Coachella City Switching Substation.
- The replacement transformer will serve the same operational purpose as the existing equipment and is intended to maintain the reliability of the electrical system.
- All work will occur entirely within the existing Coachella City Switching Substation footprint.
- The project involves no physical expansion of the facility.
- There will be zero change to the historically approved use of the site.
- No special permitting or conditions are required for this project.
- No environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of project implementation.

Certification

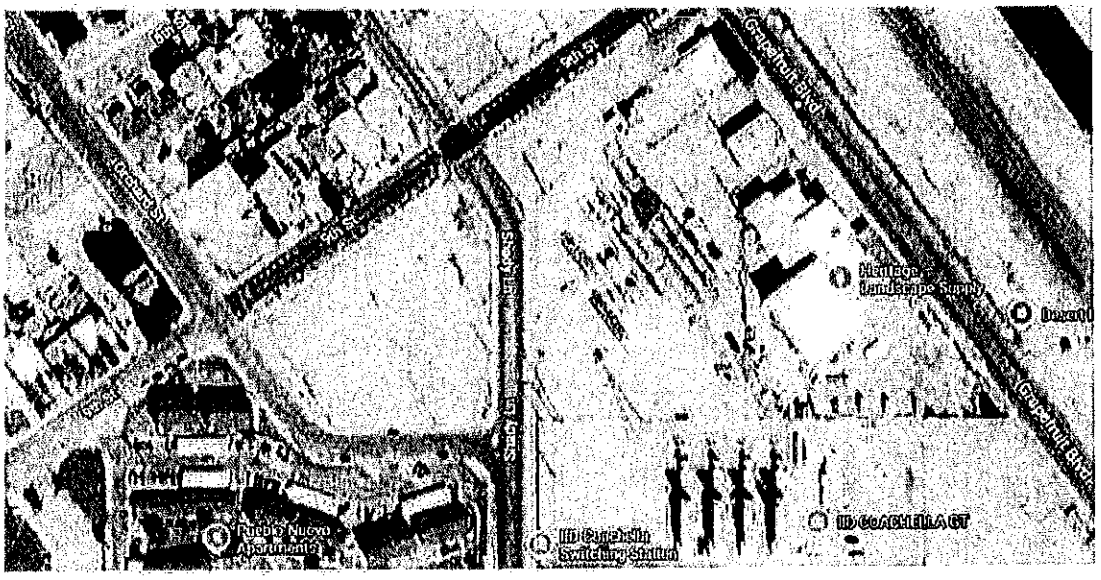
I hereby certify that the Imperial Irrigation District has reviewed the Coachella City Switching Substation Bank 1 Transformer Replacement project and independently found it to be categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15302 of the State CEQA Guidelines. A Notice of Exemption (NOE) will be 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 is located on 1319 9th Street, Coachella, CA within Section 6, T.8 S., R.5 E., S.B.M.