Notice of Exemption

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

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

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

Project Title: Riser Replacement Project – Phase 2

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: The Riser Replacement Project – Phase 2 ("Project") includes maintenance on an existing steel potable water pipeline in a below-grade concrete vault. The Project includes removal of existing coating, surface preparation and welding, minor concrete removals and replacement, removal and replacement of an air and vacuum valve and piping isolation valve assemblies and replacement of a 24-inch diameter manway.

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) and 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction).

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. The Riser Replacement Project – Phase 2 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: The Riser Replacement Project – Phase 2 consists of the repair, maintenance, or minor alternations to an existing potable water pipeline in a below-grade concrete vault, and involves no expansion of existing or former use. Therefore it is exempt under the Existing Public Facilities exemption. (CEQA Guidelines § 15301.)

Class 2 – Replacement or Reconstruction Categorical Exemption: The Riser Replacement Project – Phase 2 consists of replacement and maintenance where the pipeline will be located in the same locations as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced. Therefore it is exempt under the Replacement or Reconstruction exemption. (CEQA Guidelines § 15302.)

Exceptions to the Categorical Exemptions:
None of the exceptions to the Categorical Exemptions apply, as The Riser Replacement Project – Phase 2 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: 10/22/26
Title: CCWA, Executive Director

Date received for filing at OPR: _____