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County of Riverside
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10/20/2026 11:04 AM Fee: $ 50.00
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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: Avenue 58 Substation – Bank 5 Addition Project

Project Location - Specific: Avenue 58 Substation and surrounding rights-of-way in La Quinta and unincorporated Riverside County

Project Location – City: La Quinta **Project Location – County:** Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project involves upgrades within the existing Avenue 58 Substation footprint, including installation of a new 50 MVA transformer and associated electrical equipment. The project also includes construction of new underground distribution circuits within existing public rights-of-way to meet the anticipated electrical demand of planned projects in the area.

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 3, Section 15303 and Class 4, Section 15304
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

IID has determined this project qualifies for exemptions under 14 CCR §§ 15303 and 15304. The improvements consist of limited new utility facilities and minor alterations to previously disturbed areas. Construction will occur within existing developed footprints and rights-of-way, with disturbed surfaces restored upon completion.

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:** 10/13/2026

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: October 12, 2026

SUBJECT: CEQA Exemption Finding for Avenue 58 Substation – Bank 5 Addition Project

Project Overview

- **Project Title:** Avenue 58 Substation – Bank 5 Addition Project
- **Location:** Avenue 58 Substation and adjacent rights-of-way, including Avenue 58, Madison Street, Monroe Street, Avenue 55, Avenue 54, and Avenue 60 in the City of La Quinta and Riverside County.
- **County:** Riverside County
- **Lead Agency:** Imperial Irrigation District (IID)

Project Description

The project includes upgrades within the existing Avenue 58 Substation footprint and the construction of new underground distribution circuits to provide electrical load capacity for future developments. Proposed work will primarily occur in previously disturbed areas or existing road rights-of-way, minimizing the potential for environmental impact.

- **Substation Scope of Work:** IID will procure and install a new 50 MVA transformer along with associated electrical equipment, including breakers, switches, a capacitor bank, voltage regulators, and new switchgear. Work involves placing equipment entirely within the existing, previously disturbed substation footprint.
- **Distribution Circuits Scope of Work:** Construction of underground distribution circuits extending from the substation to logical termination points. Construction involves installing 5-inch and 6-inch conduits with double-vault systems within previously disturbed public rights-of-way.

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).

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

The project qualifies for the following Categorical Exemptions:

- Class 3, Section 15303
- Class 4, Section 15304

Justification for Exemption

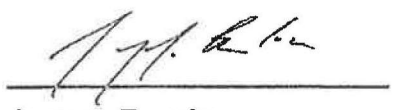
This determination is based on the following findings:

- **Class 3 – Substation Expansion:** This exemption specifically covers the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, and the installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures. The project qualifies because it consists of the new construction, placement, and installation of a transformer, a concrete foundation pad, and accessory electrical equipment within the previously disturbed substation footprint, involving only minor, limited-scale alterations.
- **Class 3 – Feeder Lines:** This exemption covers new construction or extension of utilities of reasonable length (e.g., new underground service connections and line extensions). The project qualifies because it involves the new construction or limited extension of underground electrical utility distribution lines of reasonable length to connect and serve adjacent uses strictly within existing, previously disturbed rights-of-way.
- **Class 4 – Minor Alterations to Land:** This exemption covers minor public alterations to land, specifically minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored. The project qualifies because construction activities are limited to minor public trenching and backfilling within previously developed and thoroughly disturbed rights-of-way, with the ground surface fully restored to its pre-project condition upon completion.

Certification

I hereby certify that the Imperial Irrigation District has reviewed the Avenue 58 Substation – Bank 5 Addition Project and independently found it to be categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15303 and 15304 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.

Certified By:



Jeremy Brooks

Environmental Compliance Unit

Imperial Irrigation District

Location Map

