

AGENDA STAFF REPORT

MEETING NAME: REGULAR BOARD MEETING(S)

MEETING DATE(S): FEBRUARY 16 & 21, 2023

FROM: BRIAN MACY – ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

FOR: ACTION X DIRECTION _____ INFORMATION _____



RESOLUTION 2023-03 - A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MISSION SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION DETERMINATION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT GUIDELINES FOR WELL 22

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to adopt Resolution 2023-03, recommending approval of a Notice of Exemption determination under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines pursuant to Section 15300 for Well 22 and direct the General Manager to sign the attached Notice of Exemption and file same with the Riverside County Clerk.

SUMMARY

Well #22 is an existing well located on the south side of Pierson Boulevard just east of Little Morongo Road. The proposed Well #22 Rehabilitation Project (Project) would include the following activities at the well site: rehabilitation of the existing well casing and pump equipment; installation of new discharge point and appurtenances; installation of new electrical equipment; installation of a new small chlorine building that uses sodium hypochlorite; and related site improvements. All activities will occur within the project site (shown in the attached aerial photograph) or the adjacent disturbed right-of-way. No increase in well capacity and production is proposed relative to the historic production of groundwater at this location.

Presently, staff is developing the project plans, specifications and completing the necessary environmental clearances.

Staff has requested Tom Dodson & Associates (currently on an 'On Call' contract) to complete the necessary environmental compliance and exemptions pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act for the project. Staff has requested Tom Dodson & Associates (TDA) to evaluate the basis for the District to adopt a Categorical Exemption in compliance with CEQA and to prepare and file a Notice of Exemption. After review by TDA, the project is determined to qualify for a Categorical Exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines pursuant to Section 15301, Class I consisting of the operation and maintenance of existing, facilities and mechanical equipment involving little or no expansion of existing use.

ANALYSIS

Staff recommends noticing the Project as Categorically Exempt from CEQA and have the District adopt and file the attached Notice of Exemption with the Riverside County Clerk when it makes a decision on the project. This will initiate a 35-day statute of limitations for anyone seeking to challenge the project in court.

FISCAL IMPACT AND STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The adoption of the resolution approving the Notice of Exemption has no fiscal impact.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution 2023-03 and Notice of Exemption Form
Site Location Map