

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: **County of Riverside
County Clerk-Recorder**
2724 Gateway Drive
Riverside, CA 92507

From: **Mission Springs Water District**
66575 Second Street
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240

Project Title: MSWD Private Septic-System Closure and Connection to the MSWD Collection System Project (Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP))

Project Location: The private septic-system closure area is located in core residential areas of the City of Desert Hot Springs. This core area occurs in the general vicinity of Pierson Boulevard and Palm Drive intersection in Desert Hot Springs.

Project Location - City: City of Desert Hot Springs

Project Location - County: Riverside County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of the Project: The purpose of the proposed MSWD Private Septic-System Closure and Connection to the MSWD Collection System Project is to remove a source of groundwater pollution and maintain the overall quality of the local groundwater aquifer. Up to 68 developed parcels are proposed to undergo the closure of the septic system and connection to the wastewater collection system by installing a lateral on the private property. All of the above proposed activities will occur within the footprint of existing disturbed areas at the residences.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Mission Springs Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Mission Springs Water District

Exempt Status: (Check One)

- Ministerial (Sections 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sections 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Sections 21080(b)(4); 15269)
- Categorical Exemption (Sections 21084; 15304(f))

Reasons why project is exempt: The State CEQA Guidelines provide a series of Categorical Exemptions for projects that have been deemed to have minimal impacts on the environment. The proposed installation of the MSWD Private Septic-System Closure and Connection to the MSWD Collection System Project in the City of Desert Hot Springs has been determined to have no potential to cause significant adverse effects on the environment and will ensure the current degradation of the aquifer is eliminated. Categorical Exemption Class 4 exempts "minor public or private alterations in the conditions of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature scenic trees...(f) Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored." The exceptions to the issuance of Categorical Exemptions have been evaluated for the proposed project activities. The proposed installation and operation of the MSWD Private Septic-System Closure and Connection to the MSWD Collection System Project has been determined not to have a potential to cause significant adverse environmental effects as a result of any of the exceptions. Therefore, this proposed action is not forecast to cause any potential for significant adverse environmental impacts and qualifies with the requirements for Class 4(f) exemption.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Arden Wallum Telephone: (760) 329-6448

Signature: _____ Title: General Manager Date: _____