

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Post Office Box 1058
Coachella, CA 92236

2019088038

To: County Clerk
County of Riverside
Post Office Box 751
Riverside, CA 92502

File: 0421.2
0531.1

Project Title: Talavera Pipeline Replacement Project - Phases 1 and 2

Project Location: The project alignment is within the existing street right-of-way within the Talavera residential community located in the city of Indio, Riverside County, in a portion of sections 32 and 33, township 4 south, range 7 east, San Bernardino Base and Meridian.

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) proposes the replacement of approximately 30,380 linear feet of domestic water pipeline consisting of phases 1 and 2 for the Talavera Pipeline Replacement (Project). The purpose of the Project is to replace portions of corroded ductile iron pipe (DIP) and appurtenances within the master-planned community of Talavera. The Talavera community was developed in 2005 and includes 782 homes. The domestic water system has experienced eight water main leaks during the past seven years. These leaks result in a lack of water service to CVWD customers during repairs, disruption to the community, unexpected expenses and additional staff time to address the impacts resulting from the pipe failures. In 2016, a geotechnical report characterized the soils in Talavera as severely corrosive to very severely corrosive. The report concluded that the DIP is subject to additional leaks and failure due to severe external corrosion. The report recommended that all pipe (51,257 feet) be replaced with new pipe with corrosion protection. As currently planned, the pipeline would be replaced in five phases over six years. Phases 1 and 2 have been identified as most critical since five of the eight leaks have occurred within the areas that are identified as these two phases.

Construction consists of open-trench excavation for the installation of replacement pipeline within an existing right-of-way. Replacement of the pipeline will entail excavation of a trench to a maximum depth of 6 feet below ground surface and 3 feet wide. The replacement pipeline will be installed parallel to the existing domestic water line; whereas, the existing pipeline will be abandoned in place. The replacement pipeline will be installed in a previously disturbed area within the developed residential community. The duration of construction is estimated at 150 calendar days with an anticipated start date of summer/fall 2018.

The Project is not located within or immediately adjacent to a conservation area associated with the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. In addition, a cultural resources report prepared for the Project concluded that no cultural resources are present within the area of the proposed pipeline replacement. Moreover, the terrain throughout the entire Project area has been disturbed extensively by residential development, utility installations and road maintenance. Consequently, there is little to no potential for the Project area to contain intact buried cultural deposits. In regards to paleontological resources, the survey recommends retaining a qualified paleontologist to provide worker environmental awareness training in the event that such resources are found during ground disturbing activities.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: CVWD, Mario Zamora, Project Engineer

Exempt Status: State CEQA Guidelines §15301 (Existing Facilities) allows for the repair and maintenance of existing public structures and facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use. In addition, State CEQA Guidelines §15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction) allows for the replacement of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

Contact Person: Elizabeth Meyerhoff, Environmental Specialist; Phone (760) 398-2661, extension 2775

Date: July 17, 2018



Sylvia Bermudez
Clerk of the Board

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

LS/brd/eac/18/Talvera Pipeline/NOE

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