

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT CERTIFYING THE SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR THE NORTH COUNTY GROUNDWATER SUPPLY STUDY – MONITORING WELL INSTALLATION; AND

APPROVING THE NORTH COUNTY GROUNDWATER SUPPLY STUDY- MONITORING WELL INSTALLATION;

Whereas, the SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT (“District”) is vested with the power to do any and every lawful act necessary so that sufficient water may be available for any present or future beneficial use or uses on the lands or the inhabitants within the District including the storage and distribution of water for domestic, fire protection and municipal uses; and

Whereas, the District is further vested with the power to acquire by grant or otherwise, and to hold, use and enjoy real and personal property of every kind including land, structures, and buildings, and to alter and operate any and all works or improvements necessary to carry out the purposes of the District; and

Whereas, the District entered into an MOU with the City of Hollister and Sunnyslope County Water District in September 2019 as part of the Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan to evaluate adding 1,000 acre-feet per year of additional Municipal & Industrial (M&I) water supply, and determined that installing a monitoring well in desired area would provide additional information concerning a new production well; and

Whereas, a Notice of Exemption (NOE) is proposed to be filed with the San Benito County Recorder’s office stating that this study is exempt from CEQA review; and

Whereas, CEQA guidelines indicate that this study is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Class 6 action (information collection); and

Whereas, the proposed study is to take place in an area surrounded by commercial agriculture that has not been otherwise designated as a uniquely sensitive environment; and

Whereas, the SBCWD, as lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has drafted the *Notice of Exemption for the North County Groundwater Supply Study – Monitoring Well Installation*.

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Directors of the SBCWD hereby:

- a) Find that this study is for information gathering purposes only;
- b) Find that this study does not take place in a uniquely sensitive environment;
- c) Find that, pursuant to the above, the study is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Class 6 action (information collection)
- d) Approve the study;
- e) Certify the San Benito County Water District Notice of Exemption for SBCWD’s North County Groundwater Supply Study – Monitoring Well Installation
- f) Approve the Notice of Exemption for SBCWD’s North County Groundwater Supply Study - Monitoring Well Installation & Direct District Manager/Engineer to Sign Notice of Exemption
- g) Direct District Staff to File Notice of Exemption with San Benito County Recorder’s Office

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District held on the 30th day of September 2020 by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTORS: Tobias, Bettencourt, Flores, Tonascia and Williams

NOES: DIRECTORS: None

ABSTAIN: DIRECTORS: None

ABSENT: DIRECTORS: None

/s/John Tobias
John Tobias
President

ATTEST: /s/Sara Singleton
Sara Singleton
Assistant Manager