

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Santa Barbara County Water Resources Division Public Works Department

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

Location: Entire County

Project Title: Implementing the Joint Effort

Project Description: This project involves the use of grant funding from the Proposition 84 Stormwater Grant Program to hire consultants to assist the County and cities within the County in implementing the Joint Effort, a watershed-based, regional storm water control strategy required by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board to protect surface waters from impacts due to urbanization and development. The Joint Effort resulted in the development and approval of new requirements, "Post-Construction Stormwater Management Requirements for Development Projects in the Central Coast Region" which establish criteria and thresholds for storm water control measures on new and redevelopment projects. The project includes an analysis of current codes, standards, conditions of approval and guidelines along with education, training, and the preparation of materials and tools to assist municipalities and the development community to implement the Joint Effort requirements. The project is managed by the County of Santa Barbara, Public Works Department.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Public Works Water Resources Division

Exempt Status: (Check one)

Project Description:

Ministerial

Statutory

Categorical Exemption(s)

Emergency Project

No Possibility of Significant Effect [§15061(b,3)]

Cite Specific CEQA Guideline Section: 15306. Information collection which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource and 15322. Educational or training programs involving no physical changes.

Reasons to support exemption findings: Consistent with these exemptions, the proposed project involves the collection of information and training and education in order to implement new requirements being mandated by the Regional Water Quality Control Board to reduce impacts from urban storm water runoff. The information collection portion of the project will evaluate and propose necessary changes to the development review process in order to implement

the new storm water requirements. This information will then be shared with staff and the development community through the training and education portion of the project.

Unusual circumstances that require exceptions to categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 include location, cumulative impact, significant effect, scenic highways, hazardous waste sites and historical resources. There are no unusual circumstances that would trigger any of these exceptions. Therefore, this project can be found to be categorically exempt from CEQA.

Jay Napschorned
Department/Division Representative

9-12-12
Date

Acceptance Date: _____

Note: A copy of this form must be posted at P&D 6 days prior to a decision on the project. Upon project approval, this form must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board and posted by the Clerk of the Board for a period of 30 days to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

Date Filed by County Clerk:

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SEP 20 2012
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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT