

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Directors

FROM: Public Works Department, Laguna County Sanitation District

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.

APN(s): None Case No.: Not Applicable

Location: Laguna County Sanitation District service territory in the Orcutt and unincorporated areas of the Santa Maria Valley in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Supervisorial Districts

Project Title: Laguna County Sanitation District Ordinance Amendments

**Project Description:** The action amends Article III of Chapter 29 of the County Code (Ordinance 4074) by adopting a new water softener control ordinance, as allowed by current state law, to control the use of water softeners when the regulatory body makes a finding that the salt from regenerating water softeners is detrimental to groundwater quality by impairing the beneficial uses of groundwater. The ordinance would prohibit the installation of regenerating water softeners in new development after January 1, 2012. A temporary softener exchange (regenerating exchanged for canister) would be implemented for existing water softeners.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Board of Directors, Laguna County Sanitation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Laguna County Sanitation District

**Exempt Status:** (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- No Possibility of Significant Effect

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA does not apply pursuant to CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR Section 15061(b) (3)).

Reasons to support exemption findings (attach additional material, if necessary): The actions follow the general rule that CEQA does not apply to actions that do not have the potential to cause a significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Martin Wilder, Utilities Manager Phone #: (805) 739-8755

Department/Division Representative: Martin Wilder, Utilities Manager Date: April 6, 2011

Acceptance Date: August 9, 2011

Note: A copy of this form must be posted at P&D 6 days prior to a decision on the project. Upon approval, this form must be filed with the 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 POSTED AT PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

DATE FILED BY CLERK OF THE BOARD

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