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From:

Oakdale Irrigation District
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Lead Agency Contact Person:
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Oakdale Irrigation District
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To:

County Clerk
County of Stanislaus
1021 "I" Street, Suite 101
Modesto, CA 95354-0847

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Title: 2020 Agreement Establishing Terms and Conditions of Irrigation of Lands
Outside Oakdale Irrigation District Boundaries

Project Location: Northeastern Stanislaus County: Outside the Oakdale Irrigation Service Area but
with Access to Oakdale Irrigation District Conveyance Facilities

Project Description:

The service area boundaries of the Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) were originally determined by the elevation of the OID canals since irrigation methods at the time relied on gravity flow of water. As pumps and pressurized systems became more available, the ability of landowners to plant crops outside the OID boundaries also increased. These out of District (OOD) lands rely on groundwater for irrigation. Some OOD landowners with access to OID conveyance facilities have requested and taken surface water deliveries from OID in the past. OID will receive an allocation for the 2020 water year under OID's water rights that exceeds the anticipated irrigation demand of the in-District lands. This surplus water supply is due to continued OID modernization and investment in infrastructure replacement and from on-farm efficiency improvements provided by OID's landowners/constituents.

The exact location of the participating OOD lands is unknown at this time, since the application period will remain open through the irrigation season. It is anticipated that all participating lands will be located within or adjacent to the OID sphere of influence, within Stanislaus County. The Project duration is for the 2020 irrigation season, being March 1- September 30, 2020, and OOD lands would only be provided water under OID's pre-1914 water rights. Based on historical demand, OID anticipates providing up to 5,000 acre-feet of water to approximately 7,500 acres of existing irrigated and intensively farmed

Date removed from posting 6/6/2020

agricultural lands that are outside the OID service area but have access to OID conveyance facilities. No new permanent delivery points or irrigation facilities or expansion of irrigated lands will be constructed as part of the Project. All of these OOD lands have existing infrastructure or will utilize temporary delivery points. OID will deliver water to the OOD lands within the capacity limits of the existing conveyance system. Therefore, no construction is necessary as a result of the Project.

Project Purpose:

The purpose of the Project is to alleviate some of the existing stress on the groundwater aquifer by providing supplemental surface water for irrigation of crops. OID will also benefit by receiving additional revenue, as the OOD lands pay a higher volumetric water rate than in-District lands.

Project Proponents: Oakdale Irrigation District

Project Beneficiaries: OID and the OOD landowners

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Oakdale Irrigation District

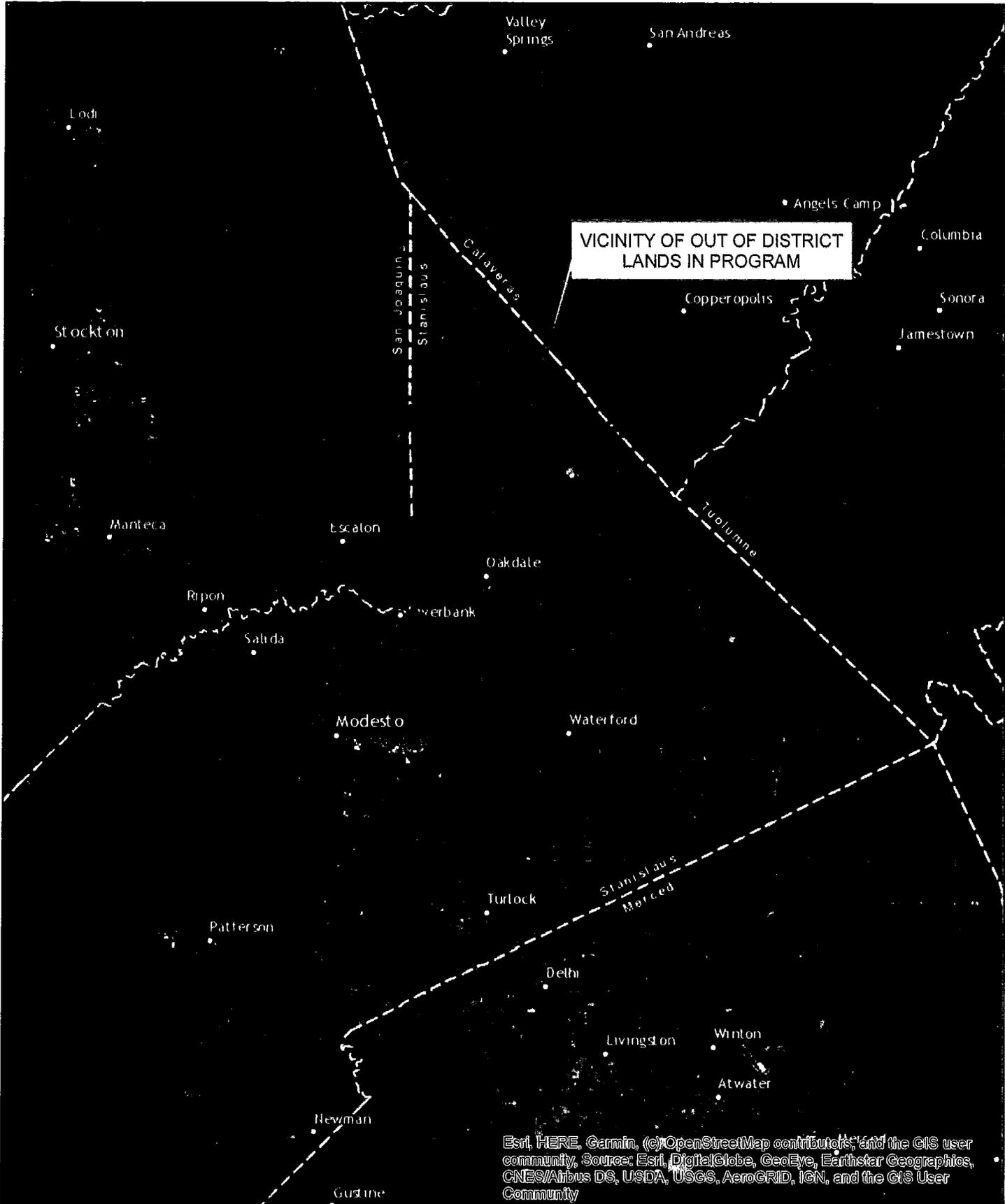
Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption (14 Cal. Code of Regulations, Sec. 15301 Class 1).

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The Project utilizes existing public facilities for the delivery of irrigation water to lands under existing agricultural production. There will be no change in operation or expansion of existing diversion and pumping facilities, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301.

Dated: 4/8/2020



Steve Knell, P.E., General Manager
OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT



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DRAWN BY: ECS
 CHECKED BY: SRK
 DATE: 3/19/20
 SHEET: 1 OF 1

**PROJECT SITE MAP
 IRRIGATION OF LANDS OUTSIDE
 OID BOUNDARIES**

