

**COUNTY RECORDER**  
**Filing Requested by:**

**Yolo County Community Services Dept.**

Name

**292 West Beamer Street**

Address

**Woodland, CA 95695**

City, State, Zip

Attention: Stephanie Cormier, Interim Director

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## Notice of Exemption

To: Yolo County Clerk  
625 Court Street  
Woodland, CA 95695

To: Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Yolo County Community Services Dept.

State Clearinghouse Number: N/A

Project Title: **Agricultural Water Well Urgency Ordinance: 45-Day Moratorium**

Applicant/Owner: Yolo County Community Services Department  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695  
Lead Agency Contact: April Meneghetti, Director of Environmental Health, (530) 666-8646

Project Location: Countywide

Project Description: On August 26, 2025, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors adopted an urgency ordinance entitled, "An Interim Urgency Ordinance of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors Establishing a Temporary 45-Day Moratorium on the Approval of New Agricultural Water Well Permits in the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Management Agency's Focus Areas, with Specified Exemptions, Pending the County's Study of and Consideration of Well Permit and Crop Conversion Regulations." The urgency ordinance temporarily halts the issuance of new agricultural water well permits in the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency's (YSGA) denoted Focus Areas, including parcels that may be partially included in the Focus Areas, which will maintain the status quo for a brief 45-day period to enable the County and the YSGA to study and develop policies and regulations and implement other recommended actions for well permits within the Focus Areas. The Urgency Ordinance does not prohibit agricultural uses, nor does it prohibit conversion of agricultural lands to perennial crops, but well permits will not be issued while the moratorium is in effect.

The urgency ordinance is effective immediately (August 26, 2025).

**Exempt Status:**

**Section 15060(c)(2), Preliminary Review; Section 15061(b)(3), Review for Exemption (Common Sense Exemption)**

**Categorical Exemption: Section 15306, Information Collection**

Reasons why project is exempt: Section 15060(c)(2) provides that an activity is not subject to CEQA if the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The urgency ordinance temporarily halts the issuance of agricultural well permits in the YSGA denoted Focus Areas. It is therefore not a project under CEQA as moratorium will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the environment.

Section 15061(b)(3) provides that a project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects, which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. There is no possibility that the urgency ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment, as the ordinance temporarily places a moratorium on the issuance of agricultural wells in specified Focus Areas.

Section 15306 (Class 6) consists of basic data collection research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities

which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted or funded. The urgency ordinance establishes a temporary moratorium on the approval of permits for certain water supply wells in Focus Areas to maintain the status quo pending review of potential changes to well permitting procedures and land use regulations related to certain crop conversions. The 45-day moratorium will not result in any significant adverse direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Stephanie Cormier, Interim Director  
**Email:** stephanie.cormier@yolocounty.gov

**Telephone Number:** (530) 666-8041



Signature (Public Agency): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 8/26/2025

Date received for filing at OPR: N/A