#334-A 6-LO-L3 (R-2023-798)

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 315012

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE JUN 26 2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO DETERMINING THAT ACCEPTING THE COSTS OF SERVICE STUDY, SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING, AND AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPROVING WATER RATE INCREASES CONSISTENT WITH A COST OF SERVICE STUDY AND PASS-THROUGH INCREASES IN THE WHOLESALE COST OF WATER CHARGED BY THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY IS STATUTORILY EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT PURSUANT TO CEQA GUIDELINES SECTIONS 15273.

WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Department which operates the Water Utility and the Water Utility Fund, an enterprise fund, is seeking to increase the water rates that it charges customers to increase revenues by 10.2 percent effective December 1, 2023, and 8.7 percent effective January 1, 2025, and to obtain authorization to further increase rates in an amount not to exceed 11 percent to pass through the increase in the wholesale cost of water charged by the San Diego County Water Authority, which requires City Council accepting the cost of service study that was conducted, setting a public hearing, and noticing the public hearing (Project); and

WHEREAS, the California State Legislature, through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code sections 21000-21189.70.10, has determined that CEOA does not apply to various types of projects listed therein; and

WHEREAS, California Public Resources Code section 21084 states that CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., title 14, §§ 15000 to 15387 (CEQA Guidelines)) shall list those classes of projects which have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and which shall be exempt from CEQA; and

WHEREAS, under that authority, CEQA Guidelines sections 15260-15285 list the statutory exemptions promulgated by the California State Legislature; and

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WHEREAS, the Planning Department has determined that the Project is statutorily exempt from CEOA pursuant to CEOA Guidelines section 15273; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of San Diego (Council) has considered the potential environmental effects of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Council held a duly noticed public meeting and considered the written record for the Project as well as any public comment; and

WHEREAS, the Council, using its independent judgment, has determined that the Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15273 because it involves the establishment, modification, and approval of rates, tolls, fares or other charges by the City which are necessary for meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits; purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment or materials; meeting reserve needs and requirements; and obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the City Attorney has drafted this resolution based on the information provided by City staff, with the understanding that this information is complete, true, and accurate; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego that the Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15273.

APPROVED: MARA W. ELLIOTT, City Attorney

Ву

Melissa D. Ables

Chief Deputy City Attorney

MDA:cw:jvg June 5, 2023

Or.Dept: Public Utilities Department

CC No.: N/A Doc. No. 3324101

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was preeting of JUN 2 0 2023	passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this
	DIANA J.S. FUENTES City Clerk
	By Deputy City Clerk
Approved: 6 (date)	TODD GEORIA, Mayor
Vetoed:	TODD GLORIA Mayor

Passed by the Council of The C	ity of San Di	ego on <u>.]U</u>	N 2 0 2023	_, by the follov	ving vote:
Councilmembers	Yeas	Nays	Not Present	Recused	
Joe LaCava	Z				
Jennifer Campbell	Z				
Stephen Whitburn					
Monica Montgomery Ste	eppe 🗌				
Marni von Wilpert	Z				
Kent Lee					
Raul A. Campillo					
Vivian Moreno					
Sean Elo-Rivera	Ø				
(Please note: When a resolut date the approved resolution AUTHENTICATED BY:		ned to the Offic	_	oria	
(Seal)		Interim City C	DIANA J.S. FU		alifornia. Deputy
		Office of the	City Clerk, San D	iego California	
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