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FEB 16 2017

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Exempt per Gov't Code 6103

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

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BY: RR DEPUTY

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RETURN TO: Jo Ann Corey
Irvine Ranch Water District
P.O. Box 57000
15600 Sand Canyon Ave
Irvine, CA 92619-7000

Recorded in Official Records, Orange County
Hugh Nguyen, Clerk-Recorder



NO FE

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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

(State Guidelines §15062)

TO: County Clerk-Recorder
County of Orange
12 Civic Center Plaza, Room 101
Santa Ana, CA 92701

FROM: Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD)
(Applicant/Lead Agency)
P.O. Box 57000
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92619-7000
949-453-5300

Project Name: APN 878-151-003; APN 878-210-001; APN 878-270-001, 002, and APN 878-260-001, 002 Land Acquisition

Project Location: Parcels near Blythe, CA in unincorporated Riverside County, CA (see Figure 1). Orange County will obtain water supply benefits in the service area of IRWD.

County: Orange and Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) has entered into a purchase agreement for approximately 554 acres of land (Property) near the City of Blythe, in unincorporated Riverside County California. The Property is referenced as APN 878-151-003; APN 878-210-001; APN 878-270-001, 002 and APN 878-260-001, 002. IRWD is not presently contemplating changes in the existing use of the land. The existing use of a portion of the land includes, without limitation, fallowing in exchange for water supply consideration pursuant to an applicable ongoing program. IRWD will obtain water supply benefits in the service area of IRWD. Environmental impacts associated with the Property acquisition are not expected.

Reasons why project is exempt:

Since IRWD is not presently contemplating changes in the existing uses of the Property, environmental impacts associated with the Property acquisition are not expected. Pursuant to Section 15004(b) (2)(A) of the CEQA Guidelines, IRWD specifically conditions any proposed future change in use of the Property on subsequent CEQA compliance actions.

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (State Guidelines §15268)
- Declared Emergency (State Guidelines §15269(a))
- Guideline for Implementation (State Guidelines §15004 (b)(2)(A))
- Feasibility or Planning Study (State Guidelines §15262)
- Categorical Exemption (State Guidelines §§15303)

California Public Resources Code Section 15004 (b) (2) (A) Time of Preparation:

“Agencies shall not: Formally make a decision to proceed with the use of a site for facilities which would require CEQA review, regardless of whether the agency has made any final purchase of the site for these facilities, except that agencies may designate a preferred site for CEQA review and may enter into land acquisition agreements when the agency has conditioned the agency’s future use of the site on CEQA compliance.”

Name of Public Agency Approving
and Carrying out this Project:

Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD)

Contact Person: Paul Weghorst, Executive Director of Water Policy

Area Code 949

Phone 453-5632

Submission of this form is optional. Local agencies may file this form with the county clerk pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). The filing of the notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on court challenges to the approval of the project under Public Resources Code Section 21167(d). Failure to file the notice results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

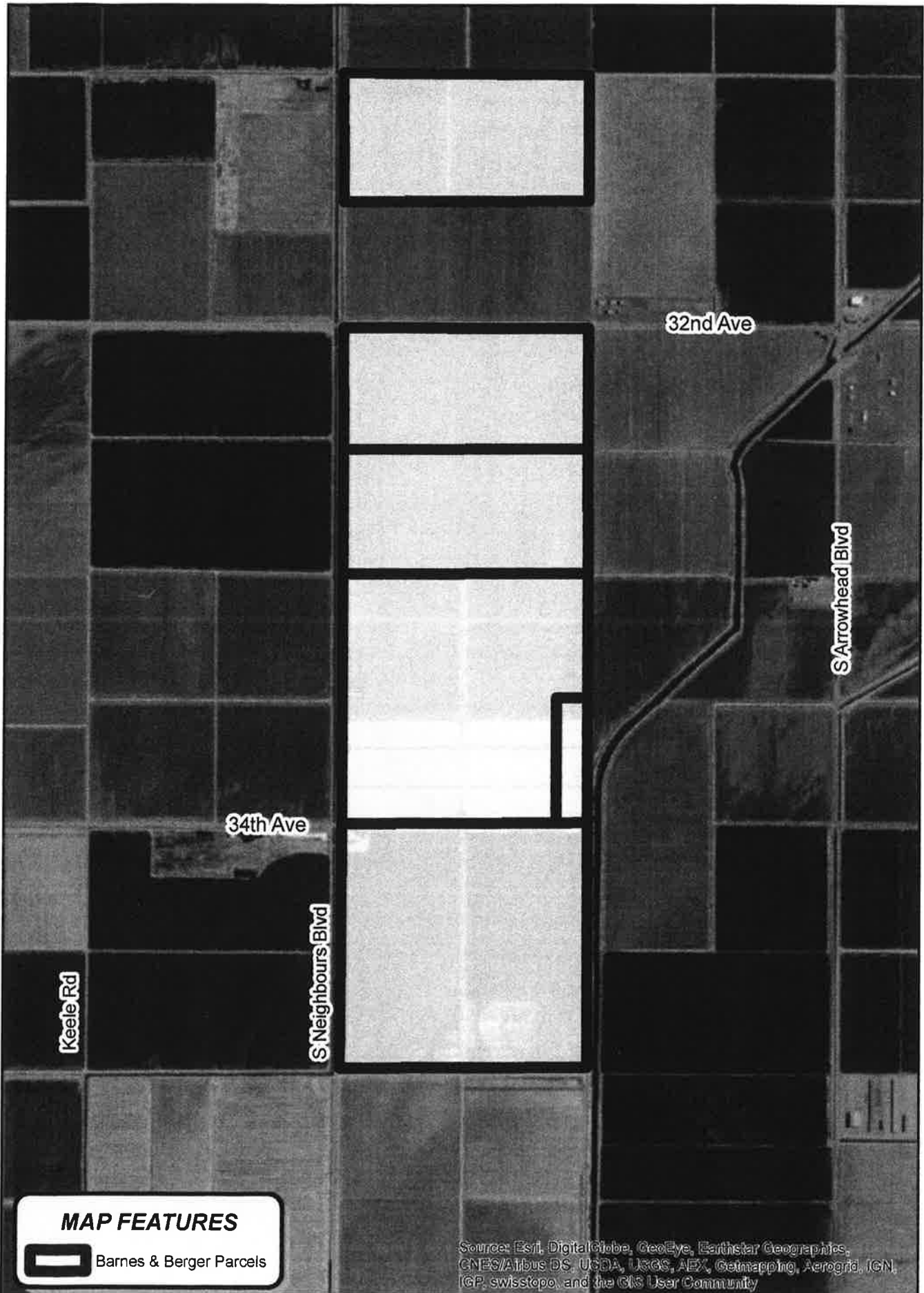
Jo Ann Corey, Engineering Technician III
Staff Member Responsible for Preparation

Leslie Bonkowski
District Secretary

Date

2/16/17

Figure 1



MAP FEATURES



Barnes & Berger Parcels

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Geomatics, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community