

**SOUTH COAST WATER DISTRICT  
Notice of Exemption**

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

From: SOUTH COAST WATER DISTRICT  
31592 West Street  
Laguna Beach CA 92651

 County Clerk Recorder  
County of Orange  
PO Box 238  
Santa Ana CA 92702

**Project Title: Reservoir 4B- Recoating & Maintenance**

**Project Location – Specific:** 32401 Sea Island Dr, Dana Point , CA 92629

**Project Location – City:** Dana Point

**Project Location – County:** Orange

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

South Coast Water District (District) owns and operates Reservoir 4B located at 32401 Sea Island Dr, Dana Point. Reservoir 4B is an aboveground steel welded tank with a nominal capacity of 1.0 million gallons, height of 24 ft and diameter of 90 ft. The project includes removal of the existing exterior coating and recoat with new coating. The recoating and maintenance work is scheduled for November 2019 through February 2020.

A paved driveway provides site access from Sea Island Drive into the paved area where Reservoir 4B is located. Project construction work will be within the fenced Reservoir 4B site and will not impact vehicle parking on Sea Island Drive. Project work hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday, excepting legal holidays. Reservoir 4B will remain operational during the recoating project.

Reservoir recoating will require the relocation of a communications antenna from the reservoir to a 25-foot pole (on-site and same height as existing antenna). The maintenance staging area and parking for construction vehicles will be on-site and within the reservoir facility security fence.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** South Coast Water District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** South Coast Water District

**Exempt Status** (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 15073)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 15071(a))
- Emergency Project (Sec. 15073(b) and (c))
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: *Section 15301 (Class 1) categorically exempt replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity. Section 15311 (Class 11) categorically exempt construction or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing facilities.*

**Reason why project is exempt:** See Attachment A

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Marc Serna, Chief Engineer

**Area Code / Telephone / Extension:** (949) 499-4555

  
Signature

9/18/19  
Date

Governor's Office of Planning & Research  
Title: Chief Engineer

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: **SEP 24 2019**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

## **Attachment A Supplemental Information**

### **Biological Resources and Habitat**

Reservoir 4B is a steel tank structure that is located within a fenced, landscaped and paved site (Figure 1). Construction equipment and material storage will be located on pavement adjacent to Reservoir 4B. The project site is without native or natural vegetation and does not provide habitat for any sensitive species. No trees or vegetation would be removed for the project. Examination of the work area indicates there are no biological resources or habitat associated with the project that would require further environmental review.

### **Protection Measures**

The project site is on level ground in a paved and fenced site with established drainage protection features. The project includes preparation of a storm water control plan with specifications and measures to avoid potential contamination of storm water runoff from the construction equipment laydown, storage, and work area. These measures include implementation of Best Management Practices to prevent polluted discharges from entering streets, gutters, or storm drains.

### **Land Use and Site Access**

A paved driveway provides site access from Sea Island Drive into the paved area where Reservoir 4B is located. Project construction work will be conducted within the fenced Reservoir 4B site and will not impact vehicle parking on Sea Island Drive. Construction work will be temporary and there are no project activities that are incompatible with surrounding land uses.

**Finding - CEQA (Exempt):** The project is exempt from environmental review with the following findings:

- (a) CEQA Guidelines list classes of projects that have been determined to not have a significant effect on the environment and are therefore exempt from the provisions of CEQA.
  - Section 15301 (Class 1) categorically exempt operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The recoated reservoir and relocated communications antenna will not change the capacity or operation of Reservoir 4B in any way.
  - Section 15311 (Class 11) categorically exempt construction or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing facilities. The relocated communications antenna will be at the same height as the existing antenna and within the fenced area of the reservoir facility.
- (b) The Reservoir 4B site is fenced and landscaped without natural or native vegetation that does not provide habitat for any sensitive species. The proposed project does not include any disturbance of the site landscaping or vegetation. No sensitive habitat or special status species would be adversely affected by the project.
- (c) Review by District staff indicates there are no unusual circumstances associated with the project or the property that would require further environmental review.

Site Photo



Figure 1. View of Reservoir 4B and project work area.