

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street, MS H201
Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

County of Sacramento Clerk/ Recorder
P.O. Box 839
Sacramento, CA 95812 -0839

Lead Agency: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Project Title: Lake Forest - Bennington #1 Transformer and Switchgear Replacement

Project Proponent: Sacramento Municipal Utility District, 6201 S Street, MS H201,
Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

Project Location: SMUD's White Rock – Folsom substation is located in the northwestern portion of SMUD's service territory, which includes the majority of Sacramento County.

Project Description: The Project consists of replacing a distribution substation transformer that is nearing its end of life, which is located within an existing distribution substation. The Project will significantly minimize the probability of a transformer failure which may result in decreased reliability, unfavorable operational impacts and fire risk. To mitigate long term risk and to optimize capital investment, the transformer replacement project will also take industry standard criteria for fire protection into consideration. The existing substation transformer and associated switchgear will be replaced and relocated within the existing substation to meet the required approach distance for substation workers and the separation distance for fire protection. In addition, the Project will include limited 12 and 69 kilovolt line work to support to the transformer and switchgear replacement including removal of 225 circuit feet of line and replacement with 325 circuit feet of new line. Construction is anticipated to start as early as September 2020 or soon thereafter and last for approximately 6 to 9 months.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Exempt Status (Check One)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Ministerial (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Declared Emergency (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a)) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Emergency Project (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b)(c)) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Categorical Exemption (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(9), 21084; CEQA Guidelines §15301: Existing Facilities, 15302: Replacement or Reconstruction) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Common Sense Exemption (CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3)) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Statutory Exemptions | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

Under CEQA Guidelines § 15062, a lead agency must identify the rationale for making the determination that a project is exempt under CEQA. SMUD has determined that the Lake Forest - Bennington #1 Transformer Replacement Project is exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 states that “Class 1 consists of the 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 existing or former use.” This project will involve repair and minor alternation of an existing distribution substation with no expansion of use. Section 15302 states that “Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced...” This project involves replacement of an existing distribution substation transformer, which will serve the same purpose as the existing transformer, within the same distribution substation, and therefore is considered exempt in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15301 and §15302.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

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Signature

May 22, 2020

Date

Kim Crawford

Printed Name

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Lead Agency

Governor’s Office of Planning & Research

Signed by Lead Agency

MAY 26 2020

Signed by Lead Applicant

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____