



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
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Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 94514

From: ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY
100 North Canyons Parkway
Livermore, CA 94551
925-454-5000
Attn. Elke Rank

To: County Clerk
County of Alameda
1106 Madison Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Date: September 13, 2021

Project Title: Valley Pump Station Project

Project Number (Zone 7): n/a

Project Location – Specific: 3100 Valley Avenue

Project Location – City: Pleasanton, CA

Project Location – County: Alameda

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Zone 7 Water Agency (Zone 7) delivers safe, reliable, efficient, and sustainable treated drinking water to retailers serving over a quarter million people in the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, and the Dougherty Valley area. Zone 7 source water consists of surface water and groundwater. One reservoir and ten groundwater wells are located on the west side of the system, and two surface water treatment plants, Del Valle Water Treatment Plant (DVWTP) and Patterson Pass Water Treatment Plant (PPWTP), are located on the east.

During drought periods, the system depends almost solely on groundwater to meet daily demands that range between 32 million gallon per day (MGD) to 42 MGD. The additional pressures required to convey water to near DVWTP and PPWTP on the east side exceed the rated system pressures of certain well stations, which would result in system leaks and ruptures. In 2014, Zone 7 and Advanced Hydro Engineering completed the study, Modeling Results for Proposed Intermediate Pump Station (2014 Study), which demonstrated that adding an intermediate pump station would alleviate the issue of excessive facility pressure. Figure 1 illustrates the configuration of the overall system with the added Valley Pump Station.

The new pump station will decrease the transmission system pressure in the wellfield zone (west side) of our service area. This decreased pressure will allow higher water production from our existing wells while also reducing stress on equipment and components. The Valley Pump Station is planned to be operated continuously for system recirculation to improve water quality.

The planned pump station configuration is as follows:

- maximum efficiency and redundancy for flowrate range between 7.2 to 14.4 MGD;
- a maximum design capacity of 18 MGD; and
- the ability to expand to 21 MGD in the future.

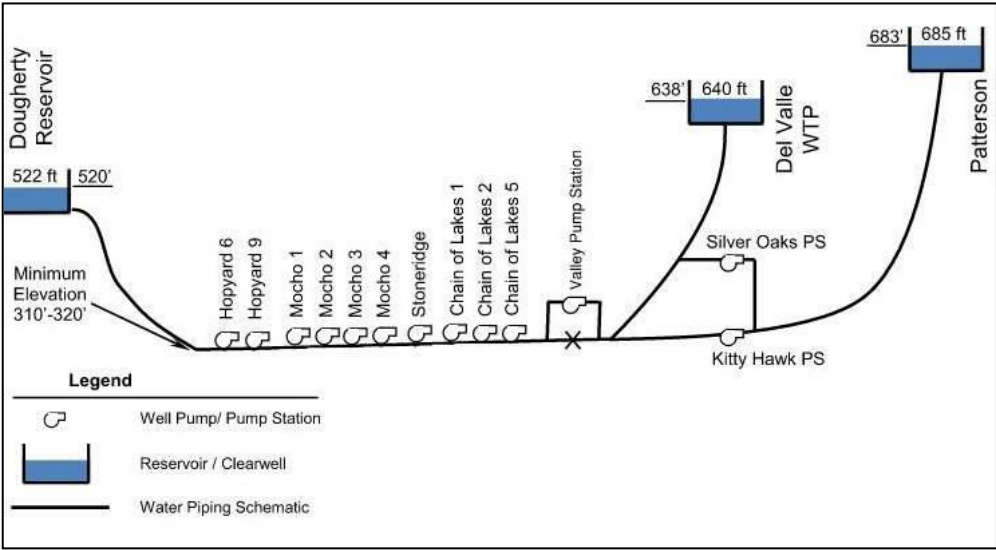


Figure 1. Major Zone 7 Potable Water Facilities with the Addition of the Valley Pump Station

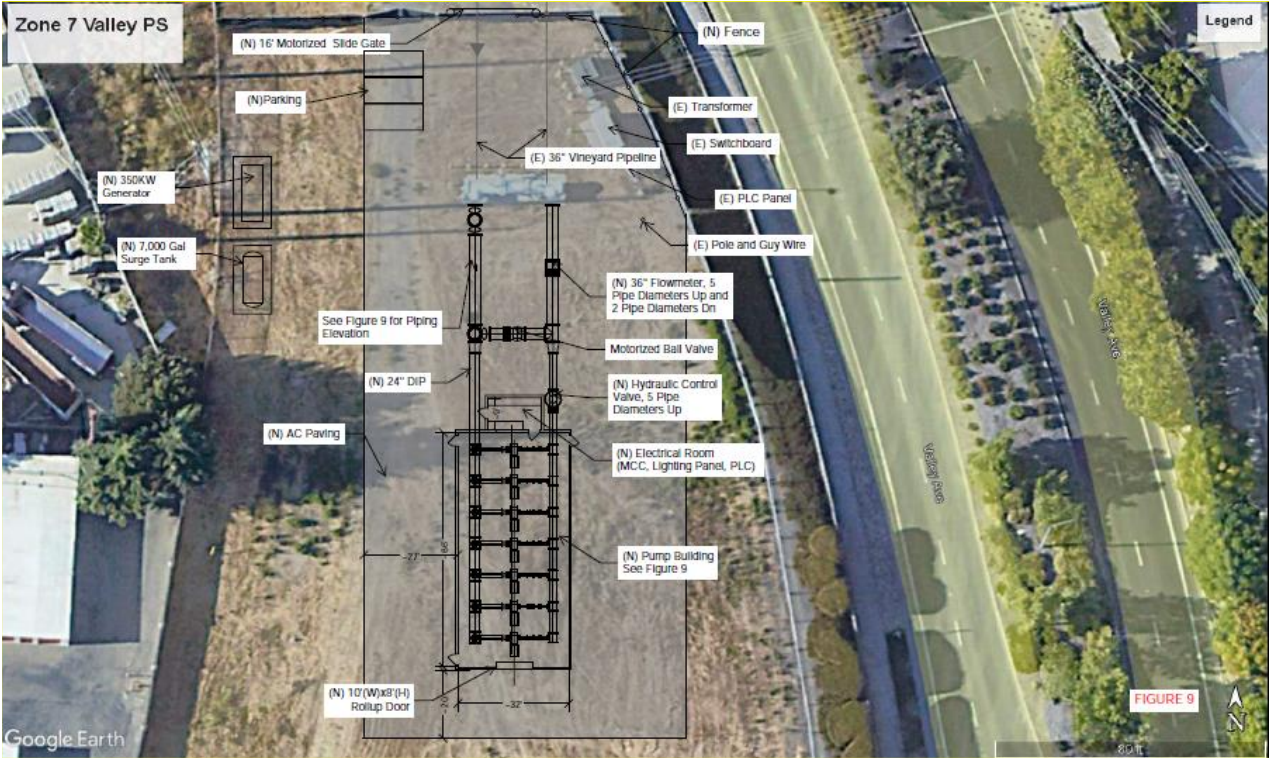


Figure 2. Planned Pump Station Project Layout



Figure 3. Current Site Condition

The planned project includes the following elements:

- General Site Features
 - Paving the site to accommodate facility operation, maintenance, and fuel delivery
 - Install new fencing and gates
- Pump and Piping Layout; Surge Control; Other Components
 - Install new piping, pumps, valves and other components
 - Install new surge tank approx. 8' tall
 - Install electrical gear and instrumentation
- New Pump Station Building
 - Build new concrete masonry building approx. 66' x 34'
 - Install an emergency power generator (outdoors)
 - Build electrical room with access to the pump room

Typical construction equipment is expected to be used including, but not limited to:

- Scaffold, lighting, ladders and other safety equipment
- Forklift, backhoe, skid steer, loader, excavator, small crane
- Various hand and power tools
- Dump trucks, paving equipment

Standard BMP's expected to be employed include, but are not limited to:

- Biodegradable wattles, rock bags, silt fencing
- Comply with local construction requirements (work hours, traffic, noise, dust, etc)

These activities are entirely within the existing footprint of Zone 7's property. Typical daily construction traffic to and from the property is expected to include approximately five to fifteen workers and inspectors in personal or company vehicles, and 30 to 40 (one-time) deliveries of equipment or

construction materials. Minimal additional traffic is expected due to the project. All construction and personal vehicles will park within Zone 7's property.

Construction is expected to occur over approximately nine months in 2021 and 2022. Work hours will be in accordance with City requirements.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Zone 7 Water Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Zone 7 Water Agency

Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Sections 15301 & 15303
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines as follows:

- 15301 Class 1 – Existing Facilities: “...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...”
- 15303 Class 3 - New Construction Or Conversion Of Small Structures: “...construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures...”

None of the conditions noted under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines 15300.2 (as revised) will occur. Furthermore, this project will not result in potential for significant environmental impacts because:

- There will be minimal native ground disturbance; the site has previously been graded, developed, and partially paved.
- The project will be completed in approximately nine months and during normal working hours and will have minimal construction-related nuisances to local residents, businesses, or recreational areas, such as disruptions to traffic and increased noise or dust, etc. All work will take place on Zone 7 owned property which is considered previously disturbed, so impacts will be minimal.
- Standard best management practices will be employed during construction to reduce the potential for common construction nuisances including dust, noise, and traffic.
- No impacts to sensitive habitat or wildlife are expected.
- Pre-construction biological surveys will be performed as needed.
- There will not be any cumulative impacts because there are no planned successive projects of the same type and in the general same place, over time.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project could result in a significant impact.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brandon Woods **Area Code/Telephone/Ext:** 925-454-5030

	<i>Project Engineer/Manager:</i>	<i>Environmental Review:</i>
Signature:		
Title	Associate Civil Engineer Zone 7 Water Agency	Associate Water Resources Planner Zone 7 Water Agency

Date received for filing at County Clerk: _____

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

SUMMARY REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS	
Aesthetics	Negligible change in appearance; site is fenced.
Agriculture and Forestry Resources	No change to agricultural and forestry resources.
Air Quality	Small project has negligible impact; standard BMPs (dust control, etc.) for construction will be implemented and all applicable local air quality rules will be followed.
Biological Resources	No special habitat or biological resources are located at the project site. Site is devoid of trees and shrubs; limited to annual grasses in some unpaved areas. As an added precaution, a pre-construction bird nest survey will be performed.
Cultural Resources	Work at this site will not impact cultural resources; site was previously disturbed.
Geology /Soils	No special resources at the project site, nor any exposure of people to geologic hazards.
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Small project has negligible impact; standard BMPs (dust control, etc.) for construction will be implemented.
Hazards & Hazardous Materials	As with Zone 7's other water treatment facilities, some hazardous materials are required to be onsite. The agency complies with all applicable state and local regulations.
Hydrology / Water Quality	The small project site will not result in impacts to local waterways or flooding.
Land Use / Planning	No change in land use.
Mineral Resources	No change in mineral resources.
Noise	Noise levels will be similar to current conditions although possibly slightly elevated during construction. The property is near a very busy intersection and surrounded by other industrial and large commercial uses (public storage, ready mix concrete, etc.).
Population / Housing	No change in population/housing.
Public Services	No change in public services.
Recreation	No change in recreation.
Transportation/Traffic	There will be a negligible increase of vehicles to and from this site during the construction period. Trucks are common on the adjacent roadways. Deliveries and workers will enter and park within the property fenceline.
Tribal Cultural Resources	No change in public services. Work at this site will not impact tribal resources.
Utilities / Service Systems	The project will benefit local water supply operations; this work does not trigger the need for new facilities.