

# Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Lake

255 N. Forbes Street

Lakeport, CA 95453

From: (Public Agency): Konocti County Water District  
15844 35th Avenue  
Clearlake, CA 95422

(Address)

Project Title: Emergency Lake Booster Pump Station

Project Applicant: Konocti County Water District

Project Location - Specific:

**Red Bud Park/City of Clearlake/Water Treatment Plant**

Project Location - City: City of Clearlake

Project Location - County: Lake

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Install portable, temporary, electric-powered pump station to boost water from Clear Lake to District's existing pump station, intertie piping with Lower Lake Water District, and replace media in filters at water treatment plant. Ongoing drought has lowered Clear Lake to a point where the water needs to be pumped to the existing pump station, otherwise the District will not be able to supply water to nearly 1,800 connections. Intertie with Lower Lake could provide alternative water source if it's available. Replacing filter media will improve performance of filters to treat especially poor raw water quality.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Konocti County Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Frank Costner

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

§15269 (b) Emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare. Emergency repairs include those that require a reasonable amount of planning to address an anticipated emergency. The ongoing drought continues to lower the level of Clear Lake, thus there is an impending loss of ability to provide water to the public.

Lead Agency

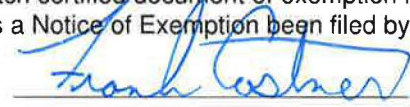
Contact Person: Frank Costner

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 707-994-2561

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature:  Date: 10-1-21 Title: General Manager

▪ Signed by Lead Agency      Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

# ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM

Grantees are responsible for complying with all applicable laws and regulations for their projects, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Work that is subject to the CEQA shall not proceed under this Grant Agreement until document(s) that satisfy the CEQA process are received by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and DWR has completed its CEQA compliance. Work that is subject to a CEQA document shall not proceed until and unless approved by the DWR. Such approval is fully discretionary and shall constitute a condition precedent to any work for which it is required. Once CEQA documentation has been completed, DWR will consider the environmental documents and decide whether to continue to fund the project or to require changes, alterations or other mitigation. **This form is to be completed by the Lead Agency.**

**DWR Agreement #:** To be provided by DWR  
**Lead Agency:** Konocti County Water District  
**Project Title:** Emergency Lake Booster Pump  
**Project Manager:** Frank Costner  
**Phone Number:** 707-994-2561  
**Address:** 15844 35th Ave Clearlake CA 95422

1. List the source of any other grants or funds received from the DWR to implement a portion of this project.

None

2. Is this a project as defined by CEQA?  Yes  No

- If yes, proceed to #3.
- If no, please explain below then skip to #8.

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3. Is this project exempt from CEQA compliance?  Yes  No

- If no, skip to #4.
- If yes, check the appropriate response below, and then provide reasons for exemption in the space provided below. Once answered, skip to #7.

Cite the CEQA Article, Section and Title of the CEQA exemption, if appropriate

Statutory Exemptions: <http://resources.ca.gov/ceqa/guidelines/art18.html>  
Categorical Exemptions: <http://resources.ca.gov/ceqa/guidelines/art19.html>

- Lead Agency has already filed a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk. (Attach copy of NOE and, if applicable, a copy of Board Resolution)
- Lead Agency will file a NOE with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk. Provide estimated date: October 1, 2021
- Lead Agency will NOT file a NOE with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk. *If Lead Agency chooses not to file a NOE, sufficient documentation and information must be submitted to the DWR Project Manager along with this form, to allow DWR to make its own CEQA findings.*

Reason for Exemption: §15269 (b) Emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare. Emergency repairs include those that require a reasonable amount of planning to address an anticipated emergency. The ongoing drought continues to lower the level of Clear Lake, thus there is an impending loss of ability to provide water essential to the public health, safety and welfare.

4. Please check types of CEQA documents to be prepared:

- Negative Declaration
- Mitigated Negative Declaration
- Environmental Impact Report

5. Please describe the status of the CEQA documents, expected date of completion, and estimated cost, if requesting DWR funds relating to CEQA compliance:

Status: **NOE filed with SCH**  
 Date of Completion: **October 1, 2021**  
 Estimated Costs: **\$5,000**

6. If the CEQA document has been completed, if available please provide the title of the document and the State Clearinghouse number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Submit an electronic version, or a CD copy, of the CEQA document and any required permits listed in Question 7 to the contact listed in the Commitment Letter.

7. Please list all required permits that must be obtained to complete the project (attach additional pages as necessary). Submit electronic versions or a CD copy of any final permits already completed to the contact listed in the Commitment Letter.

Type of Permit Required	Permitting Agency

8. This Environmental Information Form (EIF) was completed by:

Print Name: **Frank Costner**  
 Agency: **Konocti County Water District**  
 Phone Number: **707-994-2561**

Signature:  Date: 10-1-21

Please return this completed form to your DWR Project Manager.

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To be filled out by DWR Project Manager:

- DWR received environmental documents.
- DWR made Findings.

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## TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Mally Vue, Project Manager  
Emergency Drinking Water/CAA Unit

**FROM:** Tom Warnock

**CC:** Frank Costner, KCWD

**DATE:** June 28, 2021

**JOB NO.:** 2450.04

**SUBJECT:** Konocti County Water District Urgent Funding Request

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Konocti County Water District (KCWD or District) takes water from Clear Lake via the Lake Pump Station located in Red Bud Park. The net positive suction head required by either of the two centrifugal pumps is such that the pumps start cavitating when Clear Lake id down at -1.28 Ft Rumsey. Because of the ongoing drought, Clear Lake is predicted to reach that level sometime between August to October. To counter the impending lack of water and poor raw water quality, the District needs to implement two emergency pump stations including an Inline Booster Pump Station at Red Bud Park and the Lower Lake Intertie Pump Station, plus replace filter media three existing pressure filters that has met its useful service life.

### **Inline Booster Pump Station**

The inline booster pump will consist of a skid-mounted trash pump capable of 700 GPM and 30 Ft of total dynamic head as shown in Attachment A. The inline booster pump will work in series with the existing pump station by providing the additional suction lift from the low lake level and thereby eliminate cavitation, which will damage the existing pumps. Mechanical improvements will include cutting in 6-inch tees, isolation valves, check valve and the pump. Electrical improvements will include bringing shore power from the existing pump station to the skid-mounted pump, which will be located approximately 200 Ft inboard on the lake shoreline. Site security will include fencing and signage to keep people away from the temporary facilities. An existing pump and the inline booster pump will be enabled and disabled depending on the need for water by the existing SCADA system. Refer to Attachment B for a preliminary cost proposal by T&S Construction to install the improvements. Direct cost to install the Inline Booster Pump Station is \$69,128.87. Indirect costs itemized on Attachment C will be proportionate to construction costs. The project will enable operation of existing facilities that are critical to health and safety with no expansion and KCWD will declare it an emergency; therefore, it will be considered exempt under CEQA.

### **Lower Lake Intertie Pump Station**

The proposed intertie between Lower Lake County Waterworks District No. 1 (LLCW) and KCWD will enable potable water to be pumped from LLCW to KCWD, which is at a slightly higher hydraulic grade line. The two districts have an existing agreement to transfer water at a maximum rate of 150 GPM. A skid-mounted pump station will be installed on Lake Street at the intersection of Dam Road and Lake Street. Approximately 510 Ft of 6-inch ductile iron pipe will be installed along Lake Street between Tish-a-Tang Road and Dam Road to interconnect the two agencies. It preferred to install temporary PG&E power at the pump station as opposed to a diesel-fired generator because of the chance to spark a fire. The pump station will be enabled/disabled by an operator with no automatic controls, except for low suction pressure shutdown. Refer to Attachment B for a preliminary cost proposal by T&S Construction to install the improvements. Direct cost to install the Inline Booster Pump Station is estimated at \$120,135.66. Indirect costs itemized on Attachment C will be proportionate to construction costs. The project will enable operation of existing facilities that are critical to health and safety with no expansion and KCWD will declare it an emergency; therefore, it will be considered exempt under CEQA.

### **Filter Media Replacement**

Filter media within three existing 6 Ft x 16 Ft pressure filters was last replaced in 2017. Poor raw water quality forces the District to backwash from at least one a day, up to two to three times per day, which is significantly more frequent than the typical one a week backwash frequency that occurs with filters that treat relatively clean surface water. Frequent backwashing leads to accelerated degradation of the media and reduction in the 10–20-year replacement cycle of the media. The District observes media degradation by checking the media levels and having to top off the anthracite coal. The District has achieved a maximum filter media replacement cycle of six years. In May of 2021, the District violated the 0.3 NTU effluent limit for several hours. SWRCB DDW staff was on site assisting in optimization of the coagulant dose and was able to return to meeting effluent limits. The District obtained a media replacement cost estimate of \$117,320 from ERS Industrial Services as shown in Attachment D. Indirect costs itemized on Attachment C will be proportionate to construction costs. The project would be considered exempt under CEQA.

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001  
(916) 653-5791



September 2, 2021

Mr. Frank Costner  
General Manager  
Konocti County Water District  
15844 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Clearlake, California 95422

Approval of Funding from Small Community Drought Relief Program –  
Emergency Water System Repair and Intertie Project

Your request for funding from the Department of Water Resources' Small Community Drought Relief Program (Program) for the Emergency Water System Repair and Intertie Project (Project) has been approved. The approved funding is not to exceed the amount of \$657,173. The term of the funding will be from September 2, 2021 to December 30, 2022.

The Program was authorized by the Legislature pursuant to the Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2021, ch. 69, §112) and its Trailer Bill, Assembly Bill 148 (Stats. 2021, ch. 115, § 97). The intent of the Program is to provide immediate and near-term financial and/or technical support to help small communities in counties under Governor Newsom's drought emergency proclamations of 2021 to survive this and future droughts.

The purpose of this funding is to help Konocti County Water District implement the above-referenced project. The project is comprised of lowering intake works, replacing media in filters, and installing an emergency intertie with Lower Lake County Water District to provide potable water to protect the health and safety of the community served.

A draft funding agreement is being developed and will be sent to you for review. You may begin incurring costs from September 2, 2021. No reimbursement of Eligible Project Costs will be issued until the funding agreement is executed. Any costs incurred are at your own risk until the funding agreement is executed. For guidance as to what are Eligible Project Costs and what type of documentation is required for reimbursement, please see the *Small Community Drought Relief Program Guidelines* (Guidelines) which may be found at: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought>. Be advised that "indirect costs" are not eligible for reimbursement pursuant to the Small Community Drought Relief Program Guidelines (Guidelines). Before execution of your funding agreement, these costs will need to be recharacterized and documented

Mr. Frank Costner  
September 2, 2021  
Page 2

as direct costs as set forth in the Guidelines or the amount of our commitment will be reduced by the amount of that proposed budget line item (i.e., \$30,320).

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the agreement, please contact Sammy Naventhan by email at [Kandasamy.Naventhan@water.ca.gov](mailto:Kandasamy.Naventhan@water.ca.gov) or by phone at (559) 230-3379.

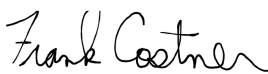
Sincerely,



Arthur Hinojosa  
Manager  
Division of Regional Assistance  
Department of Water Resources

Attachment

ACCEPTED:



Frank Costner  
General Manager  
Konocti County Water District

Date 9/7/2021

**ATTACHMENT: BUDGET SUMMARY**

Steve Doe: ShouaNha Moua Alvarado  
P:\Drought 2021\Program Management\Correspondence\ Small Community Drought \_Commitment Letter\_Konocti County

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SURNAME	<i>JH</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>K7</i>	
DWR 155 (Rev 4/02)				



## CAA GRANT PROGRAM - BUDGET SUMMARY

Applicant: Konocti County Water District

FAAST PIN:

Project: Lake Booster Pump/Intertie/Filter Rehab

	Requested Grant Funds	Other Funding	Budget Summary TOTALS
1. Direct Project Administration Costs	\$26,060	\$0	\$26,060
2. Planning / Design / Engineering / Environmental	\$81,532	\$0	\$81,532
3. Construction / Implementation	\$485,661	\$0	\$485,661
4. Monitoring / Performance	\$33,600	\$0	\$33,600
5. Education / Outreach	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. Equipment Over \$5,000 (if applicable)	\$0	\$0	\$0
7. Indirect Costs	\$30,320	\$0	\$30,320
<b>Grand Totals:</b>	<b>\$657,173</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$657,173</b>

Note: CHECK YOUR NUMBERS! Do NOT assume this Excel spreadsheet is correct. Please refer to the READ ME tab.

Does the Budget Summary Total match the Budget Details Total?

YES

Revised 01/25/2017

RESOLUTION NO. 0/-2021

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KONOCTI COUNTY WATER DISTRICT (DISTRICT) MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMERGENCY LAKE BOOSTER PUMP STATION, LOWER LAKE INTERTIE, FILTER MEDIA REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR WHICH A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION (NOE) HAS BEEN PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO PROCEED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT; AND DIRECTING THE GENERAL MANGER TO FILE THE NOE IN COMPLIANCE WITH CEQA REQUIREMENTS.**

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2021, the District submitted a Technical Memorandum prepared by PACE Engineering to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) requesting urgent funding for the Lake Booster Pump Station, Lower Lake Intertie Project, and Filter Media Replacement Project (Project) to address the ongoing drought and its impact on Clear Lake.

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2021, the District approved implementation of Level 3 of the Water Shortage Emergency – Water Conservation Plan.

WHEREAS, on September 2, 2021, based upon the PACE Technical Memorandum, the District secured funding from the Small Community Drought Relief Program Drinking Water State Revolving Fund as administered by the State Department of Water Resources State Water Resources Control Board for the Emergency Water System Repair and Intertie Project (DWR Project) in the amount of \$657,173; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing drought continues to lower the level of Clear Lake, thus there is an impending loss of ability to provide water essential to the public health, safety and welfare and the proposed emergency repairs have had a reasonable amount of planning to address the anticipated emergency; and

WHEREAS, the SWRCB Division of Drinking Water (DDW) has reviewed the PACE Technical Memorandum and concur with the proposed Project and request for funding under the Small Community Drought Relief Program Drinking Water State Revolving Fund; and

WHEREAS, the District has informed Lake County Lakebed Management and California Department of Fish & Wildlife of the proposed Project; and

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (CEQA) allows that if a state/local agency determines that a project is not subject to CEQA and files a NOE, the agency must file the NOE with the State Clearing House and county clerk. The NOE is generally optional except when explicitly required by the statutory exemption; and

WHEREAS, CEQA, defines an exempt Emergency Project under §15269 as follows: (b) Emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare. Emergency repairs include those that require a reasonable amount of planning to address an anticipated emergency; and

WHEREAS, such decision-making body in this circumstance is the District Board of Directors;  
and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KONOCTI COUNTY  
WATER DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

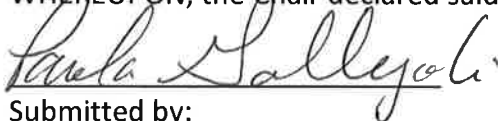
1. The District Board of Directors makes the following findings:
  - (a) on the basis of the whole record before the Board including the PACE Technical Memorandum, DWR Project commitment letter, draft NOE, and other information in the record, there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment;
  - (b) the NOE prepared for the Project have been completed in compliance with CEQA and consistent with State CEQA Guidelines;
  - (c) the Board has independently reviewed and analyzed the Project and NOE prior to its approval of the Project and this Resolution; and
  - (d) the NOE reflects the District's independent judgment and analysis as a lead agency.
2. The Board hereby adopts the NOE prepared for the Project.
3. The Board further designates the District's General Manager at the District's offices, located at 15844 35<sup>TH</sup> Avenue, Clearlake, California 95422, as the custodian of documents and record of proceedings on which this decision is based.
4. The Board authorizes and directs the District General Manager of the Board to file a NOE with the Office of Planning and Research and the Lake County Clerk in accordance with the provisions of CEQA.

The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein as if fully set forth.

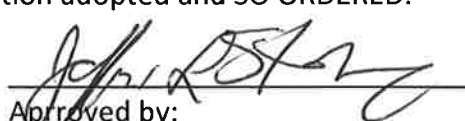
The foregoing Resolution introduced by Board Member Chapman, seconded by Board Member Priebe, and carried this 15<sup>th</sup>, day of October, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 4  
NOES: 0  
ABSENT: 1

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared said Resolution adopted and SO ORDERED.

  
Submitted by:

Paula Gallizioli  
Auditor/Board Secretary

  
Approved by:

Jeff Stanley  
President