



CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

CITY OF EUREKA

TO: County of Humboldt
County Clerk
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

FROM: City of Eureka, Lead Agency
Development Services Department
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PROJECT TITLE: Citywide Water Meter Transmitter Replacement

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Eureka

PROJECT NUMBER: ED-20-0004

PROJECT LOCATION: Citywide

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project includes the upgrade of all 10,200 residential and commercial water meter transmitters to allow communication of usage data via wireless technology directly to the Water Department. The current water meter transmitters are reaching their maximum life expectancy and are slated to be replaced. The water meter transmitters allow the City to drastically reduce the amount of time spent reading meters and increases the overall accuracy of the billing system and revenue collection. Currently, each day, the City has multiple meters that are down causing a loss in water and revenue; 96% of the 10,200 meter transmitters are 11 years old.

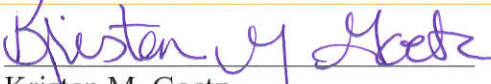
The process of removing the meter readers and installing new ones, along with lids that will allow for the data to be transmitted, will consist of two electricians working out of a truck, where materials and equipment will be staged. Installation of the new meter transmitters should take no more than 30 minutes in most cases. Some of the work may not require the water to be shut off, but when water must be shut off, the homeowner will be notified, and water turned off for the minimal time needed.

EXEMPTION FINDINGS: The Lead Agency has determined the above described activity is a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Lead Agency has further determined that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to a Class 1 categorical exemption (Section 15301 Existing Facilities), which exempts 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 use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

The key consideration for this exemption is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of an existing use. The project involves maintenance and replacement of 10,200 existing water

meter lids and transmitters. The project will not increase or expand the existing utilities, as all new lids and transmitters will be replacing existing lids and transmitters. No ground disturbance is required to replace the lids and transmitters. The Lead Agency has further determined that use of the categorical exemption is not barred by any one of the exceptions set forth in Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The material supporting the above finding is on file with the City of Eureka's Development Services Department. Copies of the documents related to the evaluation of this project are available for review upon request at the City of Eureka, address above.


Kristen M. Goetz
Principal Planner, City of Eureka

4-20-2020
Date