



Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
Submitted online

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

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

Date: November 17, 2023

Project Title: Hydrogeologic Geophysical Investigations

Project Location – Specific: Multiple locations in Pleasanton and Livermore

Project Location – County: Alameda County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Zone 7 Water Agency periodically updates its groundwater model to better reflect the hydrogeological understanding of the groundwater basin. Prior to updating the groundwater model, the hydrogeologic conceptual model must be routinely updated to fill data gaps and reflect new data and information. The purpose of this project is to use geophysics to fill data gaps in the existing hydrogeologic conceptual model by collecting subsurface data using geophysical methods, ultimately to be used to update the groundwater model.

This project involves conducting geophysical surveys at 6 project site locations. Seismic Refraction and Electrical Transmissivity Tomography (ERT) surveys will be performed at 3 sites while Transient Electromagnetic (TEM) surveys will be conducted at the remaining sites. Surveys will utilize a series of long cables, probes, electrodes, and recorders.

Surveys do not require soil excavation nor removal of vegetation. Work at each survey line is expected to take 1 to 2 days. The work is expected to take place over about 10 to 14 days in November 2023 through January 2024.

Zone 7 staff are coordinating with the City of Pleasanton, City of Livermore, Livermore Area Recreation and Parks District (LARPD), East Bay Regional Parks, and private landowners to minimize any inconvenience to the public. This includes coordination of survey setup areas, work hours, and public outreach. Some locations are adjacent to residential neighborhoods. The project will abide by all local noise ordinances.

Name of Public Agency Approving and Carrying Out Project: Zone 7 Water Agency

Project Manager: Jacob Danielson, 925-454-5081

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. CEQA Guidelines Section **15301. EXISTING FACILITIES.**
- Statutory Exemptions

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

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

15301. 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 existing or former use.

The project is also not subject to CEQA as follows:

15061(b)(3) – COMMON SENSE RULE. The activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

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:

- Work is investigative only; no construction.
- There will be no native ground disturbance, and no vegetation removal.
- Work will be limited to the smallest footprint practicable.
- Work will have no or minimal construction-related nuisances to local residents, businesses, or recreational areas, such as disruptions to traffic and increased noise or dust, etc.
- No impacts to sensitive habitat or wildlife are expected.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project could result in a significant impact.

Lead Agency CEQA Contact: Elke Rank **Area Code/Telephone/Ext:** 925-454-5005

Signature:	<i>Elke Rank</i>	11/17/1971
Title	Senior Water Resources Planner Zone 7 Water Agency	