



Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Orange County Fire Authority
1 Fire Authority Road
Irvine, CA 92602

County Clerk
County of: Orange

(Address)

Project Title: Tivoli Helopod

Project Applicant: Orange County Fire Authority

Project Location – Specific:
33.548100, -117.728297; 3/4 mile SE of Soka University on Wood Canyon Drive

Project Location – City: Aliso Viejo Project Location – County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project includes minor grading and placement of rock on an existing helispot and placement of a small helicopter re-filling structure. It is bounded by Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park to the South and East, and by numerous Aliso Viejo communities to the North. The elevation of the site is between 320' and 340' above mean sea level. This helopod is important for public safety by providing a quick turn-around location for aerial assets to refill. The goal of the project is to increase public safety by providing a more consistent water source close to wildland areas.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Orange County Fire Authority
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Orange County Fire Authority

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 15303 and 15304
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why is exempt:

This project meets the requirements of a Class 3 and Class 4 Categorical Exemptions: "15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures" – "Class 3 consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures;" and Class 34 Exemption: "15304 Minor Alterations to the Land" - "Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the conditions of land, water and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature and scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes". The project will increase helicopter resource impacts on wildfires, has minimal ground disturbance and will not result in significant effects on biological and archaeological resources nor the environment. OCFA has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. OCFA has determined this project would not impact the environment.

Lead Agency Scott Hatch Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 714-573-6178
Contact Person: _____

Signature: Scott Hatch Date: 3/18/24 Title: Wildland Resource Plan

X Signed by Lead Agency X Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filling at OPR: _____
Reference: Sections 21108, and 211521, Public Resources Code.