



Notice of Exemption

This notice is exempt from filing fees under California Government Code Section 6103.

To: County Clerk-Recorder, County of Contra Costa
555 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title/File No.: City of Pittsburg Water Treatment Plant Filter Improvements and Hypochlorite Conversion

Project Location: 300 Olympia Drive, Pittsburg, CA 94565

Project Description: Proposed project will build new water filters, convert the current gaseous chlorine system to liquid hypochlorite (bleach) and upgrade filter effluent pumping and buried infrastructure, without increasing the hydraulic/potable water capacity or capability to serve additional residential, commercial, or industrial customers. Assessor's Parcel No. 087-090-005.

See attached for additional information.

Name of approving public agency: City of Pittsburg

Lead Agency Name, Address, Telephone Number City of Pittsburg, 65 Civic Avenue, Pittsburg, CA 94565 (925)252-4920

Project Applicant Name, Address, Telephone Number Dayne Johnson, Assistant City Engineer, 65 Civic Avenue, Pittsburg, CA 94565, (925)252-4273

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (Section 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Section 21080 (b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption – Section: 15302 – Replacement or Reconstruction
- Statutory Exemptions – Section:

City of Pittsburg

Reason(s) why Project is Exempt: The proposed project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article 19, Categorical Exemptions, Class 2, Section 15302, "Replacement or Reconstruction", in that the proposed project consists of the replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.

Lead Agency/Contact Person: City of Pittsburg/Ariana Ruiz

Signature: *A. Ruiz*
Title: Assistant Planner

Date: 03/13/2024
Tel: (925) 252-4029

2024-00079

FILED

March 13, 2024

**KRISTIN B. CONNELLY
CLERK-RECORDER**

By *A. Sku*
Deputy clerk

Date received for filing and posting: _____

Public Works Department

**CITY OF PITTSBURG WATER TREATMENT PLANT
FILTER IMPROVEMENTS AND HYPOCHLORITE CONVERSION
PROJECT DESCRIPTION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXEMPTION**

Constructed at the City of Pittsburg (City) Water Treatment Plant (WTP), this project will build new water filters, convert the current gaseous chlorine system to liquid hypochlorite (bleach) and upgrade filter effluent pumping and buried WTP infrastructure, without increasing the WTP hydraulic/potable water capacity or capability to serve additional residential, commercial, or industrial customers.

Background

In the early 1950s, the City constructed water treatment facilities at 300 Olympia Drive. In the mid-1970s, upgrades to major facilities increased system capacity. In the late 1980s, construction to expand capacity included an upgrade to increase the hydraulic and potable water treatment capacity of 32 million gallons per day (mgd). Other minor upgrades took place over the past 70 years, including, but not limited to, new or replacement pipelines for raw and treated water, pumping systems, and sludge residuals from water treatment. To produce potable water, the facility uses a pre-oxidation method with chlorine dioxide, disinfection (with chlorine gas as the primary disinfectant), coagulation, flocculation, dual media filtration, post-filtration chemical conditioning, treated water pumping to onsite storage. Transferring the potable water to meet customer demands are by gravity from two treated water reservoirs or further pumping to higher pressure zones with reservoirs.

Over the last five years, the City determined the WTP filtration system had deteriorated significantly and reconstruction in place was neither cost effective nor prudent. In parallel, the City decided that regulatory compliance and public safety pointed to converting from gaseous chlorine to liquid hypochlorite solution (concentrated bleach or swimming pool grade chlorine). In conformance with water industry standard procedures, the City targets having WTP capacity of water system demand on the maximum day (MDD), typically the hottest day of the year. Based on data from the Draft Water System Master Plan (Akel Engineering Group, December 2022) the 2020 MDD was 15.28 mgd; that plan projects a buildout MDD of 23.57 mgd.

Proposed Project

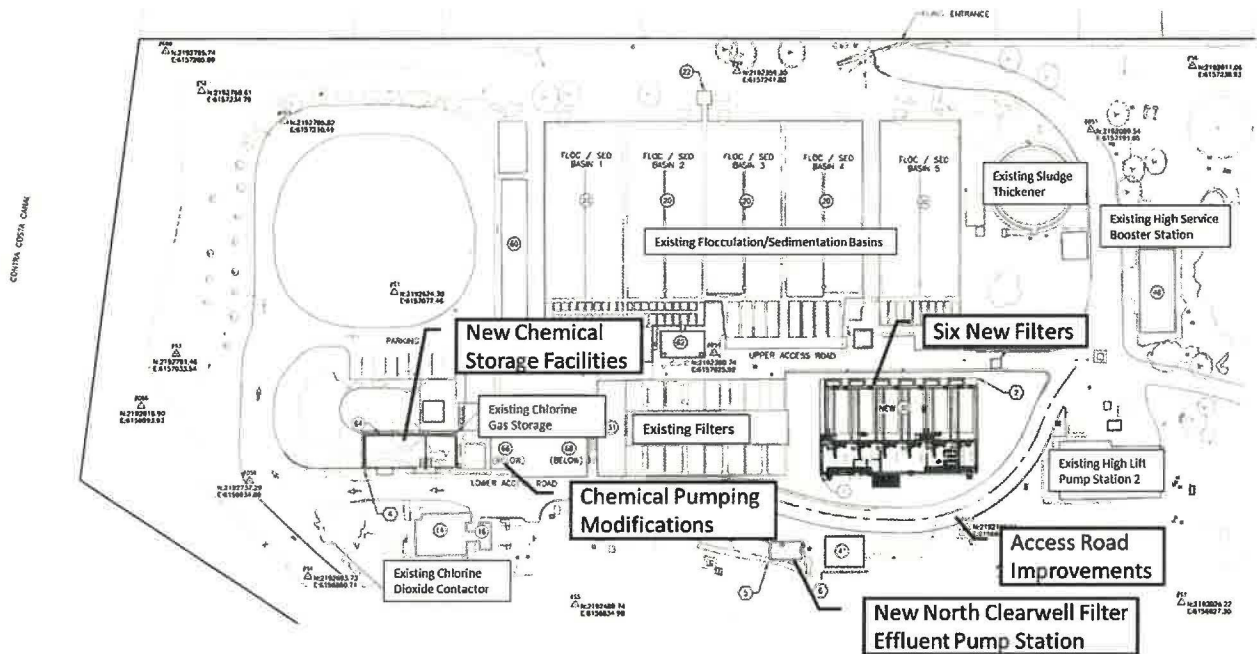
The proposed project will require construction (demolition, repair, and replacement of existing systems) over approximately 36 months to build five new dual media filters with an adjacent box for a sixth filter and connecting pipelines and control systems, new filter effluent water pumping, and new chemical storage tanks and chemical receiving facilities and pumping systems. The City will finish the sixth filter and make other improvements such as demolishing the existing filters as funding becomes available. When the new filters and supporting facilities are active, the WTP will have a capacity of ~16.6 mgd with five new filters, increased to 20.7 mgd with the addition of Filter 6. The City will construct the new filters and supporting facilities for easy expansion by adding Filters 7 and 8, increasing potable water output up to 29.0 mgd at a future date. As noted above and shown in Table 1, the five-filter scenario would easily accommodate current MDD. Future installation of filter 7 will supply the buildout MDD. As new

development occurs requiring further water demand beyond that listed in the 2022 Master Plan, Filter 8 could then be activated.

Table 1. WTP Capacity with one reserve filter		
Number of filters	Capacity (mgd)	Comments
5	16.6	Initial capacity
6	20.7	Capacity if current budget allows completion of 6 th filter
7	24.9	Future capacity when City adds 7 th filter as necessary.
8	29.0	Future capacity when City adds 8 th filter as necessary.

Note: Capacity based on current State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water rating protocol.

Figure 1 shows a plan map for existing and proposed new facilities.



**Figure 1. Map of existing and proposed facilities-
City of Pittsburg Water Treatment Plant**

Potential Impacts and Their Mitigation

Potential impacts from the project include increased traffic into and out of the WTP site, noise, and dust. All construction traffic would use the existing WTP access road. Table 2 presents estimated activities for planned construction with on average about 30 trips per day into and out of the WTP. Note that the City will require its contractor to place excavated clean material on site, to avoid that impacts of off haul while enhancing site use for WTP operations. Similarly, when the City engages a contractor to demolish the existing filters, the City will have the contractor grind the scrap concrete and retain it stockpiled onsite, so that City staff can use the ground concrete for gravel road maintenance onsite. The contractor will haul recovered scrap reinforcing steel offsite for recycling. This approach is positive since it reduces truck traffic into and out of the WTP site and on adjacent City streets greatly. It also obviates the need, cost, and traffic impacts from buying new crushed rock for roadway surfacing. The contractor's construction equipment will conform to all State of California and federal requirements for emissions and noise control.

The contractor will conform to City work hour restrictions (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) to reduce noise impacts on the facility's neighbors. The City will enforce contractor requirements to control dust while preventing any contaminated runoff from reaching surface waters. New construction will cause no impacts on cultural resources. The City has constructed multiple projects over the past 70 years. New construction will occur in previously disturbed areas. Past work has revealed no cultural resources which need preservation.

Table 2. Estimated Construction Traffic				
Item	Units	Value	Number of trips	Comments
Concrete	Cu yd	3,607	480	Assumes 8 cu yd/truckload and 5 percent each for lost materials and short loads
Crushed rock/aggregate base/sand	Tons	4,172	350	Assumes 12 cu yd per truck load
AC	Cu yd	1,000	40	Assumes 12 cu yd per truck load
Excavation	Cu yd	23,600	NA	Assumes all excavate material remains onsite.
Concrete demolition	Cu yd	4,500	NA	Assumes that the City will retain ground concrete onsite to replace imported gravel for unpaved road resurfacing.
Salvaged reinforcing steel	Tons	340	30	Assumes 150 pounds of rebar per cubic yard of concrete at 2000 lb/ton and 12 tons per truck load
Equipment and materials deliveries	Truck loads	1,000	1,000	
Vehicle trips	Total visits		22,000	
CM and City Staff/Consultants			3,840	Assume 48 weeks per year after deducting for holidays and rain days. Use traffic for four years including existing filter demolition, with on average four CM or other City staff daily.
Total Trips			~27,800	
Trips per working day			30	

Note: All individual categories and trips per day rounded up to the nearest 10 units. Total trips round up to the nearest 100.

