

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: San Bernardino

Clerk of the Board

385 North Arrowhead Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92415

From: (Public Agency): City of San Bernardino
Municipal Water Department
397 Chandler Place, San Bernardino, CA 92408

(Address)

Project Title: Meridian Sewer Lift Station Replacement Project

Project Applicant: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

Project Location - Specific:

NW corner of the intersection of Randall Avenue and Meridian Avenue in the City of Sa

Project Location - City: San Bernardino Project Location - County: San Bernardino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Project consists of the replacement of an existing sewer lift station, including new building to house electrical, instrumentation, and control components and battery energy storage system (BESS). The Project also includes the construction of less than 100 linear feet (LF) of 66" storm drain. The existing lift station including all mechanical components and infrastructure was installed in 1983. The pumps have reached the end of their useful life and the existing wet well and discharge force main are in poor condition. The storm drain will be constructed prior to the expansion of the lift station in order to mitigate future conflicts. The primary stakeholder for the project is the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

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: State CEQA Guidelines §§15302(c), 15303(d)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Res. Code §21080.21

Reasons why project is exempt:

The Project meets the criteria of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15302 (c) - "Replacement or Reconstruction". The Project includes the replacement of an existing facility - the replacement Project will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the existing facility. The existing wet well will be re-purposed for emergency storage, and the new wet well was designed to increase response time only. The facility will not experience a capacity upgrade in regard to the volume of wastewater that will be conveyed - the proposed pumps are rated for the same capacity as the existing pumps. The new building will house code compliant electrical equipment and the battery backup power. This proposed upgrade will improve site reliability and system redundancy, mitigating potential hazards to the nearby residences and elementary school. The Project also satisfies State CEQA Guidelines Section 15303(d) - "Construction of Small Structures" as it involves minor utility and street improvements with the same purpose and capacity as the existing facility. The project also includes the construction of less than 100 LF of 66" storm drain - CEQA does not apply pursuant to Section 21080.21 as the pipeline is less than a mile in length and will not be installed within the public right-of-way. A qualified biologist has completed a habitat assessment of the site (at the request of USFWS) and it has been determined that the Project will not impact the Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly, an endangered species that is prevalent in the area. No exceptions pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to the Project.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Miguel Guerrero, P.E. Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (909) 453-6175

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: May 1, 2024 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: _____