

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
CEQASubmit.opr.ca.gov

County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk
Attn: Fish and Wildlife Notices
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260, MS A-33
San Diego, CA 92101

FROM: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
Environmental Services Unit
Attn: Samantha Mayer
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 410, MS O-332
San Diego, CA 92123

SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21108 OR 21152

Project Name: BORREGO VALLEY AIRPORT – AIRPORT USE PERMIT TO SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC FOR TREE REMOVAL (BA-177) (DISTRICT: 5)

Project Location: Borrego Valley Airport located in the unincorporated community of Borrego Springs in San Diego County, California

Project Applicant: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works, Airports Division
1960 Joe Crosson Drive, MS S-119, El Cajon, CA 92020

Project Description: The project includes the removal of four palm trees located between two existing utility poles owned and managed by San Diego Gas & Electric. In accordance with the issued permit(s), the authorized uses shall commence on the Effective Date as approved by County Airports.

Agency Approving Project: County of San Diego

County Contact Person: Jamie Abbott, Director of Airports Telephone: (619) 956-4800

Date Form Completed: June 11, 2024


This is to advise that the County of San Diego Department of Public Works (County decision-making body) has approved the above described project on June 11, 2024 and found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

Exempt status and applicable section of the CEQA (“C”) and/or State CEQA Guidelines (“G”): (check only one)

- Categorical Exemption:** Sec. G 15301 - Existing Facilities
- Declared Emergency:** Sec. C 21080(b)(3); Sec. G 15269(a)
- Emergency Project:** Sec. C 21080(b)(4); Sec. G 15269(b)(c)
- General:** Sec. C.
- Ministerial:** Sec. C 21080(b)(1); G 15268
- Preliminary Review:** Sec. G
- Statutory Exemption:** Sec. G

Statement of reasons why project is exempt: Section 15301 of CEQA Guidelines exempts from CEQA review actions consisting of 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 lead agency’s determination.” The key consideration in applying this exemption is whether the proposed action involves expansion of an existing use. The proposed action involves removal of four trees for the purpose of maintaining existing utility facilities as designed. There are no proposed changes in use from what currently exists. The proposed action relates to the maintenance and minor alteration of existing structures, involving no or negligible expansion of use, and is, accordingly, exempt from CEQA review pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The following is to be completed only upon formal project approval by the appropriate County of San Diego decision-making body.

Signature:  Telephone: (858) 288-5740

Name (Print): Jeff Kashak Title: Environmental Planning Manager

This Notice of Exemption has been signed and filed by the County of San Diego.

This notice must be filed with the Recorder/County Clerk as soon as possible after project approval by the decision-making body. The Recorder/County Clerk must post this notice within 24 hours of receipt and for a period of not less than 30 days. At the termination of the posting period, the Recorder/County Clerk must return this notice to the Department address listed above along with evidence of the posting period. The originating Department must then retain the returned notice for a period of not less than nine months. Reference: CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.