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JIM McCAULEY, COUNTY CLERK
By [illegible] Deputy Clerk

#14-0157

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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

Placer County Clerk
2952 Richardson Dr.
Auburn, CA 95603

**From:** Placer County Department of Facility Services
11476 C Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

**Project Title:** Saddleback Lift Station Improvements Project

**Project Location:** Dry Creek Road and Blue Grass Drive in North Auburn

**County:** Placer

**Description of Project:** The Saddleback Lift Station (SBLS), constructed in 1979, was designed to meet the capacity needs of the Saddleback Subdivision at buildout (144 connections). The subdivision currently includes 107 connections. Due to extremely high inflow and infiltration (i.e., excess storm water and groundwater that enters into sewer collection pipes through holes, cracks and joint failures) within the lift station's collection system, the current pump capacity does not meet the peak wet weather flow (PWWF). During winter months when inflow and infiltration is at its highest level, the installation of a temporary bypass has been necessary to accommodate the flow. The SBLS Improvements Project includes upsizing of the existing SBLS pumps to handle the current PWWF, as well as the planned build out of the subdivision. In addition, many components of the lift station, including the concrete wet well, have deteriorated and reached the end of their useful service life. The improvements are intended to upgrade the degraded components of the lift station and will not increase capacity in terms of the total number of future connections.

In order to upgrade the lift station components, meet PWWF demands, and accommodate planned buildout, the lift station improvements will include removing the existing overflow storage tanks and installing two new tanks; replacing the existing wet well with a fiberglass wet well; installing new pumps; enclosing (to attenuate noise) a new back-up generator; installing new electrical controls; upgrading data acquisition and odor control systems; and installing a new emergency shower and eyewash. Although the site configuration will be redesigned, the fenced footprint of the facility will not change and the existing chemical building will remain in place. The existing wet well, located inside the chemical building, will be abandoned in place and the new wet well and storage tanks will be constructed below grade, south of the building. The below grade area containing the wet well and storage tanks will be ventilated to ensure appropriate odor control.

**Public Agency Approving and Carrying Out Project:** Placer County Department of Facility Services

**Exempt Status: (check one and cite)**

_ Ministerial -
_ Declared Emergency -
X Categorical (cite) - CEQA Guidelines, Article 19, Section 15302(c)
_ Statutory (cite) -

**Reason Why Project is Exempt:** Pursuant to Section 15302(c) of the CEQA Guidelines, projects that consist of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced, including replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity, are categorically exempt from further CEQA review. Although the lift station pumps and storage facilities will be upsized to accommodate the increase in inflow and infiltration that has occurred since the original lift station was construction, no expansion of use or need for additional treatment capacity will occur, nor will the facility expand beyond its existing fenced footprint. If blasting is necessary to excavate a deeper wet well, a blasting plan will be required to be submitted to the Department of Facility Services by the site contractor prior to initiating any blasting activities. The blasting plan shall include a requirement to notify residents within 400 feet in advance of anticipated blasting events. The existing topography and vegetation provide screening to the existing chemical building from all but street views. Also, the perimeter fencing partially screens views of the site from surrounding properties. Therefore, the improvements will have negligible visual effects on adjacent land uses. Also, no native vegetation is located within the fenced perimeter of the facility and no vegetation will be removed with implementation of the improvements. Therefore, no adverse effects will occur on vegetation or wildlife.

**Lead Agency Contact:** Rebecca Lillis, Environmental Resource Specialist

**Signature:** Kevin R Bell **Date:** 6/6/14

Kevin Bell, P.E., Environmental Engineering Program Manager
Placer County, Dept. of Facility Services