2024-00242

FILED

July 3, 2024

KRISTIN B. CONNELLY
CLERK-RECORDER

By _____

F. Anonuevo
Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Contra Costa County
County Recorder
555 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

FROM: Contra Costa Water District (CCWD)
P.O. Box H2O
Concord, CA 94524
925-688-8000
Lead Agency/Project Applicant
Filing Agency

PROJECT TITLE: Access Improvements and Facilities Rehabilitation Project - Canal Pumping Plants and Flow Control Station No. 1

PROJECT LOCATION: This project is located at Pumping Plants 1, 2, 3, and 4 along the Contra Costa Canal (Main Canal) and Flow Control Station No. 1 along the Los Vaqueros Pipeline alignment. Pumping Plants 1-4 are located on property owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and operated and maintained by CCWD. Flow Control Station No. 1 is a CCWD-owned and operated facility that regulates the amount of flow between the Los Vaqueros Reservoir and the Canal. Pumping Plant 1 is in the City of Antioch, Pumping Plants 2-4 are in the City of Oakley, and Flow Control Station No. 1 is in the City of Brentwood, in Contra Costa County. See Figure 1 for a vicinity map and Figures 2-5 for site maps.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
CCWD proposes to implement various improvements to Pumping Plants 1-4 and Flow Control Station No. 1 to improve worker access and safety. CCWD also plans to rehabilitate portions of these facilities that have deteriorated and are in need of repair. The proposed improvements will occur either inside of these facilities or in the surrounding grounds. All improvements to Pumping Plants 1-4 will occur within Reclamation right of way and improvements to Flow Control Station No. 1 will occur within CCWD right of way.

The safety and facility rehabilitation improvements at the Pumping Plants include:

- At Pumping Plants 1-3, increase the size of exterior elevated platforms to provide improved ergonomics and maneuverability for workers when accessing electrical panels.
- Remove existing guardrails around pump bays inside all of the pumping plants and install removable grating over the bays to allow workers direct access to the pumps.
- Install fall prevention safety improvements at all pumping plant rooftops.
- At Pumping Plants 2-4, implement rock slope protection (rip rap) and grouted rip rap on the slopes underneath and around exterior stairs and platforms as an erosion control measure.
- At Pumping Plant 2, demolish a failing soldier pile retaining wall with wood lagging and replace with a soldier pile retaining with concrete lagging.
- At Pumping Plant 4, perform repairs to the flap gate structure to prevent further deterioration. This work includes repairing spalled concrete, replacing existing stop logs, and resealing joints.

The safety and facility rehabilitation improvements at Flow Control Station No. 1 all occur within the facility and include:

- Expand platforms within the facility to reduce the vertical drop from access hatches and improve maintenance access to major valves and appurtenances.
- Perform corrosion repair on the piping within the vault structure by removing existing coating and reapplying.

The construction phase is estimated to begin in fall 2024 and will take approximately a year to complete.

Equipment storage and staging for work on Pumping Plants 1-4 will occur within Reclamation right-of-way adjacent to the pumping plants. Equipment storage and staging for work at Flow Control Station No. 1 will occur adjacent to the facility on a pre-disturbed gravel pad. The staging areas are identified in Figures 2-5.

Work will occur and be completed at a maximum of two facilities before initiating work on other sites. The types of equipment that are expected to be present on site consist of the following:

- One (1) excavator with a bucket capacity of one cubic yard.
- One (1) backhoe with a bucket capacity of one cubic yard
- One (1) water truck
- Five (5) utility trucks
- One (1) dump truck
- One (1) boom truck
- One (1) flatbed truck

No traffic detours or road closures are anticipated to complete these repairs. Temporary closure of the East Bay Regional Parks District's (EBRPD) Delta de Anza Trail is needed when work is occurring at Pumping Plant 2, primarily during material and equipment delivery to and from the site. CCWD will coordinate with EBRPD on any potential closures and construction activities.

CCWD will implement erosion control measures to ensure no materials or rip rap enters into the Canal or Kellogg Creek during construction activities. One tree is anticipated to be removed when applying rip rap to the Canal slopes adjacent to Pumping Plant 4. The tree's trunk is approximately 6-inches in diameter and does not meet the definition of a mature or protected tree according to the City of Antioch's Tree Preservation Ordinance.

Operations and maintenance activities along the Contra Costa Canal are governed by the 2005 Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) for Operations and Maintenance Occurring on Central Valley Project (CVP) facilities on Bureau of Reclamation lands within the South-Central California Area Office issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to Reclamation. Placement of rip rap along the Canal and levee banks (Activity #20), mud jacking and/or injecting grout (Activity #15), embankment maintenance (Activity #31), facilities inspection (Activity #32), and ladders/safety nets/float repair and replacement (Activity #36) are all activities covered under the PBO. Flow Control Station No. 1 is not covered under the 2005 PBO. However, permits are not required since all improvements at this location will occur inside the facility.

Reclamation recently completed a Section 106 review along the Canal right-of-way in association with the Contra Costa Canal Title Transfer Project. Pumping Plants 2-4 are located in areas with the lowest potential for buried archaeological resources. Pumping Plant 1 is in an area with moderate potential for buried resources, but most work will take place within the existing pre-disturbed footprint of the plant. There will be no excavation or ground disturbance at Flow Control Station No. 1 since all of the proposed improvements will occur within the structure.

Pumping Plants 1-4 are located in an area classified as urban/developed. Flow Control Station No. 1 is located near agricultural lands and Kellogg Creek. Species with potential to occur include nesting migratory birds, Giant garter snake, California red-legged frog, and California tiger salamander. CCWD will conduct pre-construction surveys and implement the avoidance and minimization measures described in the Environmental Commitments section.

Environmental Commitments:
CCWD will implement the following conditions as measures to protect the environment:

1. **Pre-Construction Surveys** - CCWD will ensure that a pre-construction survey will be performed by a qualified biologist within 14 days of the proposed construction start date. The focus of this survey will be to determine the presence/absence of nesting birds and other special-status species as necessary.
2. **Worker Environmental Training** - CCWD will conduct a worker environmental training program prior to construction for all work sites. This will be done by a qualified biologist, and the program will include species identification, natural history, habitat, and protection methods.
3. **Equipment Maintenance** - The earthwork contractor shall maintain all equipment or vehicles driven and/or operated in proximity to surface water bodies in good working order to prevent the release of contaminants that if introduced to water could be deleterious to aquatic life, wildlife, or riparian habitat. The earthwork contractor shall fuel and perform maintenance on vehicles and other equipment at least 70 feet from any riparian habitat or water body and will follow CCWD's approved spill prevention plan.
4. **Erosion Control** – Effective best management practices (BMPs) will be implemented to control erosion and runoff from areas associated with the project.
5. **Trash** - All trash will be properly contained, removed from the work site, and disposed of on a daily basis.
6. **Construction Waste** - CCWD will ensure that all raw construction materials, wastes, temporary fences, barriers, and/or flagging are removed and properly disposed of from the Project Area immediately following the completion of construction.
7. **Hazardous Materials** - The storage and handling of hazardous materials within the Project Sites is prohibited and any unused or leftover hazardous products shall be properly contained and disposed of off-site.

AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: Contra Costa Water District

AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT: Contra Costa Water District

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The project is exempt under the following CEQA guidelines:

1. Section 15301 (b), which exempts "the operation, repair, maintenance ... or minor alternation of existing public or private structures [and] facilities", where "existing facilities" are defined as "facilities of both investor-and publicly owned utilities that are used to provide public utility services."; and
2. Section 15304, which exempts "minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes

CONTACT PERSON: Cody Ericksen, Associate Planner, (925) 688-8223

SIGNATURE: Cody Ericksen **DATE:** 7/3/2024

Cody Ericksen

Associate Planner

Figure 1. Vicinity Map

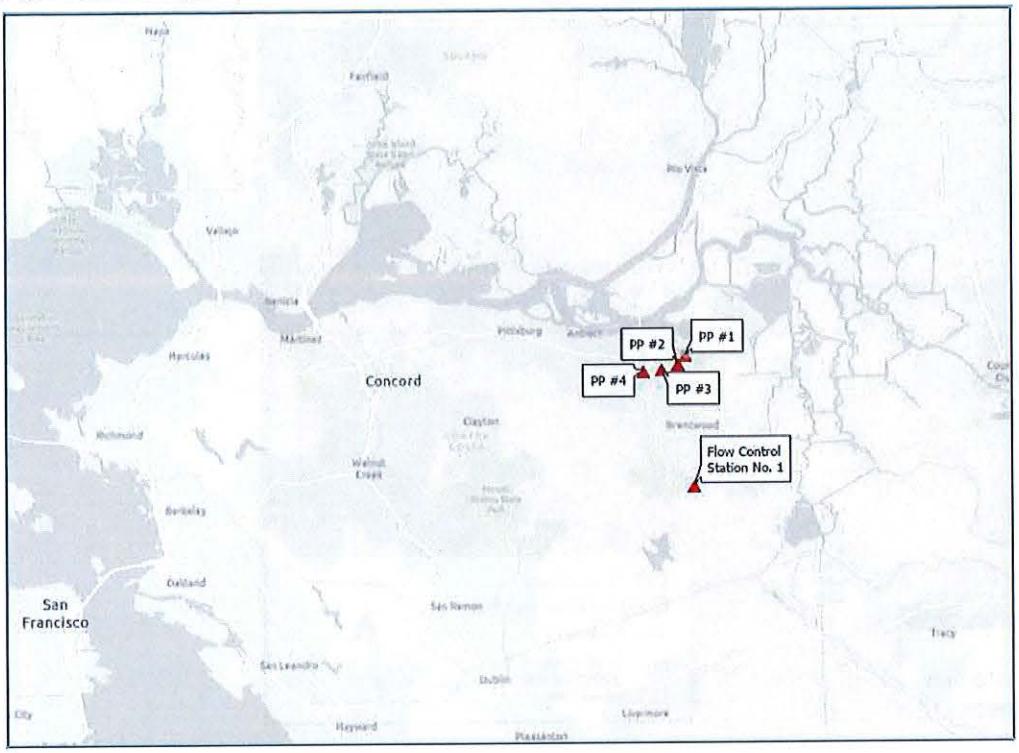

Figure 2. Pumping Plant 1 Site Map

Figure 3. Pumping Plant 2 Site Map

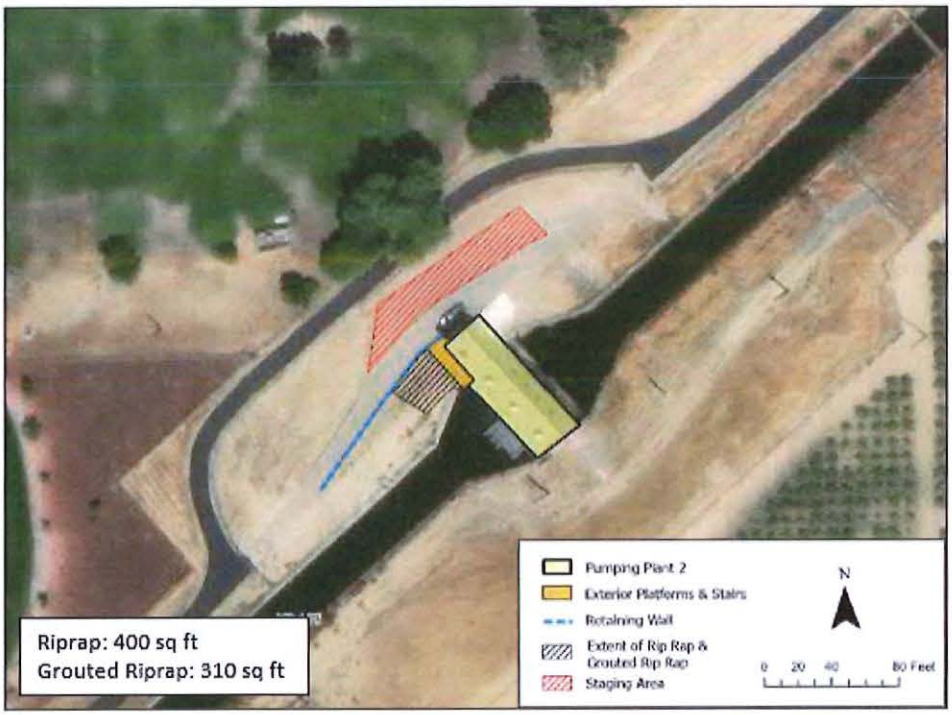

Figure 4. Pumping Plant 3 Site Map

Figure 5. Pumping Plant 4 Site Map

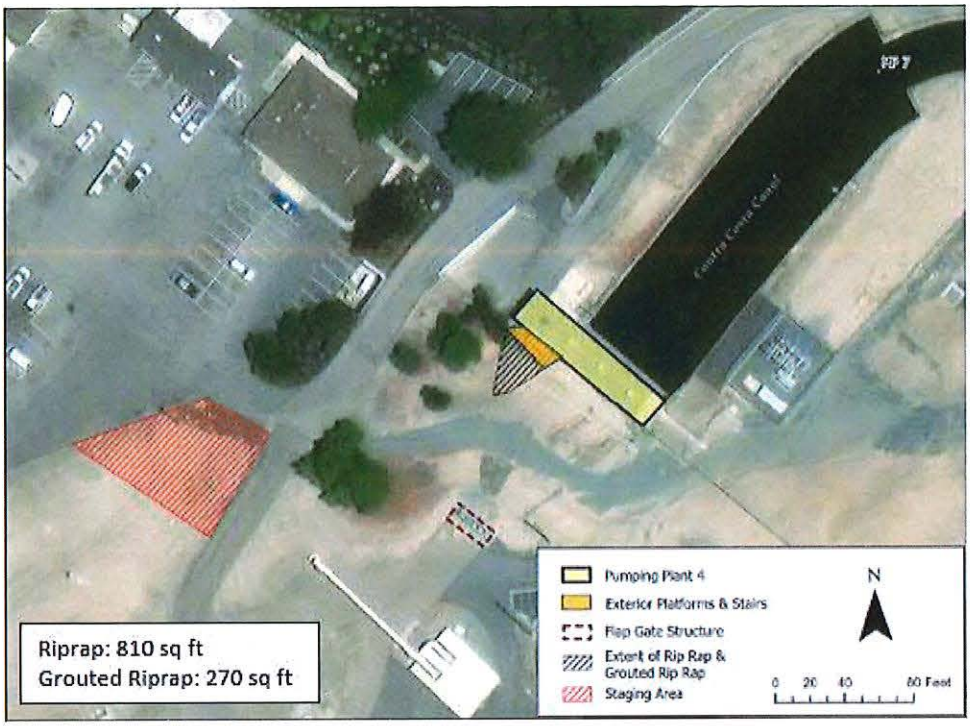

Figure 5. Flow Control Station No. 1 Site Map

State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2024 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/24) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print | StartOver | Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:
07-07/03/2024-242

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER *(If applicable)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEADAGENCY EMAIL	DATE
CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT (CCWD)		07/03/2024
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING		DOCUMENT NUMBER
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY		2024-00242

PROJECT TITLE

ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS AND FACILITIES REHABILITATION PROJECT - CANAL PLUMBING PLANTS AND FLOW CONTROL STATION NO.1

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL		PHONE NUMBER
CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT (CCWD)			(925) 688-8000
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
PO BOX H2O	CONCORD	CA	94524

PROJECT APPLICANT *(Check appropriate box)*

☐ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☒ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	$ 4,051.25	$
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	$ 2,916.75	$
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	$ 1,377.25	$

☒ Exempt from fee

- ☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)
- ☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	$ 850.00	$
☒ County documentary handling fee	$ 50.00	$ 50.00
☐ Other		$

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☒ Check ☐ Other 246645 **TOTAL RECEIVED** $ 50.00

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
X	Francesca Anonuevo Deputy Clerk

Rec # 605316

ORIGINAL - PROJECT APPLICANT | COPY - CDFW/ASB | COPY - LEAD AGENCY | COPY - COUNTY CLERK | DFW 753.5a (Rev. 01012024)

Kristin B. Connelly
Contra Costa
Clerk-Recorder
555 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 335-7900

Public

Finalization No.: 202400060536
Cashier: fanonuevo
Register: WINDOW10
Date/Time: 07/03/2024 04:08 PM

Description	Fee
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION	
Filing Time:	04:08 PM
Filing Total:	$50.00
Filing Fee:	$50.00
Total Amount Due:	$50.00
Total Paid	
Check Tendered: #246645	$50.00
Amount Due:	$0.00

THANK YOU
PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE