



## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:**

Contra Costa County, County Clerk  
555 Escobar Street  
Martinez, CA 94553

**FROM: (LEAD AGENCY)**

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT  
Office of the Secretary - (510) 287-0404  
375 Eleventh Street, MS 806  
Oakland, CA 94607-4240

RECEIVED  
MAY 16 2025  
Office of the Secretary

- ☒ Lead Agency is the Project Applicant  
☒ Lead Agency is Public Agency Approving Project  
☒ Lead Agency is Carrying Out Project

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

- TITLE:** Castenada Pumping Plant Power Reliability Project
- LOCATION:** (City, County, and specific location)  
Camino Tassajara and Sycamore Valley Road, Town of Danville, Contra Costa County. See Figure 1.
- DESCRIPTION:** The Castenada Pumping Plant Power Reliability Project (Project) includes installation of an on-site 1,500-kilowatt (kW) generator, a 21-kilovolt (kV) switchgear, new isolation valves at each pump unit, replacement of check valves and butterfly valves on the discharge side of each pump, a screening wall, and associated fencing and site improvements. See Attachment A for additional Project information.

**EXEMPTION FINDING (Check one)**

2025-00136

This project is exempt from CEQA because:

- ☐ Activity is not a project
- ☐ Activity is Ministerial (Sec.21080(b)(1); Guideline 15268)
- ☐ Activity is a Declared Emergency (Sec.21080(b)(3); Guideline 15269(a))
- ☐ Activity is an Emergency Project (Sec.21080(b)(4); Guideline 15269(b)(c))
- ☒ Activity is Categorically Exempt Under Guideline 15301 and 15303
- ☐ Activity is Statutorily Exempt Under Guideline
- ☒ **Reasons why project is exempt:** The Project is exempt under Guideline 15301 (Class 1), since it involves minor alterations of existing public facilities with no expansion of existing use. This project is also exempt under Guideline 15303 (Class 3), since it consists of construction and location of limited number of new, small accessory facilities. The Project will have no significant environmental effects relative to location, cumulative impact, or significant effects due to unusual circumstances, hazardous waste, or historical resources, pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines.

**FILED**

May 13, 2025

KRISTIN B. CONNELLY  
CLERK-RECORDER

By Lg  
L. Graham  
Deputy Clerk

**APPROVAL BY INITIATING UNIT: 523**

4/15/2025

Dámaris Villalobos-Galindo DVG

Sandra J. Mulhauser SJM

1. DATE PREPARED

2. PREPARED BY (Initial)

3. REVIEWED BY (Unit Supv. initial)

David J. Rehnstrom

David J. Rehnstrom

4. RECOMMENDED BY (Division/Section Manager)

Dámaris Villalobos-Galindo

701

Associate Civil Engineer

510-287-1240

5. CONTACT PERSON

MAIL SLOT #

TITLE

PHONE

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION APPROVED FOR FILING WITH THE COUNTY CLERK**

DATE

4/24/2025

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

S. Terentian

DATE FORWARDED TO COUNTY CLERK

5/7/2025

SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT

R. S. Cole

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT (EBMUD)**  
**CASTENADA PUMPING PLANT POWER RELIABILITY PROJECT**

**Overview and Background**

The Castenada Pumping Plant (PP) Power Reliability Project (Project) includes installation of an on-site 1,500-kilowatt (kW) generator, a 21-kilovolt (kV) switchgear, new isolation valves at each pump unit, replacement of check valves and butterfly valves on the discharge side of each pump, a screening wall, and associated fencing and site improvements. The new facilities and ancillary components will be located within the existing EBMUD-owned and -operated Castenada PP site located off Camino Tassajara at Sycamore Valley Road in the Town of Danville, as shown in **Figure 1**. The purpose of the Project is to increase the reliability of the pumping plant in case of an unplanned electrical supply outage, electrical equipment failure, or mechanical failure.

**Project Purpose and Objectives**

The EBMUD 2020 Pumping Plant Criticality Study (Study) identified Castenada PP as “Very High” criticality for an Electrical Supply Outage and as “High” criticality for an Electrical/Mechanical Equipment Failure and recommended the installation of an on-site generator. The Project’s purpose and objective is to make Castenada PP more reliable to unplanned outages and to prevent water service disruption by installing an on-site generator and ancillary components.

**Project Location**

The Project is located within the existing Castenada PP site off Camino Tassajara at Sycamore Valley Road in the Town of Danville as shown in **Figure 1**.

**Project Description**

**On-site Generator**

A 1,500-kW on-site generator enclosure, with a footprint of approximately 52-feet by 12-feet and approximately 20-feet high, will be installed in the southwest area of the existing Castenada PP site, as indicated in **Figure 2**. A minimum clearance of approximately 15-feet will be maintained between the security fencing or property line to the generator enclosure. Removable bollards will be installed towards the front of the generator to protect the enclosure. The generator enclosure will include a fuel tank, load bank, and urea tank. The fuel tank will provide 30-hours of non-continuous operational time.

### Switchgear

A 21-kV switchgear will be installed on an approximate 10-feet by 15-feet concrete pad in the southwest area of the existing Castenada PP site, adjacent to the generator enclosure, as indicated in **Figure 2**. The switchgear has an approximate height of 8-feet. A minimum clearance of 10-feet will be maintained between the security fencing or property line and the switchgear enclosure. Removable bollards will be installed towards the front of the switchgear to protect the enclosure.

### Additional Electrical Upgrades

Additional upgrades include replacement of existing main, generator, and feeder breakers; replacement of existing relays serving the main and generator breakers; installation of a substation DC power supply, battery, and charger system; and installation of a circuit breaker on the 21-kV side and a 21-kV trip on neutral ground current.

### Pump Units Upgrades

Mechanical upgrades include addition of isolation valves for each pump unit and replacement of check valves and butterfly valves on the discharge side of each unit.

### Landscaping Improvements

Landscaping improvements include planting of additional shrubs or trees to screen the security fencing and the view to the pumping plant facilities at the northwest and southeast ends of the pumping plant fenced area, construction of a screening wall to screen the generator enclosure, preservation of oak trees inside the security fencing area, and improved/realigned transition into the existing pathway at the southeast end of the site (see **Figure 2**).

### Security Fencing

The existing security fencing will be replaced with new 8-foot high, black vinyl-coated, 1-inch mesh fencing, featuring a double v-arm with three-strand barbed wire and a maximum post spacing of 10-feet (see Typical Fence Run detail in **Figure 2**). The existing gate located south of the pumping plant will be eliminated and replaced with continuous security fencing. The paved trail located on the southwest side of the property, just outside of the existing security fencing, will be discontinued and used as additional space to accommodate the new on-site generator and switchgear enclosures, as indicated in **Figure 2**.

### **Permits and Approvals**

All work will be on EBMUD property. Encroachment permits are not required since there is no work within the public right-of-way. Any necessary permits from the regulatory agencies and jurisdictions will be obtained to complete the Project.

### **Schedule and Work Hours**

The construction is anticipated to start in 2028 and will take approximately two and a half years to complete. Construction activities will be limited to the daytime weekday hours (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) to the extent feasible.

### **EBMUD Practices and Procedures**

Standard construction environmental and safety practices applicable to all EBMUD construction projects have been incorporated into the Project. These standard practices minimize impacts to the public resulting from EBMUD construction projects.

SVT:DJR:kn

wdpd25\_037b Castenada Pumping Plant Project - NOE Attachment A.docx

Figure 1: Castenada Pumping Plant Property Overview

Figure 2: Castenada Pumping Plant Power Reliability Project Layout



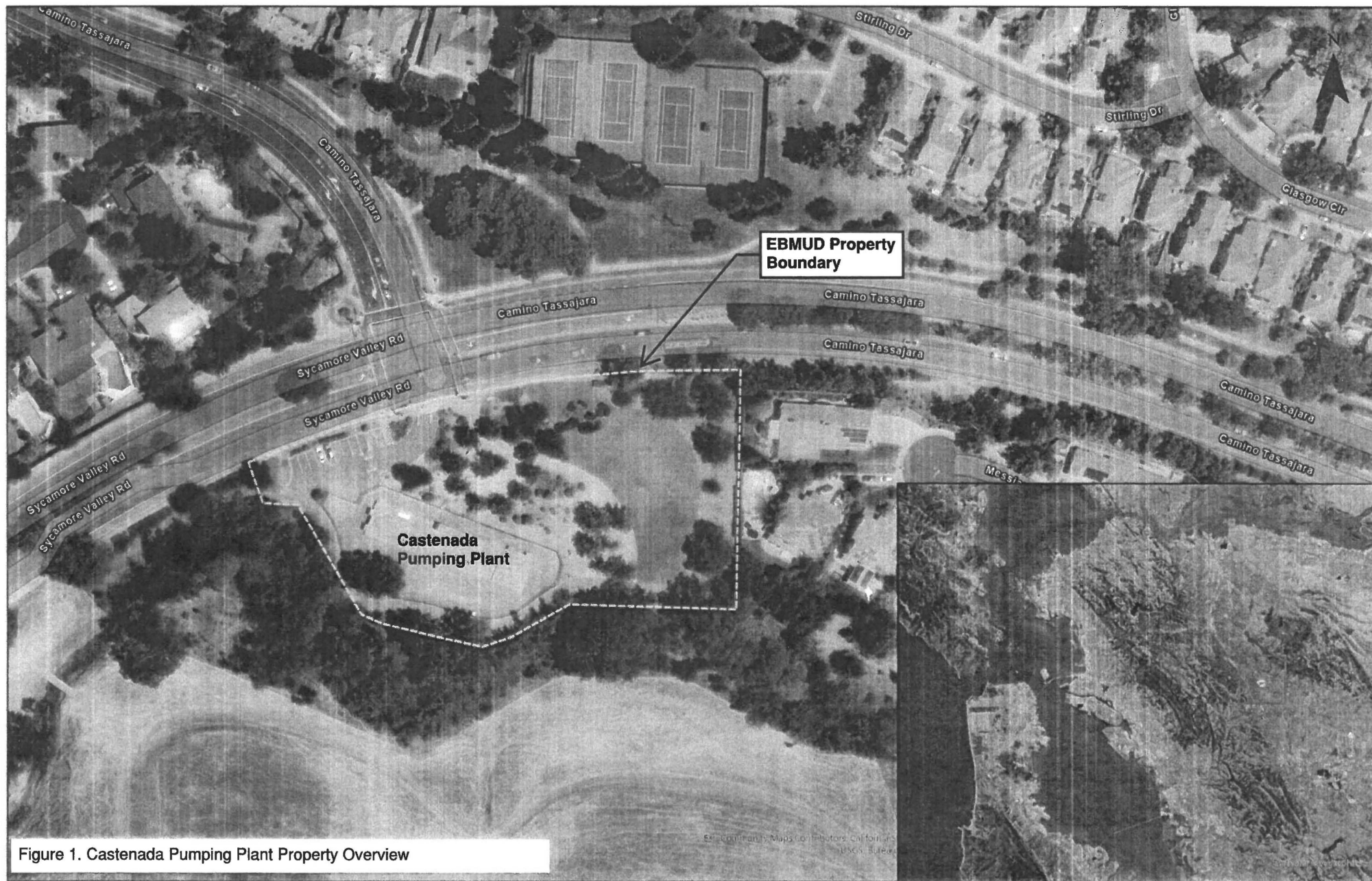
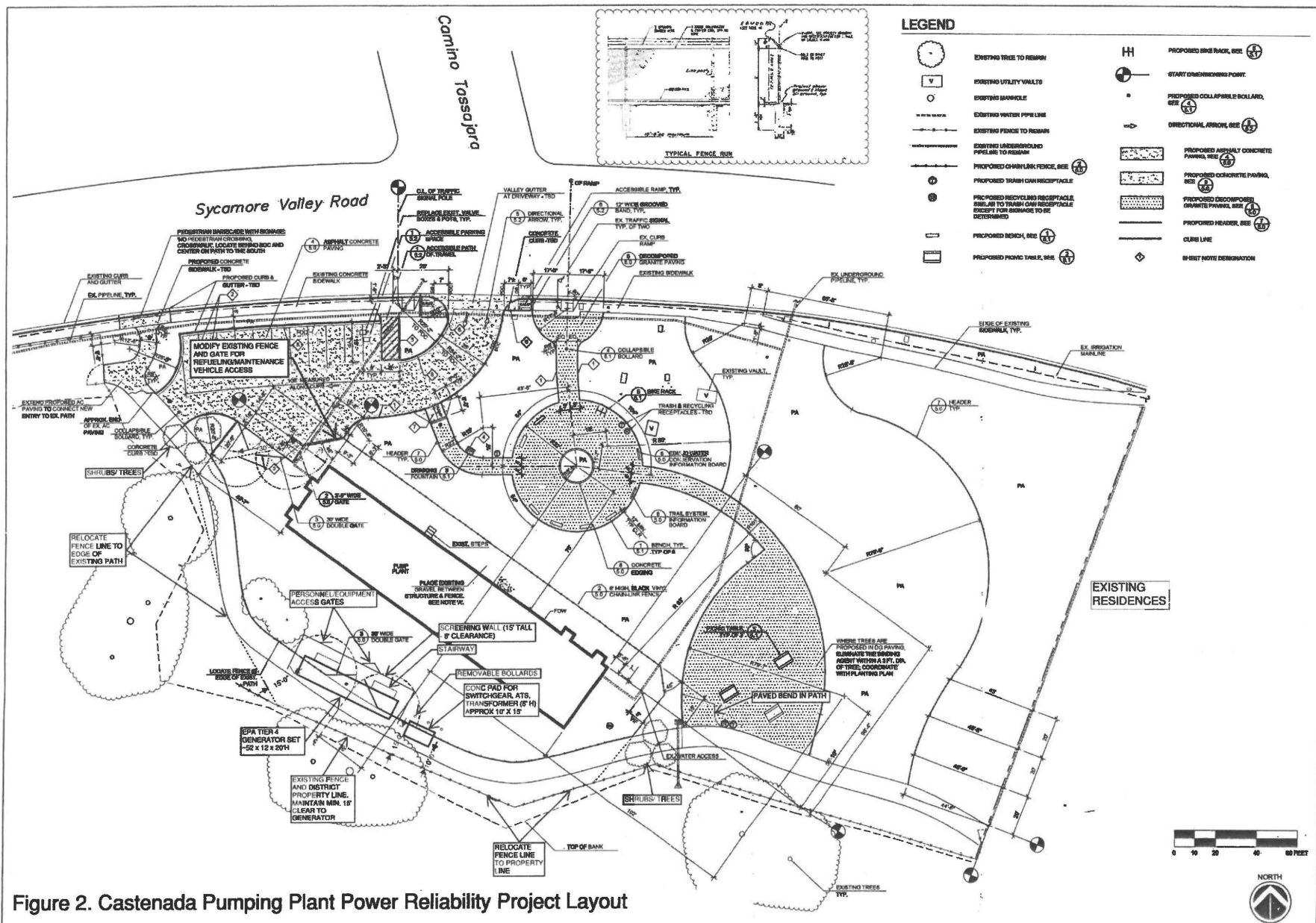


Figure 1. Castenada Pumping Plant Property Overview





State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE**  
**CASH RECEIPT**  
DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print

StartOver

Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:

07-05/13/2025-137

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

**SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.**

LEAD AGENCY

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

LEAD AGENCY EMAIL

DATE

05/13/2025

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

DOCUMENT NUMBER

2025-00136

PROJECT TITLE

CASTENADA PUMPING PLANT POWER RELIABILITY PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER

(510) 287-0404

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS

375 ELEVENTH STREET, MS 806

CITY

OAKLAND

STATE

CA

ZIP CODE

94607

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

☒ Local Public Agency

☐ School District

☐ Other Special District

☐ State Agency

☐ Private Entity

**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

\$ 4,123.50

☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)

\$ 2,988.75

☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW

\$ 1,401.75

☒ 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 1438

**TOTAL RECEIVED** \$

50.00

SIGNATURE

X

*Lg*

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

Lyric Graham Deputy Clerk

Rec# 47869

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

---

Public

Finalization No.: 202500047869

Cashier: lgraham

Register: CLERKPC21

Date/Time: 05/13/2025 08:28 AM

Description	Fee
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION	
Filing Time:	08:28 AM
Filing Total:	\$50.00
Filing Fee:	\$50.00
<hr/>	
Total Amount Due:	\$50.00
<hr/>	
Total Paid	
Check Tendered:	\$50.00
#1438	
Amount Due:	\$0.00

THANK YOU  
PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE

