

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS
2720 GATEWAY OAKS DRIVE, SUITE 300
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-3500



December 12, 2025

Ms. Kelly Bourque, Acting Supervising Engineer
Department of Public Works – Engineering Division
City of Santa Barbara
630 Garden Street
Santa Barbara California 93101
victrace@santabarbaraca.gov

Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project
SCH# 2025110233
Santa Barbara County

Dear Ms. Bourque:

The Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) has reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project, submitted by the City of Santa Barbara, which describes work to replace and upgrade water infrastructure and improve existing facilities.

As defined in section 6004(a) of the California Water Code, a circular tank constructed of steel or concrete, or both, shall not be considered a dam.

Based on the plans provided in the submitted NOP, the proposed project consists of circular concrete tanks which impound the reservoirs and therefore will not be subject to State jurisdiction. If changes to the design of the reservoirs are made which alter the shape of the tank, the structure may be subject to State jurisdiction for dam safety. In the event the project will result in a State jurisdictional structure, a construction application, together with plans, specifications, and the appropriate filing fees must be filed with DSOD prior to proceeding with the project.

If an application is required, all dam safety related issues must be satisfactorily addressed prior to our approval of the application and all work must be performed under the direction of a Civil Engineer registered in California. Our Design Engineering Branch Manager Ian Maki is responsible for the application process and can be reached at (916) 820-7795.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Area Engineer Cameron Lancaster at (916) 565-7830 or me at (916) 565-7827.

Sincerely,

Brandon Cruz

Brandon Cruz, P.E.
Southern Regional Engineer
Field Engineering Branch
Division of Safety of Dams

cc: (See Attached List.)

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cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
state.clearinghouse@lci.ca.gov

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