CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Submission of this form is optional. The form shall be filed with the County Clerk pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21168(d), the filing of this notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on Court challenges to the approval of the project. Failure to file the notice results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

TO:	**TO:**
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814	Los Angeles County Clerk 12400 Imperial Highway Norwalk, CA 90650

FROM (LEAD AGENCY AND APPLICANT ADDRESS):
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012

PROJECT TITLE: Tarzana-Olympic Line Conversion and Fire Recovery Project

PROJECT LOCATION:	**CITY:**	**COUNTY:**
Tarzana-Olympic transmission lines between the Tarzana Receiving Station in the San Fernando Valley, and the Kenter Canyon Terminal Tower in Brentwood, as well as related work at the Olympic Receiving Station in West Los Angeles. See also attached Project Description and Figures 1 and 2.	Los Angeles	Los Angeles

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:
Following damage from the January 2025 Palisades Fire, the proposed project enhances fire resilience through upgrading the existing Tarzana-Olympic transmission lines by converting a single 128-kilovolt (kV) circuit into two 230-kV circuits, replacing insulators and conductors, reinforcing towers, and upgrading equipment at Tarzana, Kenter Canyon, and Olympic Receiving Stations. These improvements will restore and strengthen a critical power link serving western Los Angeles by improving resistance to wildfire and supporting growing demand. The project will enhance electrical reliability and capacity by increasing power transfer capability to meet growing energy demands. Beneficiaries include residents, businesses, and essential facilities across the region who will receive a more reliable and fire-resilient power supply system that advances the City's goal of 100% carbon-free energy by 2035.

CONTACT PERSON:	**TELEPHONE NUMBER**:
Katherine Rubin	213 - 367 - 0436

EXEMPT STATUS:	**SECTION:**
Statutory Exemption	15269. EMERGENCY PROJECTS (a) (c)

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION:
Governor Gavin Newsom's March 2025 Executive Order N-24-25 concluded that strict compliance with the CEQA and certain permitting requirements would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the January 2025 Pacific Palisades Fire and the restoration of essential public infrastructure. Paragraph 1 of the order denotes that CEQA and any requirement to obtain a permit under the California Coastal Act are suspended to the extent they would otherwise apply. Paragraph 2 of the order applies the suspension to projects which upgrade electric infrastructure in areas adjacent to projects covered by Paragraph 1. The Tarzana-Olympic Upgrade qualifies under this Executive Order and Statutory Exemptions, Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(2) – (b)(4) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269 (a) and (c).

LEAD AGENCY SIGNATURE:	**TITLE:**	**DATE:**
Katherine Rubin Digitally signed by Katherine Rubin Date: 2025.11.19 10:51:01 -08'00' Katherine Rubin	Director of Corporate Environmental Affairs	11/19/2025

151144325.2 0084641-00005

EXEMPTION NARRATIVE

I. DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT, CONTINUED

The proposed project qualifies under Executive Order N-24-25, which suspend statutes, rules, regulations, and requirements set forth by CEQA (Division 13 of the Public Resources Code, commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that division to the extent necessary for actions that repair, replace, or restore infrastructure directly damaged or destroyed by the fire, or that are immediately necessary to restore service, reliability, and resilience to affected communities.

During the Palisades Fire, the City's critical electrical transmission infrastructure, including tower insulators, structural hardware, and conductors along the Tarzana-Olympic Line, sustained extensive damage. The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) proposes to replace damaged components, upgrade selected towers and foundations, and modify equipment at related substations to restore and reinforce the reliability of the City's power grid. The Tarzana-Olympic Line Conversion and Fire Recovery Project (Project) will upgrade the existing Tarzana-Olympic overhead transmission Lines 1A and 1B between Tarzana Receiving Station (RS), located in the southwest San Fernando Valley in the City of Los Angeles (City), and Kenter Canyon Terminal Tower (TT), located in the Brentwood community of West Los Angeles. (See Figure 1 Regional Map and Figure 2 Vicinity Map). The Project would convert an existing single 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission circuit consisting of two conductor sets to two separate 230-kV transmission circuits, thereby increasing the power transfer capability and reliability of the transmission lines. The proposed project would include various station modifications and improvements within the system at Tarzana RS, Kenter Canyon TT, and the Olympic RS. The proposed project is required to continue to provide reliable electrical energy service to the western areas of the City, including the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), in anticipation of the expected increased load that will result from grid electrification. The upgrade of these lines is an essential component of LADWP's transmission plans to support a reduced reliance on its in-basin combustion-turbine electrical generation facilities while substantially increasing the use of renewable resources in an effort to achieve the long-term goal of 100 percent carbon free energy for the City by 2035.

The primary elements required to accomplish the proposed transmission upgrade involve: (1) replacing any damaged insulator strings on the conductors for the existing 138-kV Lines 1A and 1B at each of the 54 existing transmission towers (between Tarzana RS and Kenter Canyon TT) with insulator strings appropriately sized to accommodate 230-kV; and (2) creating new positions for the 230-kV lines by modifying existing equipment and/or adding new equipment at Tarzana RS, Kenter Canyon TT, and Olympic RS.

This work will primarily utilize existing helipad areas as bases for helicopter operations to deliver supplies, material, equipment, and personnel to individual tower sites, to minimize ground disturbance in sensitive areas. The work will also necessarily involve ground-based activities, including crews working on-site, staging areas established at various tower locations as work progresses, and the delivery of supplies, material, equipment and personnel using ground transportation. Preliminary activities including planning, design, engineering, and procurement of materials are already underway and construction will be scheduled during a coordinated outage based on the City's power demand.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
Tarzana-Olympic Transmission Line Upgrade Project
LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

FIGURE 1
Regional Map

151144325.2 0084641-00005

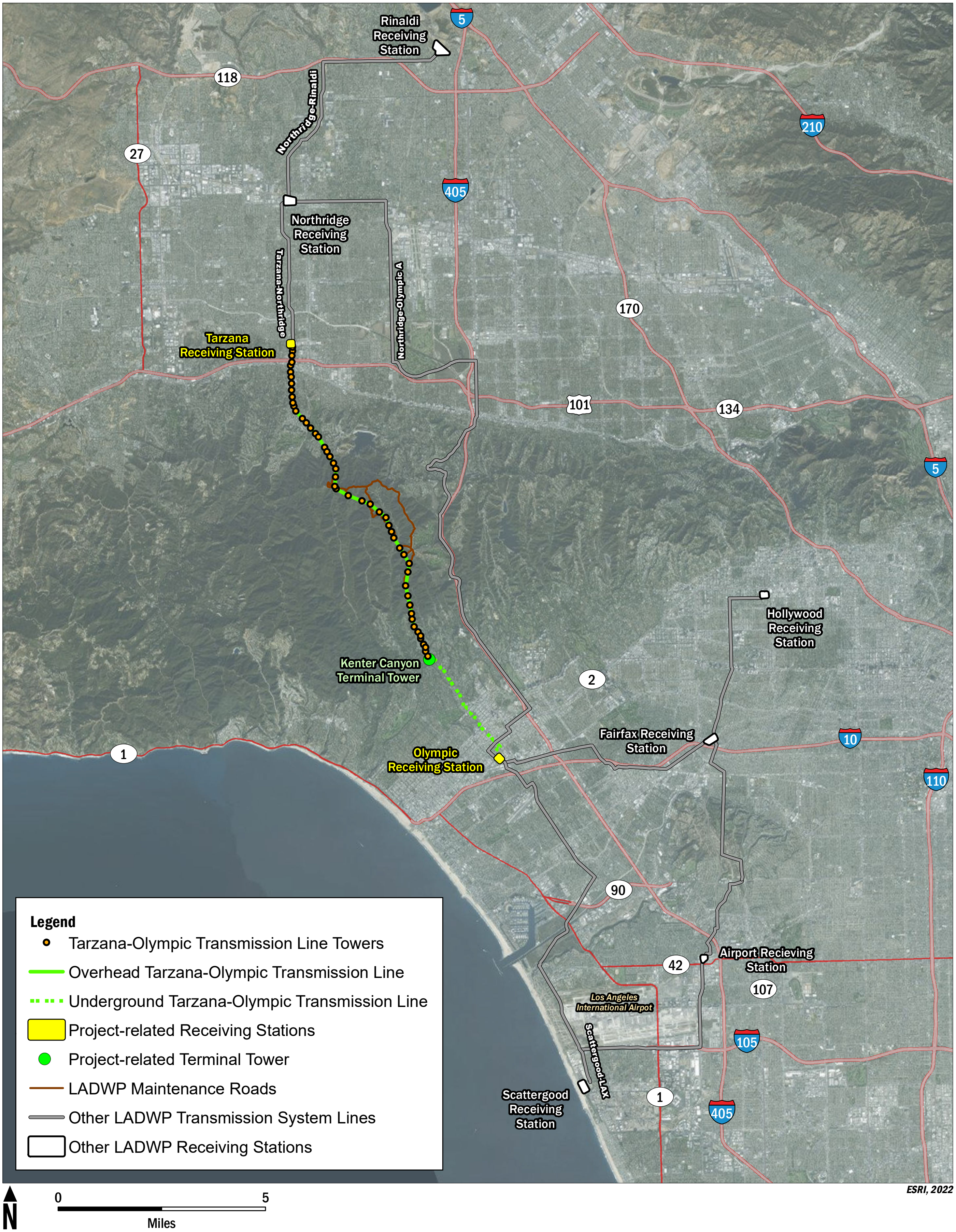

FIGURE 2
Project Overview Vicinity Map

II. PROJECT HISTORY

During the January 2025 Palisades Fire, much of LADWP's critical power delivery infrastructure to the Palisades community was extensively damaged or destroyed. The extreme heat and wind resulted in thermal stress to the high-voltage Tarzana-Olympic (TAR-OLY) overhead transmission line, which impacted the tower insulators, structural hardware, and conductors. The TAR-OLY Line is vital to maintaining the reliability of the City's electrical grid, particularly the western areas of the City, including Los Angeles International Airport. See Figure 3 below depicting the TAR-OLY Line's location relative to the Palisades Fire damage area.

III. BASIS FOR STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS

The proposed Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code Sections 21080(b)(2) – (b)(4) and State CEQA Guidelines Article 18, Section 15269, Class (a) and Class (c) emergency projects:

(a) Projects to maintain, repair, restore, demolish, or replace property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code. This includes projects that will remove, destroy, or significantly alter an historical resource when that resource represents an imminent threat to the public of bodily harm or of damage to adjacent property or when the project has received a determination by the State Office of Historic Preservation pursuant to Section 5028(b) of Public Resources Code.

(c) Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. This does not include long-term projects undertaken for the purpose of preventing or mitigating a situation that has a low probability of occurrence in the short-term, but this exclusion does not apply (i) if the anticipated period of time to conduct an environmental review of such a long-term project would create a risk to public health, safety or welfare, or (ii) if activities (such as fire or catastrophic risk mitigation or modifications to improve facility integrity) are proposed for existing facilities in response to an emergency at a similar existing facility.