

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Sonoma County Water Agency
404 Aviation Blvd.
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

County Clerk
County of Sonoma
585 Fiscal Drive, Room 103
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Project Title: Ralphine Tank No.1 Recoating

Project Location- Specific: The Ralphine potable water storage facility is located at 5030 Medica Road in Santa Rosa, California (Figure 1).

Project Location – City: Santa Rosa

Project Location – County: Sonoma

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The project consists of actions to meet current health and safety standards for ongoing operations and maintenance activities of existing water storage facilities. The project will maintain the service life of the existing potable water storage tank and maintain existing water quality-related appurtenances designed to protect public drinking water sources from contamination. The project will repair corroded structural steel features within the water storage tank, install lateral bracing, apply a 100 percent solids coating to the storage tank interior, paint the exterior with epoxy/urethane, and install a new cathodic protection system for long-term corrosion prevention. Water quality-related actions include the repair and replacement of screened vents and overflow pipes to protect against intrusion of animals and the backflow of contaminated air. Health and safety improvements consist of replacing the roof fall restraint system and guardrail extensions, repositioning of ladders to meet Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements, and installing ladder climbing fall arrest systems for ongoing maintenance activities. Structural improvements to mitigate seismic vulnerabilities include replacing the walking bridges between tanks and installing a seismic fitting on the tank inlet pipe. The project will also remove and replace the existing chain link fencing and gates located between water supply tanks with new wire mesh security fencing around the perimeter of all four (4) tanks, including the installation of four vehicle swing gates for access and egress at locations on the northwest, north, and northeast sides of the tanks.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sonoma County Water Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sonoma County Water Agency

Exempt Status (check one):

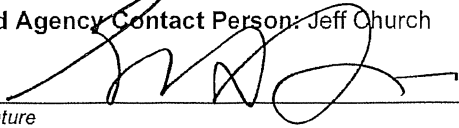
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec.21080 (b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: CEQA Guidelines Sections: 15301(a)(b)(d) - Existing Facilities, Section 15302(c): Replacement or Reconstruction, and 15304(f): Minor Alterations to Land
- Statutory Exemptions. State Code number:

Reasons why project is exempt: The maintenance project consists of repair and minor alterations of existing public utility structures and facilities including the replacement of security fencing that will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structures replaced. The project will also consist of minor alterations to land that will not result in expansion of existing uses or removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jeff Church

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 547-1949

Signature



General Manager
Title

4.30.26
Date

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____



File Location: \\scwa\loc\shares\Prof\water_transmission\tanks\TankRehab\Ralphine1_10593C0011\0593C002\Ralphine Tank No.1 Recoating.aprx Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Figure 1 **Ralphine Tank No.1 Recoating** 