

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FROM: City of Fresno
Department of CAPITAL PROJECTS
747 R St., 2nd Floor
Fresno, California 93721-4016

TO: Fresno County Clerk
2220 Tulare Street
Fresno, California 93721

Office of Planning & Research SCH NO.: N/A
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

Project Title: WC00020-P177 Wellhead Treatment at Pump Station 177

Project Location: 2270 E Brandon Lane

Project Location - City: City of Fresno

Project Location - County: County of Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The City of Fresno, Department of Public Utilities is proposing to construct wellhead treatment improvements at existing Pump Station 177. The improvements include an aeration tank, activated carbon vessels, booster pump, interconnecting piping, and associated electrical and instrumentation lines. The booster pump will improve the pump station's performance and efficiency, and the wellhead treatment facilities will improve water quality for City of Fresno water customers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Fresno – Department of Capital Projects, Utilities & On-Site Project Management Division

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Anita Luera, Project Manager

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial: PRC § 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268
 Declared Emergency: PRC § 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a)
 Emergency Project: PRC § 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b) and (c)
 Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines §15301/Class 1 and §15303/Class 3
 Statutory Exemption: PRC § _____


Reasons why project is exempt: Staff has performed a preliminary environmental assessment of this project and determined that it falls within the Categorical Exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15301/Class 1 which exempts projects that relate to the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures and facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time. The proposed improvements Pump Station 177 include construction of an aeration tank and installation of activated carbon vessels needed to improve water quality. The improvements will not expand the facility's existing operational purpose or scale.

Staff has also determined that the project also falls within the Categorical Exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15303/Class 3 which exempts new construction or installation of small structures and utility extensions of reasonable length to serve such construction. The proposed improvements at Pump Station 177 also includes a booster pump, interconnecting piping, and electrical and instrumentation components. These small new facilities are required appurtenances to the proposed construction and serve to improve pump station's overall performance and efficiency.

WC00096
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Furthermore, Staff has determined that none of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Anita Luera, Project Manager **Telephone No.:** (559) 621-8834

Signature:  _____ **Date:** 5/21/26

Printed Name and Title:

Anita Luera, Project Manager
Department of Capital Projects, Utilities & On-Site Project Management Division

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by applicant

Attachments: Categorical Exemption Determination

CITY OF FRESNO
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. WC00020-P177

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE CATEGORICALLY
EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES

CONTACT: Anita Luera, Project Manager
City of Fresno – Capital Projects Department
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Fresno, CA 93721
Phone: 559-621-8834
Email: Anita.Luera@Fresno.gov

PROJECT TITLE: Wellhead Treatment Improvements at
Pump Station 177

PROJECT LOCATIONS: 2270 E Brandon Lane
Fresno, CA 93720
(City of Fresno Council District 6)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Wellhead treatment improvements at existing Pump Station 177 including construction of an aeration tank and installation of filtration vessels, a booster pump, interconnecting piping, and associated electrical and instrumentation lines to improve the system's performance, efficiency, and water quality.

This project is exempt under Section(s) 15301 Class 1 & 15303 Class 3 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

Class 1 exemptions, for projects pertaining to Existing Facilities, consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. Examples include, but are not limited to, existing facilities of publicly owned utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewage, or other public utility services.

Class 3 exemptions, for projects involving new construction or conversion of small structures, include the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and utility extensions, including electric, water, and sewer, of reasonable length to serve such construction. Examples include but are not limited to water main extensions, utility service connections, and small utility buildings.

Pump Station 177 is an existing potable water facility that supplies drinking water to the City of Fresno municipal water system supporting residential, commercial, and fire

protection demands. The proposed improvements include construction of an aeration tank and installation of activated carbon vessels, booster pump, interconnecting piping, and associated electrical and instrumentation lines within the existing site. The improvements will not expand the facility's existing operational purpose or scale, and are required to improve pump station's overall performance, efficiency, and water quality.

None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2, apply:

- (a) Location** The Project is not located in a sensitive environment or an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern as designated by federal, state, or local agencies. The work is entirely located within the existing Pump Station 177 facility with only minor impact on the right of way.

- (b) Cumulative Impact** The Project will not have a cumulative negative impact over time that is significant. The Project merely entails improvement work within an existing facility.

- (c) Significant Effect** The Project will not have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. All work will be limited to an existing facility.

- (d) Scenic Highways** The Project will not result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. The Project is not located near scenic highways.

- (e) Hazardous Waste Sites** The Project is not located on a hazardous waste site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

- (f) Historical Resources** The Project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. The existing facilities at the Pump Station 177 site are not considered historical resources.

Furthermore, the proposed project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, a categorical exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project.

Prepared by: Anita Luera

Date: February 27, 2026

Submitted by:  _____