

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Santa Barbara

105 E. Anapamu Street

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

From: (Public Agency): Los Alamos Community Services District
PO Box 675

Los Alamos, CA 93440

(Address)

Project Title: Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Improvements Project

Project Applicant: Los Alamos Community Services District

Project Location - Specific:

Approximately 0.9-mile northwest of the community of Los Alamos at 8690 Bell Street

Project Location - City: unincorporated

Project Location - County: Santa Barbara

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The current WWTP process does not meet effluent water quality limits which went into effect in August 2024. The purpose of the project is to implement water quality improvements to address this deficiency. The project includes the replacement of the existing biologic process system that utilizes aeration ponds with an activated sludge process using a membrane bioreactor system (MBR); storm drain replacement, and re-lining of the wet wells at the Bell Street Lift Station. The system is comprised of a series of slab mounted vessels to facilitate treatment steps for secondary treatment of the wastewater. The beneficiaries of the project include the community of Los Alamos, as it receives its wastewater services from the District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Los Alamos Community Services District

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: 15301, Existing Facilities, Class 1
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the "Class 1" (14 CCR § 15301(b)) exemption per the State CEQA Guidelines because it consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing publicly-owned utilities (wastewater) used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services. There would be no expansion of the existing use.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Juan Ramon Gomez Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (805) 344-4195

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Juan Ramon Gomez Date: 6/30/2026 Title: GENERAL MANAGER/CPO

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____