



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print

StartOver

Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:

42 — 09/15/2026 — 203

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY

Laguna County Sanitation District

LEAD AGENCY EMAIL

kethomp@countyofsb.org; sshank@countyofsb.org

DATE

09/15/2026

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING

Santa Barbara

DOCUMENT NUMBER

PROJECT TITLE

Treatment Plant Legacy Facilities Decommissioning Project Award

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME

Laguna County Sanitation District

PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL

kethomp@countyofsb.org; amarredondo@countyofsb.org

PHONE NUMBER

(805) 803-8755

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS

620 West Foster Road

CITY

Santa Maria

STATE

CA

ZIP CODE

93455

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)☒ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$4,227.50	\$	0.00
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$3,043.75	\$	0.00
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,437.25	\$	0.00

☒ Exempt from fee☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$	0.00
☒ County documentary handling fee		\$	50.00
☐ Other		\$	

PAYMENT METHOD:☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☒ Other**TOTAL RECEIVED** \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE

X

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

Katherine Douglas, Deputy Clerk



one
COUNTY
one
FUTURE

2026 CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St. Room 407 • Santa Barbara • CA • 93101

(805) 568-2240

Complete this form when filing a Notice of Determination (Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report) or Notice of Exemption.

A scanned copy of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Receipt, Transmittal Memorandum and the CEQA filing, including the date/time of posting will be emailed to the Lead Agency and Project Applicant. If you would like a return copy, please submit an extra copy along with a pre-addressed, stamped envelope.

Contact Person Kevin Thompson, Seth Shank		Phone 805-803-8755	
Lead Agency Laguna County Sanitation District		Lead Agency Email kethomp@countyofsb.org, sshank@countyofsb.org	
Project Title Treatment Plant Legacy Facilities Decommissioning Project Award			
Project Applicant Laguna County Sanitation District	Email kethomp@countyofsb.org; amarredondo@countyofsb.org	Phone (805) 803-8755	
Project Applicant Address 620 West Foster Road	City Santa Maria	State CA	Zip 93455

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

- ☐ Notice of Determination - Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- ☐ 2026 Filing Fee\$4,227.50
- ☐ Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) \$0.00
- ☐ No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... \$0.00

Environmental Filing Fees will be collected *only* for projects that are approved. The Applicant must attest to the following:

- ☐ This project has been approved. Date of Approval:

- ☐ Notice of Determination - Negative Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).....
- ☐ 2026 Filing Fee \$3,043.75
- ☐ Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) \$0.00
- ☐ No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... \$0.00

Environmental Filing Fees will be collected *only* for projects that are approved. The Applicant must attest to the following:

- ☐ This project has been approved. Date of Approval:

- ☒ Notice of Exemption.....\$0.00

- ☒ County Administrative Handling Fee (**required for all filings, effective 7/19/18**)\$50.00

TOTAL: **\$ 50.00**

PAYMENT METHOD: ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING

☐ Cash

☐ Credit

☐ Check # _____

☒ Journal Entry # **JE-1092100**

In person only

Ensure Workday status reflects "Posted" prior to filing

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

RECEIVED

To: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Copy: State Clearinghouse

2026 SEP 15 P 3: 33
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: Laguna County Sanitation District

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN: 113-240-005 **Case No.:** Not Applicable

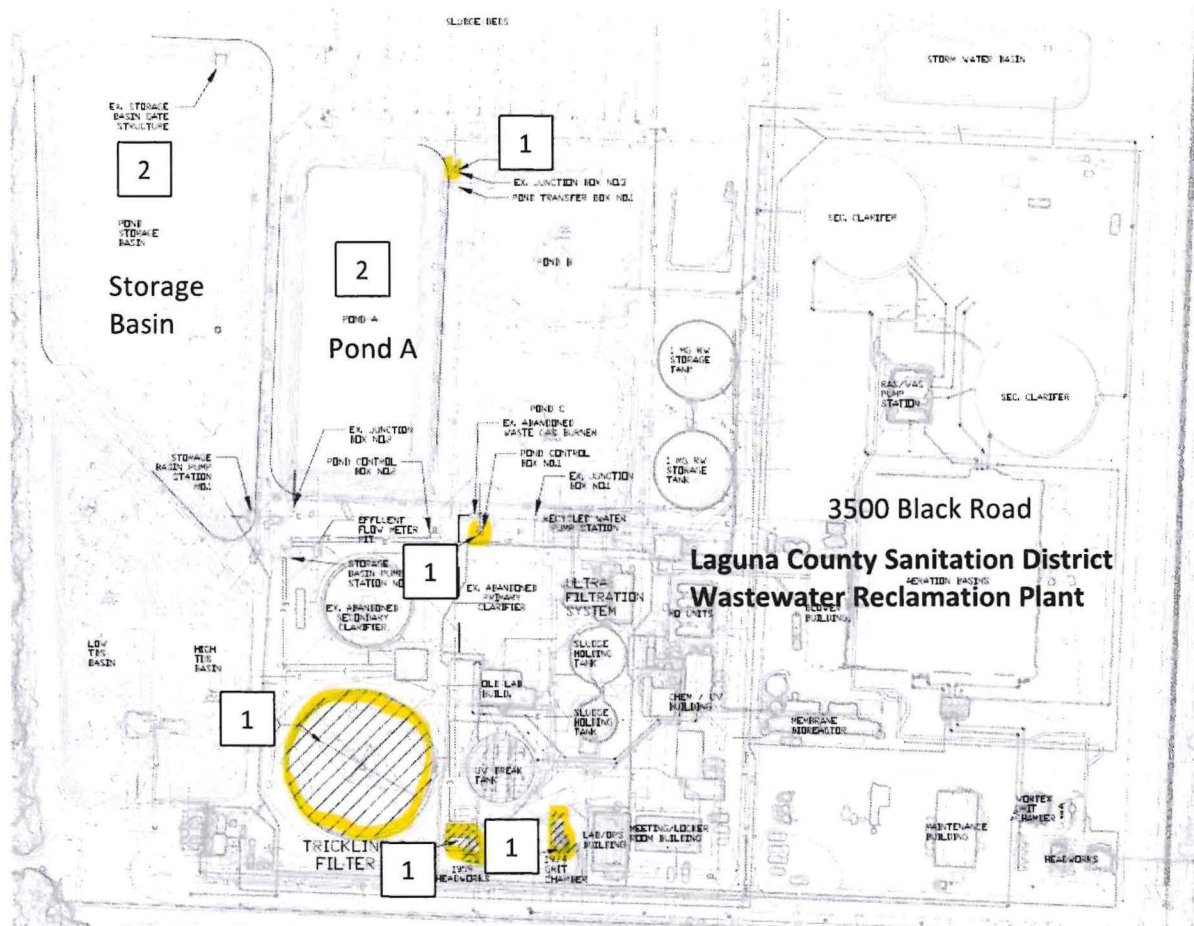
Location: 3500 Black Road. Western terminus of Dutard Road of Black Road.

Project Title: Laguna County Sanitation District Treatment Plant Legacy Facilities Decommissioning Project (LFDEC1)

Project Applicant: Laguna County Sanitation District

Project Description: The Laguna County Sanitation District owns and operates a wastewater reclamation plant serving the Orcutt and southern unincorporated Santa Maria areas. Several older treatment units—including the trickling filter, original headworks, and original grit chamber as well as several pond junction boxes—were constructed under earlier treatment configurations and have since been replaced by modern systems. Although inactive, these structures remain on site and require periodic monitoring to ensure structural integrity and worker safety.

The Legacy Facilities Decommissioning Project will formally retire these inactive units by isolating and abandoning obsolete process piping, removing or filling unused structures, demolishing or stabilizing remaining appurtenances, and restoring the surrounding site to support ongoing plant operations. Work also includes reuse of trickling filter rock as structural backfill for future LCSD improvements (storage basin), reducing hauling and disposal requirements, and regrading pond A to prepare for future concrete lining as a separate project. All activities occur entirely within previously disturbed areas of the existing wastewater reclamation plant and do not expand treatment capacity or modify active treatment processes.



Legend:

- 1 – Abandon structure (highlighted)
- 2 – Re-grade existing ponds

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Laguna County Sanitation District Board of Directors

Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project: W.M. Lyles Company, Incorporated under contract to Laguna County Sanitation District

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial
- ☐ Statutory Exemption
- ☒ Categorical Exemption
- ☐ Emergency Project
- ☐ Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guidelines Section: Sections 15301, subdivision (b) (Existing Facilities), and 15302, subdivision (c) (Replacement or Reconstruction) of the state CEQA Guidelines.

Reasons to support exemption findings:

Section 15301 – Existing Facilities

CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 exempts the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use. The project consists of decommissioning inactive wastewater treatment units by isolating piping, removing or filling structures, and restoring disturbed areas. These actions do not expand facility capacity, alter treatment function, or introduce new uses.

Section 15302 – Replacement and Reconstruction

CEQA Guidelines Section 15302 exempts replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity. The project replaces or removes obsolete structures within their existing footprints and restores the site for continued wastewater facility operations without increasing capacity or changing the purpose of the facility.

Exceptions Analysis (CEQA Guidelines §15300.2)

(a) Location. Classes 1 and 2 are not subject to the location exception. The project occurs entirely within an existing wastewater treatment plant and does not affect mapped environmental resources of hazardous or critical concern.

(b) Cumulative Impacts. Recent facility upgrades (headworks and secondary treatment improvements) were evaluated under the 2018 Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (17NGD-00000-000-15). The decommissioning project involves different, inactive facilities in previously disturbed areas and does not contribute to cumulative impacts.

(c) Significant Effect due to Unusual Circumstances. The project involves decommissioning inactive treatment units and restoring disturbed areas. Although the facility is within potential dispersal habitat for California tiger salamander and California red-legged frog, all work will comply with the adopted Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit (TE16913C), including avoidance and minimization measures. No unusual circumstances exist that would result in a significant environmental impact.

(d) Scenic Highways. The project is not located within a designated state scenic highway corridor and does not affect scenic resources.

(e) Hazardous Waste Sites. The project site is not listed pursuant to Government Code §65962.5.

(f) Historical Resources. Work occurs within previously disturbed wastewater treatment facilities and will not affect historical resources.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Kevin Thompson, P.E., Utilities Manager

Phone #: 805-803-8755

Department/Division Representative: Seth Shank, Environmental Compliance Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Seth Shank".

Date: August 21, 2026

Acceptance Date: _____

Date Filed by County Clerk: 9-15-2026