

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: Los Angeles

From: (Public Agency): Glendale Fire Department
421 Oak St
Glendale, CA 91204

(Address)

Project Title: Rimcrest HeloPod

Project Applicant: Glendale Fire Department

Project Location - Specific:

34.179346, -118.256227

Project Location - City: Glendale

Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project includes placement of a prefabricated HeloPod firefighting water tank near the existing water tank above the end of Rimcrest Drive. The HeloPod will provide a strategically located water source for regional firefighting helicopters operating in Glendale and the surrounding wildland-urban interface. The purpose of the project is to improve wildfire preparedness and public safety by reducing refill travel time and allowing aerial firefighting resources to return to operations more quickly. Beneficiaries include residents, homes, surrounding wildland areas, and the regional fire agencies that provide aerial firefighting support to Glendale.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Glendale Fire Department

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Glendale Fire Department

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: Sections 15303 and 15304
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project qualifies for Class 3 and Class 4 Categorical Exemptions pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15303 and 15304. Class 3 applies to the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, and Class 4 applies to minor alterations to land, water, and/or vegetation. The project consists of placement of a small, prefabricated HeloPod firefighting water tank at an existing site adjacent to established water infrastructure above Rimcrest Drive. The project requires minimal site disturbance and will not involve substantial alteration of the existing site. The HeloPod will provide a strategically located water source for regional firefighting helicopters and improve wildfire preparedness and public safety by reducing aircraft refill travel time during wildland fire operations. Based on the limited scope and nature of the project, the GFD has determined this project would not impact the environment.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Fire Chief Jeff Brooks

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (818) 548-3330

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: 

Date: 09/16/2026

Title: Fire Chief

☒ 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: _____