

2024-0000073

FILED

SAN FRANCISCO County Clerk

December 31, 2024

*M. Nadonza*

by: Mariedyne Nadonza  
Deputy County Clerk

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
628.652.7600  
www.sfplanning.org



**San Francisco  
Planning**

## NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Approval Date: October 22, 2024  
 FEIR Certification Date: March 8, 2018  
 Case No.: **2015-000644ENV-03**  
 State Clearinghouse No: 2015062073  
 Project Title: **Biosolids Digester Facilities Project/ Biogas Utilization System**  
 Project Location-Specific: 750 Phelps Street  
 Project Location-City/County: City and County of San Francisco  
 Zoning: Public (District 10 Bayview); M-1 (Light Industrial); and M-2 (Industrial)  
 65-J; 80-E Height and Bulk District  
 Block/Lot: 5262/009  
 Lot Size: 562,600 square feet  
 Lead Agency: San Francisco Planning Department, see address above  
 Project Applicant: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
 (415) 551-1652  
 kfrye@sfgwater.org  
 Staff Contact: Julie Moore  
 (628) 652-7556  
 Julie.moore@sfgov.org

To: County Clerk, City and County of San Francisco  
 City Hall Room 160  
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
 San Francisco, CA 94102

Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate  
 Innovation Via  
 CEQA Submit Online Portal

TO  
 POSTED  
 DEC 31 2024

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Sections 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code, the Guidelines of the Secretary for Resources, and San Francisco requirements, this Notice of Determination is transmitted to you for filing. At the end of the posting period, please return this Notice to the Staff Contact with a notation of the period it was posted.

**Attached fee:**

- \$82 filing fee    **AND**     \$2,916.75 Negative Declaration Fee [\$4,051.25 EIR Fee] **OR**  
 No Effect Determination (From CDFW) **OR**  Proof of Payment of EIR Fee

## Project Description

On March 8, 2018, the San Francisco Planning Commission certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC) Biosolids Digester Facilities Project (Biosolids project or approved project) at the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant (Southeast Plant), located in the southeast part of San Francisco. Originally built in 1952 with major upgrades in 1982 and 1996, the Southeast Plant is the City's largest wastewater treatment facility, treating approximately 80 percent of San Francisco's sewage and stormwater flows. The approved project includes the construction and operation of a new solids treatment process, odor control, energy recovery, and associated facilities to replace outdated existing facilities with more reliable, efficient, and modern technologies. Biosolids are the recyclable solid materials removed from the wastewater during the wastewater treatment process and digesters are the major facility used in the solids treatment process.

The SFPUC proposes to modify the approved project to construct the Biogas Utilization System to achieve the project's objective of beneficially reusing the digester gas (or biogas) generated by the solids treatment process instead of the originally planned energy recovery system. Instead of building an energy recovery/cogeneration facility in which boilers and a turbine generator would convert the digester gas into energy (heat, steam, and electricity) for on-site use, the digester gas would be upgraded to pipeline-quality, renewable natural gas (energy) for injection into the existing natural gas pipeline running along Quint Street adjacent to the Southeast Plant for distribution to end users.<sup>1</sup> The biogas utilization system components would include a biogas upgrading facility, an Interconnection Station to be constructed and operated by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), and various buried pipelines connecting new and existing facilities. The proposed components would be built within the same boundaries as the approved project site and would be less substantial than the energy recovery facilities. The proposed modification would require importing more natural gas and possibly some electricity from PG&E to operate the biogas utilization system, as well as the steam boilers and other approved Biosolids project facilities. Like the approved project, should issues occur during operation of the biogas utilization system, the digester gas would need to be flared. As with the approved project, the modified project would not change the overall treatment capacity of the Southeast Plant.

Lastly, the SFPUC proposes to extend the construction period an additional 1.5 years due to construction taking longer than initially envisioned. The overall Biosolids project would therefore be completed in Summer 2028, including facilities construction, testing, start-up, and full commissioning.

### San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Approval Subject to Notice of Determination

The SFPUC approved implementing the Biogas Utilization System, contract DB-138 by Resolution No. 24-0223 on October 22, 2024.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The proposed system promotes current California state goals for in state production and distribution of renewable natural gas as documented in Assembly Bill 1900 and Senate Bill 840, and more recently in the Inflation Reduction Act.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.sfpuc.gov/about-us/boards-commissions-committees/sfpuc-commission/agendas-minutes-resolutions-log>

## Determinations

The Biosolids Digester Facilities Project Final EIR was certified on March 8, 2018, and the first approval action took place on March 13, 2018 when the SFPUC approved the construction contract for the Biosolids project. The Planning Department issued Addendum 1 to the FEIR on July 12, 2024, for the proposed biogas utilization system modifications to the Biosolids project. A copy of the document(s) may be examined online at the Planning Department's Environmental Review Documents web page at <http://www.sfplanning.org/sfceqadocs>.

1. An Environmental Impact Report and one addendum have been prepared pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. They are available to the public and may be examined at the Planning Department at the above address or via online at the above web address.
2. A determination has been made that the project in its approved form will have a significant effect on the environment.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of project approval for the project.
4. A mitigation and monitoring reporting program was adopted for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was adopted for this project.
6. Findings were and will be made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

*Julia Moore*

For Lisa Gibson  
Environmental Review Officer

December 31, 2024

Date

cc:

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Shaman Walton, Supervisor District 10

Date Received for filing at OPR:

2018013

ENDORSED  
**FILED**  
SAN FRANCISCO County Clerk

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

APR 10, 2018

REC'D # 0000649683  
APR 10, 2018 14:31:39

SAN FRANCISCO County Clerk  
NOMI KELLY

Default # 18-2018013-00

Account Number: 6  
CEQA - F&O JOURNAL ENTRY 785003/60130  
Env Impact Report \$3,168.00  
Env Impact Fee \$64.00

Total fee \$3,232.00  
Amount Tendered \$3,232.00

Change \$0.00  
DATE PAID

**Notice of Determination**

by: **MARIEDYNE L. ARGENTE**  
Deputy County Clerk

Suite 400  
San Francisco,  
CA 94103-2479

Reception:  
415.558.6378

Fax:  
415.558.8409

Planning  
Information:  
415.558.6377

March 13, 2018  
2015-000644ENV  
2015062073  
**Biosolids Digester Facilities Project**  
P (Public Facilities); M-1 (Light Industrial); and M-2 (Industrial)  
65-J Height and Bulk District  
5262/009; 5281/001  
562,600 square feet  
San Francisco Planning Department  
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Karen Frye (415) 554-1652  
Timothy Johnston - (415) 575-9035  
Timothy.Johnston@sfgov.org

City and County of San Francisco State of California  
1555 Market Street Office of Planning and Research  
San Francisco, CA 94102 PO Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Guidelines of the Secretary for Resources, and San Francisco requirements, this Notice of Determination is transmitted to you for filing. At the end of the posting period, please return this Notice to the Staff Contact with a notation of the period it was posted.

**Attached fee:**

\$64 filing fee AND  \$3,168.00 EIR Fee

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) proposes to construct new solids treatment, odor control, energy recovery, and associated facilities as part of improvements to the wastewater treatment facilities at the existing Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant (Southeast Plant or SEP) in San Francisco. The proposed project, the Biosolids Digester Facilities Project (BDFP or project), would replace the outdated existing solids treatment facilities with more reliable, efficient, and modern technologies and facilities. Biosolids are the recyclable solid materials removed from the wastewater during the treatment process, and digesters are the major facility used in the solids treatment process. Many of the existing SEP solids treatment facilities are over 60 years old, require significant maintenance, and are operating well beyond their useful life. The project would replace the existing digesters with new digesters and other new facilities that would produce higher-quality biosolids, capture and treat odors more effectively, and maximize digester gas utilization and energy recovery for the production of heat, steam, and electrical power. In addition, the project intends to locate the digesters farther away from existing residences, limit project-generated odors to the SEP fence line, and make visual improvements in and around the SEP.



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2018 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753.5a (Rev. 01/03/18) Previously DFG 753.5a

**Print**    **StartOver**    **Finalize&Email**

RECEIPT NUMBER:  
 38 — 04102018 — 013  
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY <b>SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT</b>	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE <b>04/10/2018</b>
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING <b>San Francisco</b>	DOCUMENT NUMBER <b>649683</b>	

PROJECT TITLE  
**BIOSOLIDS DIGESTER FACILITIES PROJECT**

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME <b>TIMOTHY JOHNSTON</b>	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL <b>TIMOTHY.JOHNSTON@SFGOV.ORG</b>	PHONE NUMBER <b>(415) 575-9035</b>
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PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS <b>1650 MISSION STREET, SUITE 400</b>	CITY <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	STATE <b>CA</b>	ZIP CODE <b>94103</b>
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PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency     School District     Other Special District     State Agency     Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:


<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$3,168.00	\$	<u>3,168.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,280.75	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program document (CRP)	\$1,077.00	\$	<u>0.00</u>

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$	<u>64.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$	<u>          </u>

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash     Credit     Check     Other JE ID 69035    **TOTAL RECEIVED** \$ 3,232.00

SIGNATURE <b>X</b> 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE <b>MARIEDYNE L. ARGENTE , Deputy County Clerk</b>
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State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2024 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE**  
**CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/24) Previously DFG 753.5a

**Print**  **Save**

RECEIPT NUMBER:  
 38-12/31/2024-122

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

**SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.**

LEAD AGENCY SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL pic@sfgov.org	DATE 12/31/2024
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 2024-0000073	

PROJECT TITLE  
 BIOSOLIDS DIGESTER FACILITIES PROJECT/ BIOGAS UTILIZATION SYSTEM

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME JULIE MOORE	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL julie.moore@sfgov.org	PHONE NUMBER (628) 652-7556
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 49 SOUTH VAN NESS AVENUE, SUITE 1400	CITY SAN FRANCISCO	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 94103

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency    
  School District    
  Other Special District    
  State Agency    
  Private Entity

**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**

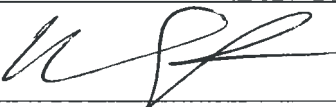
- Environmental Impact Report (EIR) \$ 4,051.25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) \$ 2,916.75 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW \$ 1,377.25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- County documentary handling fee \$ 82.00 \$ 82.00
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

- Cash   
  Credit   
  Check   
  Other JE 691461   
 TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 82.00

SIGNATURE <b>X</b> 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Mariedyne Nadonza Deputy Clerk
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