



CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS  
and  
NOTICE OF APPROVAL

**Project:** Soil Testing and Groundwater Sampling by Golder Associates at National City Marine Terminal  
**Location:** 3040 Terminal Avenue, National City, CA 91950  
**Parcel No.:** 027-003  
**Project No.:** 2019-067  
**Applicant:** Archana Kukreti, Golder Associates, Inc., 3 Corporate Park #200, Irvine, CA 92606  
**Date Approved:** May 9, 2019

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project would involve soil testing and groundwater sampling by Golder Associates (Applicant) in the city of National City, California. Work to specifically complete the proposed project would involve soil borings and groundwater sampling within an approximately 50,000 square foot area. Soil borings would be conducted at approximately 20 locations, measuring approximately two inches in diameter and 40-feet-deep. The borings and groundwater would be removed, drummed, and characterized, then disposed of at a landfill. Ongoing sampling of groundwater would occur on a quarterly basis. The borings would be backfilled with bentonite grout and then patched with asphalt concrete. Construction of the proposed project is anticipated to occur in spring 2019 and would take approximately one week to complete with ongoing groundwater sampling occurring on a quarterly basis for two to three days per quarter.

Due to its nature and limited scope, construction of the proposed project would generate a minor amount of vehicle trips and would require limited use of equipment. Therefore, impacts related to air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and transportation and traffic are not anticipated to occur. Furthermore, the Applicant would be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding construction demolition debris, hazards and hazardous materials, and stormwater.

The following categorical determinations are based on the project submittal and all project information known to the District as of the date of this determination.

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**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

***CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION***

Categorical Exemptions: SG §15304, Class 4/Section 3.d: Minor Alterations to Land and SG §15306, Class 6/Section 3.f: Information Collection

3.d. Minor Alterations to Land (SG § 15304) (Class 4): Includes minor alterations in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation not involving removal of mature, scenic trees, including, but not limited to:

- (6) Minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment.
- (7) Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.

AND/OR

3.f. Information Collection (SG § 15306) (Class 6): Includes basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which has not yet been approved, adopted or funded.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines and the Sections of the District's *Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA* as identified above. These are appropriate for the proposed project because it would consist of soil testing and groundwater sampling that would not involve removal of mature, scenic trees, would have no permanent effects on the

environment, and would not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The District has determined none of the six exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption apply to this project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2).

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, a 35-day statute of limitations for this CEQA exemption shall apply from the date a Notice of Exemption is posted with the San Diego County Clerk, or a 180-day statute of limitations for this CEQA exemption shall apply if no Notice of Exemption is filed.

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT**

**PORT MASTER PLAN CONSISTENCY**

Planning District: 5 - National City Bayfront (Precise Plan Figure 15)

Land Use Designation: Marine Related Industrial

The proposed project conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it would consist of soil testing and groundwater sampling, consistent with the existing certified Land use designation. The project would not change the use of the site nor would it interrupt or expand the existing conforming use of the site.

**CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION**

Categorical Exclusions: Section 8.d: Minor Alterations to Land and Section 8.e: Information Collection

8.d. Minor Alterations to Land: Minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees.

AND/OR

8.e. Information Collection: Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major significant disturbance to an environmental resource.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Excluded pursuant to the Sections of the District's *Coastal Development Permit Regulations* as identified above. These are appropriate for the proposed project because it would consist of soil testing and groundwater sampling that would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees and would not result in a serious or major significant disturbance to an environmental resource.

Pursuant to California Coastal Act Section 30717, there is a 10-working-day period to appeal this "Coastal Act Categorical Determination of Exclusion" to the California Coastal Commission.


**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC TRUST DOCTRINE**

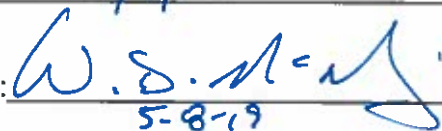
The proposed project complies with Section 87.(a)(1) of the Port Act, which allows for the establishment, improvement, and conduct of a harbor, and for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, and operation of wharves, docks, piers, slips, quays, and all other works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures, and appliances incidental, necessary, or convenient, for the promotion and accommodation of commerce and navigation. The Port Act was enacted by the California Legislature and is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine. Consequently, the proposed project is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine.

RANDA CONIGLIO  
President/CEO

Determination by:  
Cameron McLeod  
Assistant Planner  
Development Services

Deputy General Counsel

Signature:   
Date: 5/9/17.

Signature:   
Date: 5-8-17