



**CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS
and
NOTICE OF APPROVAL**

Project: Installation of Electrical Equipment by the Dry Utility Group on Behalf of San Diego Gas & Electric along North Harbor Drive
Location: Along North Harbor Drive between Airport Terminal Road and Liberator Way
Parcel No.: 007-031
Project No.: 2023-067
Applicant: Natasha Buerster, Project Coordinator, The Dry Utility Group, 137 E 11th St. Escondido, CA 92025
Date Approved: 05/05/2023

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project would involve the installation of electrical equipment by The Dry Utility Group (Applicant) on behalf of San Diego Gas & Electric in the city of San Diego, California. Work to specifically complete the proposed project would involve:

- Installation of cable inside of a conduit setting equipment on top of existing pads
- Adjustment of approximately seven (7) manholes to grade
- Installation of a fuse cabinet
- Installation of approximately two (2) PME 10 switches
- Removal of approximately two (2) PME 10 switches
- Installation of and removing handholes as needed
- Installation of a 4-way switch
- Removal of a 4-way switch
- Installation of a single phase transformer
- Removal of a single phase transformer
- Removal and installation of cable as needed to complete this project

Staging for the project would be within SDCRAA property in the active construction zone North of Harbor Drive. Construction of the proposed project is anticipated to begin in Spring 2023 and the work would be completed in two phases. The first phase would begin in Spring 2023 and take approximately five (5) weeks to complete. The second phase would begin in Fall 2023 and would take approximately eight (8) weeks to complete. 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.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

Categorical Exemptions: SG §15301, Class 1/Section 3.a: Existing Facilities and SG §15303, Class 3/Section 3.c: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

3.a. Existing Facilities (SG § 15301) (Class 1): Includes operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, including but not limited to:

- (7) Existing facilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility service.

AND/OR

- 3.c. **New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (SG § 15303) (Class 3):** Includes construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and conversion of existing small structures from one use to another with minor modifications to the exterior of the structure. Examples of this exemption include:

- (3) Water, sewer, electrical, gas, telephone, and other utility structures or facilities.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorical 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 involve negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing and involve the installation of small new electrical facilities. 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: 2 - Harbor Island/Lindbergh Field (Precise Plan Figure 9)

Land Use Designation: Streets

The proposed project conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it would involve installation of electrical equipment consistent with the existing certified land use designation. The proposed project would not change the use of the site, nor would it interrupt or expand the existing conforming uses of the site.

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

Categorical Exclusions: Section 8.a: Existing Facilities and Section 8.c: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

- 8.a. **Existing Facilities:** The operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, including but not limited to:

- (2) Public and private utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewer, or other utility services

AND/OR

- 8.c. **New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures:** Construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures and installation of small, new equipment and facilities, involving negligible or no change of existing use of the property, including but not limited to:

- (2) Water main, sewer, electrical, gas, or other utility extensions of reasonable length to serve such construction

The proposed project is determined to be Categorical 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 involve negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing and involve the installation of small new electrical facilities.

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)(4) of the Port Act, which allows for the construction, reconstruction, repair, and maintenance of highways, streets, roadways, bridges, belt line railroads, parking facilities, power, telephone, telegraph or cable lines or landings, water and gas pipelines, and all other transportation and utility facilities or betterments incidental, necessary, or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of any of the uses set forth in this section. 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.

JOE STUYVESANT
President/CEO

Determination by:
Abigail Haynam
Assistant Planner
Development Services

Signature: Abigail Haynam
Date: 05/05/2023

Assistant/Deputy General Counsel

Signature: Simon Kayy
Date: 05/05/2023