



CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS and NOTICE OF APPROVAL

Project: Mexican Fan Palm Removal by SDG&E in National City
Location: 1400 Bay Marina Dr, National City, CA 91950
Parcel No.: 027-038
Project No.: 2025-088
Applicant: Dan Bohnett, Area Forester, San Diego Gas & Electric, 8326 Century Park Ct, San Diego, CA 92123; (858) 650-4050
Date Approved: 7/31/2025

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project would involve the removal of one (1) Mexican Fan Palm tree by San Diego Gas & Electric in the city of National City, California. Work to complete the proposed project would involve the removal of one (1) existing invasive Mexican Fan Palm tree facing Bay Marina Drive due to the tree growing into nearby utility power lines. Work would also involve replanting four (4) 15-gallon Conifer trees within Embarcadero Marina Park South to provide shading opportunities. The tree species proposed for replanting shall be moderately drought-tolerant and deciduous.

The proposed removal is anticipated to occur in September 2025 and take approximately two (2) days to complete and the replacement work is anticipated to occur in Fall 2025. Public access shall be maintained at all times as there would be no path or street closures and no parking spaces affected during removal and replanting activities. Equipment needed to complete the proposed project would consist of hand tools, a chainsaw, a chipper truck and grinder. Due to its nature and limited scope, 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 District 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 Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1) / District Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA Section 3.a: Existing Facilities

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:

(12) Maintenance of existing landscaping, native growth, and water supply reservoirs.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines and the Section of the District's *Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA* as identified above. This is appropriate for the proposed project because it would consist of the removal and replanting of trees that would not involve an expansion of use beyond that previously existing. 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 involve the removal and replanting of trees 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 Exclusion: Section 8.a: Existing Facilities

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:

(8) Maintenance and control of existing vegetation.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Excluded pursuant to the Section of the District's *Coastal Development Permit Regulations* as identified above. This is appropriate for the proposed project because it would consist of the removal and replanting of trees that would involve a negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing.

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)(5) of the Port Act, which allows for the construction, reconstruction, repair, 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.

SCOTT CHADWICK
Acting President/CEO

Determination by:
Betsy Viramontes
Assistant Planner
Development Services

Signature: Betsy Viramontes
Date: 7/31/2025

Deputy General Counsel

Signature: Shiraz Tangri
Date: 7/31/2025