



# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

INITIATING UNIT: Water Distribution Planning Div., Engineering and Construction Dept.

1. TITLE: South Reservoir Replacement Project

2. LOCATION (City, County, and specific location): End of Gail Drive, north of Grove Way in Castro Valley, Alameda County (see attached Figure 1).

3. DESCRIPTION: The overall project includes demolition of the existing 50-million gallon (MG) reservoir followed by construction of a 8.5-MG replacement reservoir within the boundaries of the existing reservoir site (see Attachment A).

**EXEMPTION FINDING (Check one)**

This project is exempt from CEQA because:

1.  Activity is not a Project.

2.  Activity is Ministerial (Sec.21080(b)(1); Guideline 15268).

3.  Activity is a Declared Emergency (Sec.21080(b)(3); Guideline 15269(a)).

4.  Activity is an Emergency Project (Sec.21080(b)(4); Guideline 15269(b)(c)).

5.  Activity is Categorically Exempt Under Guideline 15302

6.  Activity is Statutorily Exempt Under Guideline \_\_\_\_\_

7.  Reasons why project is exempt: The project will be conducted in previously disturbed/developed areas and meets the definition of 15301 relating to alteration of existing equipment, and 15302 relating to replacement/reconstruction of existing facilities/structures and streets. Demolition activity will be necessary to clear the site before construction begins on the replacement reservoir.

**APPROVAL**

1. DATE PREPARED: 12/22/10

2. PREPARED BY (initial): D. V. Cicala

3. REVIEWED BY (initial Unit Supv.): J. L. Rios

4. RECOMMENDED BY (Division/Section Manager): William R. Kirkpatrick, Manager of WDPD

5. CONTACT PERSON / MAIL SLOT #: J. L. Rios, MS # 701

TITLE: Senior Civil Engineer PHONE: 510-287-1091

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION APPROVED FOR FILING WITH THE COUNTY CLERK**

DATE: 12.27.10 DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR: [Signature]

DATE FORWARDED TO COUNTY CLERK: 1/10/11 SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT: [Signature]



# ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET

COUNTY CLERK: Patrick O'Connell  
Alameda County  
1106 Madison Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

DATE: 1/10/11

PROJECT TITLE: South Reservoir Replacement Project, Castro Valley, CA, Alameda County.

### CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

- 1.  Notice of Exemption - \$50.00 County Clerk's Fee
- 2.  Notice of Intent to Adopt a  Negative Declaration (Posting Only)  
 Mitigated Negative Declaration (Posting Only)
- 3.  Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Posting Only)
- 4.  Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Posting Only)
- 5.  Notice of Determination – Fee Required
  - A. Negative Declaration
    - \$1,800 – State Filing Fee unless de minimus impact (Sec. 2.C)
    - \$50.00 – County Clerk's Fee
  - B. Environmental Impact Report
    - \$2,500.00 – State Filing Fee unless de minimus impact (Sec. 2.C.)
    - \$50.00 – County Clerk's Fee
- 6.  Other (Specify)
  - \$50.00 – County Clerk's Fee
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

Questions concerning this filing should be directed to:

Office of the Secretary  
East Bay Municipal Utility District  
P.O. Box 24055  
Oakland, CA 94623  
Telephone: (510) 287-0440

Secretary

  
Lynelle M. Lewis

ATTACHMENTS: Notice of Exemption  
Check No. 2369340

# \*ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION

(CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME CODE SECTION 711.4)

**LEAD AGENCY NAME AND ADDRESS**

**EBMUD  
375--11TH STREET, MD #806  
OAKLAND, CA 94607**

**FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY**

**SOUTH RESERVOIR REPLACEMENT  
PROJECT.**

FILE NO: \_\_\_\_\_

**CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT:  
(PLEASE MARK ONLY ONE CLASSIFICATION)**

**1. NOTICE OF EXEMPTION / STATEMENT OF EXEMPTION**

A - STATUTORILY OR CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT

\$ 50.00 - COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

**2. NOTICE OF DETERMINATION (NOD)**

A - NEGATIVE DECLARATION (OR MITIGATED NEG. DEC.)

\$ 2,044.00 - STATE FILING FEE

\$ 50.00 - COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

B - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

\$ 2,839.25 - STATE FILING FEE

\$ 50.00 - COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

**3. ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT PURSUANT TO A CERTIFIED  
REGULATORY PROGRAM (CRP)**

A - ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT PURSUANT TO A CRP

\$ 965.50 - STATE FILING FEE

\$ 50.00 - COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

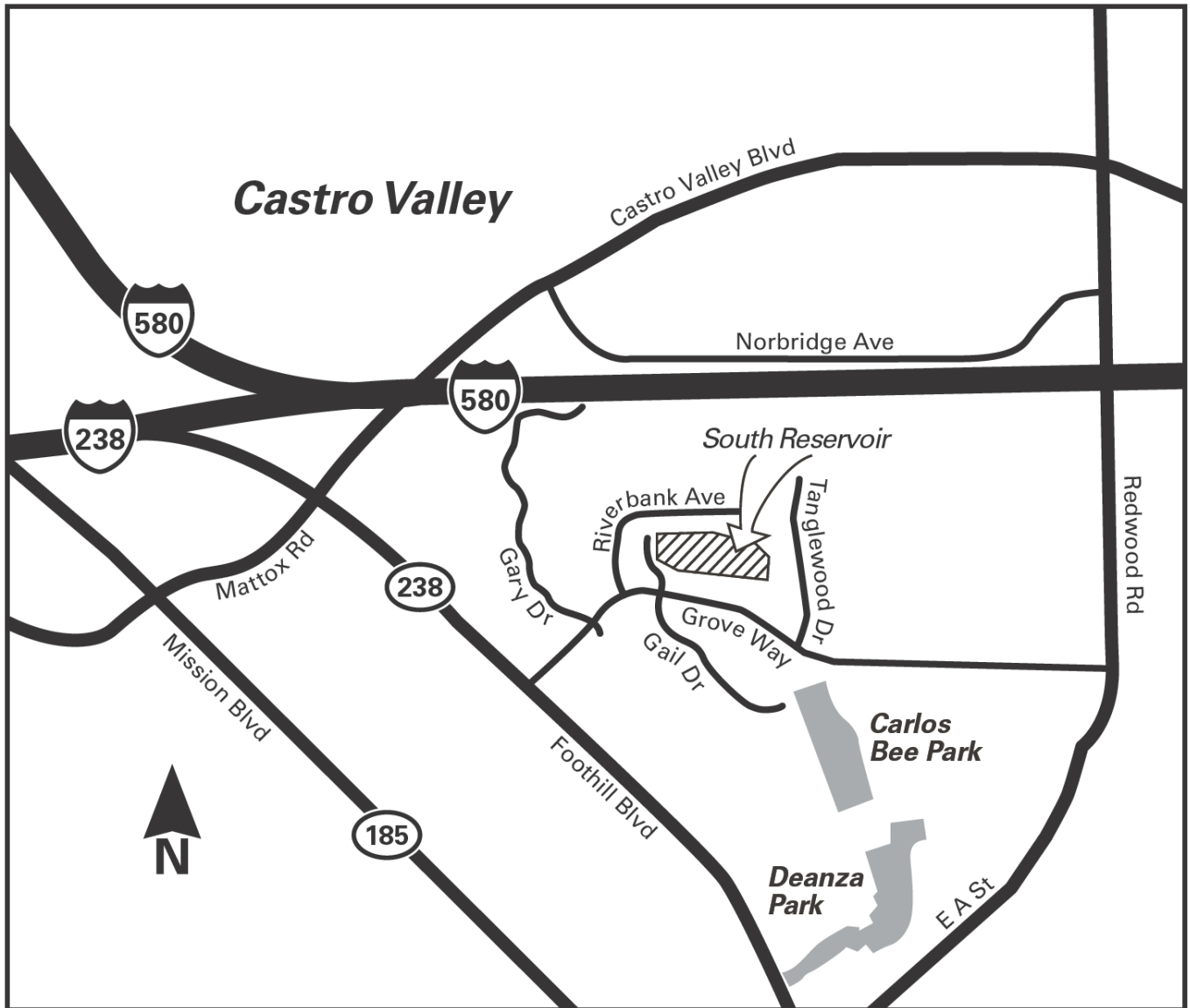
\*A COPY OF THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH EACH COPY OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION BEING FILED WITH THE ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK.

FOUR (4) COPIES OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR FILINGS SUBMITTED BY MAIL. FIVE (5) COPIES ARE REQUIRED FOR IN-OFFICE FILINGS.

**ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING.**

FEES ARE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK



**PROJECT SITE  
LOCATION MAP**

NOT TO SCALE

**EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT**

**SOUTH RESERVOIR  
REPLACEMENT**

**FIGURE 1**

**EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT  
SOUTH RESERVOIR REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**Location/Site Characteristics**

The 12.5-acre South Reservoir site is located at Gail Drive and Grove Way in the unincorporated community of Castro Valley; approximately 2,000 feet southeast of the intersection of Interstates 238 and 580 (see Figure 1 of the Notice of Exemption). The existing reservoir site is designated Public Facility land use, the surrounding land use is single-family residential (fully developed).

The existing 40-foot deep, 50-million gallon (MG) embankment dam open-cut reservoir was built in 1956 and is under the jurisdiction of the California Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). The south and southwest embankments making up the main dam of the reservoir are compacted earthfill from the reservoir excavation. The reservoir is lined with 4-inch thick concrete slabs overlying a 3/16-inch layer of impervious membrane, 4-inch layer of asphalt concrete, and 2.5-inch layer of drain rock. The reservoir roof is constructed of precast concrete panels on a concrete frame. South Reservoir was permanently removed from service in 2008 due to water quality concerns relating to roof leakage into the reservoir. The reservoir was drained in 2008 and water service is maintained today with the large (65.5 MG) Dunsmuir Reservoir and large diameter pipelines serving the area.

**Purpose**

The intent of the project is to replace the 50-MG open cut reservoir at South Reservoir with a new 8.5-MG pre-stressed concrete tank within the existing reservoir basin. This solves the water quality issues, deals with the failed roof, and eliminates any seismic risks associated with a 55-year old embankment dam.

**Project Description**

Project construction will begin with demolition of the existing roof and interior components. Site preparation, including excavation earthwork and retaining wall installation, will follow demolition. After site preparation, the reservoir basin will not be capable of impounding more than 15 acre-feet of water, the volume threshold for DSOD jurisdiction. This will be achieved by notching the south embankment at the access road entrance, and by backfilling the basin with recycled demolition and excavated earthwork materials to reduce the potential impounded volume. Construction and installation of the new tank will follow along with final backfilling earthwork and site landscaping at the entrance and along the embankment roadway.

***Demolition***

Demolition of the existing pre-cast concrete roof and liner structures will entail a series of steps including cutting, crushing, and grinding the concrete roof and columns; and removing paneling, joists, girders, and lining. A contract will be let for the demolition of the existing concrete roof and liner structures, including removal of all demolition debris and spoils, though much of it will be used for backfill. Demolition

activities will require utilizing various equipment including generators, bull dozers, backhoes, cranes, hoe rams, water trucks, haul trucks, air compressors, chain saws, concrete crushing, steel cutting equipment, and hand tools. The existing lining, floor, slope, and roof will be ground up and reused on site. Recycling of concrete is the preferred method of disposal in order to recycle and reuse materials and minimize traffic and landfill impacts. All recycled concrete demolition materials and excavated earthwork will be utilized as fill material.

### ***Site Preparation***

Site preparation will include lowering the access road at Gail Drive, thus breaching the dam at the existing south embankment, constructing permanent retaining walls along the access road at Gail Drive, excavation of the new tank construction area, and installing temporary shoring around the new reservoir site. Earthwork at the site will be balanced via backfill of the reservoir site. Any additional excavation can be used to fill around the tank, having the dual benefit of significantly reducing truck trips to and from the reservoir site during construction as well as reducing the volume of water that can be impounded. The existing reservoir access road will be lowered to approximately 190 feet in elevation and follow the existing road alignment along Gail Drive. The existing valve pits in Gail Drive near Grove Way will be backfilled and abandoned in place after removal of any necessary appurtenances. Existing drain lines will be reused where possible and enhanced or abandoned in place as necessary. All other appurtenances, such as the existing monitoring wells and piezometers, will be decommissioned by grouting in place.

### ***Construction***

Once site preparation activities are complete, construction will begin on the 8.5-MG replacement tank inside the existing reservoir basin. Some landscape screening will be planted along the western and southeast edges of the reservoir site perimeter to enhance existing screening of views of the tank from residents along Grove Way, Gail Drive, and Gary Drive (see attached Figures A-1 through A-4). There will be no significant changes to the existing view for nearby residents owing to the landscaping and unchanged roof height between the existing reservoir and replacement tank with a much smaller roof area. The tank will be located in the eastern end of the existing basin. The property perimeter fence will be replaced with East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) standard security fence with 3 strands of barbed wire (8 feet tall and 1-inch mesh fabric or chain link).

Standard construction practices will be in use for all demolition and construction activities, including measures to minimize noise, vibration, dust, and traffic generated by the project.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the regional agency responsible for air quality regulation within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin. The contractor will be responsible for air pollution control measures and use of Best Management Practices to control dust and emissions. EBMUD will incorporate BAAQMD Basic Control Measures and BAAQMD Exhaust Controls into the contract specifications, such as using water trucks to control dust, tarping truck load containing any loose materials, sweeping paved access roads daily, and removing soil material on public streets.

Basic greenhouse gas control measures standard for EBMUD will be written into contract specifications to limit idling vehicle times, and to ensure vehicle efficiency (such as appropriate tire pressure and preventive maintenance). Additionally, the project will reuse construction concrete materials to the extent feasible, significantly reducing truck trips and landfill contribution.

After construction normal operation of the reservoir will not generate any noise that exceeds ambient noise levels. Construction-related noise increases will occur over approximately a two year period during daytime hours. Construction activities will occur primarily within the existing basin. The reservoir embankment is higher in elevation than the surrounding residences, and the sloped embankments will tend to direct noise upward and away from neighbors. Construction hours will be typically 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for emergencies and water system tie-ins. If necessary, construction hours will be reduced for certain noise-generating activities, such as concrete grinding. Reasonable effort will be made to limit noise related construction from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for noise generating activities greater than 90 dBA measured at the top of the embankment.

Normal operation of the reservoir will not generate ground vibrations. Construction-related activities could cause ground vibrations at short intervals over approximately a two-year period, most likely during demolition with the use of heavy equipment. Vibration will be monitored and specified to not exceed the EBMUD standard of less than 0.5 inches/second peak particle velocity, a vibration level that may result in minor cosmetic damage to residential buildings. To date this has not occurred on other similar projects.

Construction activities will generate vehicle trips during project construction, temporarily contributing to increased traffic on local roadways. Construction traffic to the site would vary by type of activity and construction phase. Construction access to the site will likely utilize the Foothill Boulevard to Grove Way route. Truck trips will be associated with hauling materials, debris, and equipment to and from the site. Road conditions on the haul route will be documented before and after construction, and roads damaged by construction will be repaired. The truck traffic on Grove Way during the demolition, site preparation, and construction activities is anticipated to be minimal (average of about one truck trip per day with a maximum of eleven one-way truck trips per hour for a short duration (a few weeks) during foundation and roof concrete pouring activity). Currently the road carries about 1,900 eastbound and 2,600 westbound cars and trucks per day. Construction employees would contribute a maximum of 10 round trips per day. The County has no specific traffic thresholds, but construction traffic is very low compared to the typical range of trips per hour, 30 to 80 in the morning, and 80 to 130 trips in the afternoon for Grove Way. A Traffic Control and Safety Plan will be developed by the construction contractor for the project.

### ***Impacts to Water Service***

Since South Reservoir has been out of service since November 2008, construction will have no impacts to water service or operations. Once completed, the project will improve level of service and system redundancy, without inducing growth as the new tank will be much smaller than the existing reservoir.

## **Schedule**

The overall duration of this effort is expected to be about two years. Demolition will take about 6 months and is scheduled to begin in the summer/fall 2012. Site preparation will follow. Tank construction will begin in spring 2013, lasting approximately 1 year, followed by site restoration and landscaping. The project is projected to be complete in the summer/fall 2014.

## **Permits**

Grading, drainage, and road encroachment permits may be required for this project.

DVC:sb

sb10\_236.doc

Attachments



# South Reservoir

Typical View #1 (36° angle of view)



Existing view toward the south embankment, from the north side of reservoir.



Landscaping added along the south embankment to reduce distant views.



Roof removed, showing open basin and portion of new tank on the right.



# South Reservoir

Typical View #2 (36° angle of view)



Existing view toward the west embankment, from the south side of reservoir.



Landscaping added along west embankment to reduce distant views.



Roof removed, showing open basin with new road cut. Distant views cannot see west embankment.



# South Reservoir

Typical View #3 (90° angle of view)



Existing view to the north, from southeast corner of Gail Dr. / Grove Wy intersection.



Roof removed, upper portion of Gail Dr lowered, new entry road cut in, and landscaping added.  
NOTE: Light post and fencing to be replaced.



Same as above with more natural shading.



