

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

(Articles II and III – City CEQA Guidelines)

Submission of this form is optional. The form shall be filed with the County Clerk, 12400 E. Imperial Highway, Norwalk, California, 90650, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21167(d), the filing of this notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on court challenges to the approval of the project.

LEAD CITY AGENCY AND ADDRESS: Bureau of Sanitation Department of Public Works 1149 S. Broadway, Suite 1000 Los Angeles, CA 90015	COUNCIL DISTRICT All
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PROJECT TITLE: Proposed amendments to the Industrial Waste Control Ordinance (Los Angeles Municipal Code Sections 64.00 and 64.30) W.O. SEMGERVW	LOG REFERENCE
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PROJECT LOCATION: City of Los Angeles

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT: The Bureau of Sanitation, Industrial Waste Management Division, is responsible for administering the City's Pretreatment Program to control pollutant discharges from industrial users to the City's sewer collection system. Legal authority providing the basis for the City's Pretreatment Program is established in Sections 64.00 and 64.30 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), referred to as the Industrial Waste Control Ordinance (Ordinance). The proposed amendments to the Ordinance will bring the City into compliance with the National Pretreatment Program. The project will protect the City's waterways and natural environment by updating the City's Ordinance to be in compliance with the more stringent federal pretreatment standards in order to ensure that the goals of the Clean Water Act are attained.

CONTACT PERSON Norman Mundy	TELEPHONE NUMBER 213-485-5737
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EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)	CITY CEQA GUIDELINES	STATE CEQA GUIDELINES
<input type="checkbox"/> MINISTERIAL	Art. II, Sec. 2.b	Sec. 15268
<input type="checkbox"/> DECLARED EMERGENCY	Art. II, Sec. 2.a(1)	Sec. 15269(a)
<input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY PROJECT	Art. II, Sec. 2.a(2)(3)	Sec. 15269(b)(c)
<input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL EXEMPTION	Art. II, Sec. 1	Sec. 15061(b)(3)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION*	Art. III, Sec. 1 Class 8	Sec. 15308
<input type="checkbox"/> STATUTORY*	Art. _____	Sec. _____

* See Public Resources Code Sec. 21080 and set forth state and city guidelines provisions.

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION: Article III, Section 1, Class 8 of the City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines (and Section 15308 of the State CEQA Guidelines) exempts actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Class 8 specifically identifies industrial waste permits as falling within the exemption. The project does not involve any construction activities and does not relax standards allowing environmental degradation.

None of the limitations set forth in State CEQA Guidelines 15300.2 apply (see attached narrative).

IF FILED BY APPLICANT, ATTACH CERTIFIED DOCUMENT OF EXEMPTION FINDING

SIGNATURE:  Maria Martin	TITLE: Environmental Affairs Officer Environmental Management Group	DATE: 2-12-15
FEE: \$75.00 _____	RECEIPT NO.	REC'D BY
		DATE

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION NARRATIVE

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Bureau of Sanitation, Industrial Waste Management Division, is responsible for administering the City's Pretreatment Program to control pollutant discharges from industrial users to the City's sewer collection system. Legal authority providing the basis for the City's Pretreatment Program is established in Sections 64.00 and 64.30 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), referred to as the Industrial Waste Control Ordinance (Ordinance). The proposed amendments will protect the City's waterways and natural environment by updating the City's Ordinance to be in compliance with the more stringent federal pretreatment standards in order to ensure that the goals of the Clean Water Act are attained.

Pretreatment Program elements affected by the proposed modifications to the Ordinance include: the industrial wastewater significant industrial user permit template; permit standard conditions; permit fact-sheet; record-keeping procedures; slug evaluation form; reports to EPA; POTW and industrial user monitoring requirements; and Significant Non-Compliance (SNC) publication. Other proposed amendments to the Ordinance establish definitions of a Grease Interceptor consistent with specifications as set forth in the City of Los Angeles Plumbing Code and provide for the codification of the recovery of City costs associated with the discharge of water, such as, but not limited to, groundwater, from construction and other dewatering activities to the City's sewer collection system.

II. PROJECT HISTORY

Tetra Tech, Inc., on behalf of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), conducted a Pretreatment Compliance Inspection (PCI) of the City's Pretreatment Program in 2012. Tetra Tech, Inc. found the Pretreatment Program legal authority to be inconsistent with the federal requirements as summarized in their PCI audit report. In response to the audit findings, the City prepared recommended changes to the Ordinance and submitted these proposed changes to the Regional Board for comment. The Regional Board approved the recommended changes. The proposed changes will be presented to the City Council for incorporation into the Ordinance.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Basis for Categorical Exemption

Article III, Section 1, Class 8 of the City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines (and Section 15308 of the State CEQA Guidelines) exempts actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Regulatory actions taken by the City to maintain, restore, enhance, and protect the City's waterways and natural environment fall within Class 8. Class 8 specifically identifies industrial waste permits as being exempt. The project will update the City's Ordinance to be in compliance with the more stringent federal pretreatment standards in order to ensure that the goals of the Clean Water Act are attained.

Consideration of Potential Exceptions to use of a Categorical Exemption

The State CEQA Guidelines (CCR Sec 15300.2) limit the use of categorical exemptions in the following circumstances:

1. Location. Exemption Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may be significant

in a particularly sensitive environment. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies. The project is exempt under Class 8, therefore, this exception has no application here.

2. Cumulative Impact. This exception applies when, although a particular project may not have a significant impact, the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant. There are no other known projects that could involve cumulatively significant impacts. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

3. Significant Effect. This exception applies when, although the project may otherwise be exempt, there is a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect due to unusual circumstances. There are no unusual circumstances known to this office. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

4. Scenic Highway. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. The proposed project will not impact any state designated scenic highway. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

5. Hazardous Waste Site. This exception applies when a project is located on a site listed as a hazardous waste site under Government Code Section 65962.5. The proposed project involves changes to an ordinance and will not take place at any particular site. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

6. Historical Resources. This exception applies when a project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. No historical resource is involved in the proposed project so this exception has no application here.