

# Notice of Exemption

Attachment 1



Filing Requested By and When Filed Return To:

Marin Municipal Water District  
220 Nellen Ave  
Corte Madera, CA 94925  
Attn: Alex Anaya, Director of Engineering

**Project Title:** Hind Tanks Replacement Project

**Project Location:** City of San Rafael

**Project Location – County:** Marin

**Project Description:** This Project will replace two existing redwood tanks with two new 200,000-gallon tanks made of welded steel. The existing tanks located on assessor parcel number 186-520-10 will be demolished and the new tanks and retaining wall will be constructed within the project site on assessor parcel numbers 186-520-06, 186-520-11, and 186-520-09. Construction is anticipated to take approximately nine months between 2024 and 2026.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** Marin Municipal Water District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Marin Municipal Water District

**CEQA Exemption Status:** Categorical Exemption Section 15301, Existing Facilities, Categorical Exemption Section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction, Categorical Exemption Section 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, and Categorical Exemption Section 15304, Minor Alternations to Land.

**Reason for Exemption:** This project qualifies for exemption pursuant to Section 15301(b) of the CEQA Guidelines inasmuch as it is an existing public-owned facility used to provide public utility services involving negligible or no expansion of capacity and is necessary to continue water service to the surrounding area. This project also qualifies for exemption pursuant to Section 15302(c) of the CEQA Guidelines inasmuch as it is the replacement of existing water storage tank involving negligible or no expansion of capacity, but merely enhances capacity solely for needed firefighting capability and has a negligible expansion of overall District storage. This project also qualifies for exemption pursuant to Section 15303 of the CEQA Guidelines inasmuch as it is construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. This project also qualifies for exemption pursuant to Section 15304 of the CEQA Guidelines in that it will involve minor grading for purposes of citing the new tanks and clearing the old tank site.

The District has also determined that none of the exceptions under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to the proposed project. Specifically:

- **Location in Sensitive Environments.** The project does not impact any environmentally sensitive areas as defined under CEQA. The selected trails are outside areas of critical concern, ensuring compliance with CEQA Guidelines § 15300.2(a).
- **Cumulative Impact.** The cumulative impact of the project is not significant as the capacity of the new tanks is enhanced only to achieve fire flow for the surrounding area and as such will not

contribute to any significant cumulative environmental impacts, consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15300.2(b).

- **Unusual Circumstances.** The project does not present any unusual circumstances that could lead to significant environmental effects in that the project will allow continued water service and enhanced fire flow to the surrounding area consistent with historical use of the facilities consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15300.2(c).
- **Scenic Highways.** The project area does not include any state-designated scenic highways, and the project will not involve the removal or alteration of any significant visual resources that contribute to scenic vistas, consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15300.2(d).
- **Historical Resources.** The project is not listed as an historical resource, and the project does not propose any activities that could adversely affect historical resources consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15300.2(f).

**Project Approval:** The Marin Municipal Water District Board of Directors approved the project at their regularly scheduled meeting on September 3, 2024.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Alex Anaya, Marin Municipal Water District

**Telephone:** (415) 945-1588

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Alex Anaya, Director of Engineering

Date