



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:
Alameda County
Clerk - Recorder's Office
1106 Madison Avenue
Oakland, CA 94607

FROM: (LEAD AGENCY)
 EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
 Office of the Secretary - (510) 287-0404
 375 Eleventh Street, MS 806
 Oakland, CA 94607-4240

Lead Agency is the Project Applicant
 Lead Agency is Public Agency Approving Project
 Lead Agency is Carrying Out Project

PROJECT INFORMATION

- TITLE:** East Bay Plain Subbasin Characterization - Well Drilling
- LOCATION:** *(City, County, and specific location)*
Various sites in Alameda Co.(Berkeley & Hayward); Contra Costa Co. (Richmond); see Attachment A
- DESCRIPTION:** Install 12 groundwater monitoring wells distributed among five different borehole locations. Up to three monitoring wells will be installed in each borehole ranging from 100 to 600 feet in depth. The finished nested monitoring well will include a 2-foot by 3-foot Christy Box that is flush with the ground. Construction is anticipated to last one week at each location and be within the parcel boundaries. The wells will be used to collect groundwater data and conduct pumping tests.

EXEMPTION FINDING (Check one)

This project is exempt from CEQA because:

- Activity is not a project
- Activity is Ministerial (Sec.21080(b)(1); Guideline 15268)
- Activity is a Declared Emergency (Sec.21080(b)(3); Guideline 15269(a))
- Activity is an Emergency Project (Sec.21080(b)(4); Guideline 15269(b)(c))
- Activity is Categorically Exempt Under Guideline 15303, 15304, 15306
- Activity is Statutorily Exempt Under Guideline _____
- Reasons why project is exempt: The project consists of the installation of 12 groundwater monitoring wells on five different sites, ranging from 100-600 feet in depth. Installation will involve minor construction using a mud-rotary drilling rig, and upon completion, the wells' above-ground presence will be minimal. Construction will take roughly one week at each site. Accordingly, the project is exempt under CEQA Guidelines section 15303 (construction of new small structures), section 15304 (minor alterations to land), and section 15306 (information collection).

APPROVAL BY INITIATING UNIT: 455 WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENTS DIVISION

<u>May 28, 2021</u>	<u>Joaquin C. Cruz</u>	<u>Bradley M. Ledesma</u>
1. DATE PREPARED	2. PREPARED BY (initial)	3. REVIEWED BY (Unit Supv. initial)
<u>Linda H. Hu</u>		
4. RECOMMENDED BY (Division/Section Manager)		
<u>Bradley M. Ledesma</u>	<u>407</u>	<u>Senior Civil Engineer</u>
5. CONTACT PERSON	MAIL SLOT #	TITLE
		<u>510-287-1053</u>
		PHONE

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION APPROVED FOR FILING WITH THE COUNTY CLERK

<u>6/1/21</u>	<u>Minkah Tejano</u>
DATE	DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
<u>6/2/21</u>	<u>Rosela S. Cole</u>
DATE FORWARDED TO COUNTY CLERK	SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

**EAST BAY PLAIN SUBBASIN CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT –
WELL DRILLING**

Project Summary

Install 12 groundwater monitoring wells distributed among five different borehole locations. A direct mud-rotary drilling rig will be used to drill a borehole with a diameter up to 14.25 inches, and up to 3 2.5-inch diameter monitoring wells will be installed (i.e., nested) in each borehole to depths ranging from 100 to 600 feet below ground surface. Each of the five nested monitoring well locations will be finished with a 2-foot by 3-foot Christy Box that is flush with the ground. Construction is anticipated to last one week at each location and be within the parcel boundaries. After construction, the wells will be used to collect groundwater data (e.g., water levels and water quality) and conduct pumping tests.

Purpose

As the designated Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) for the East Bay Plain Subbasin (Subbasin), the District and Hayward are working to complete a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the East Bay Plain Subbasin (Basin No. 2-009.04). As part of completing the GSP, data gaps were found in groundwater level, groundwater quality, and aquifer parameter data. The purpose of the new monitoring wells is to help fill these data gaps.

Site Characteristics

Figure 1 presents the location of all five borehole locations, along with one alternative location in Richmond. Each of the locations is discussed below.

Location #1 – Ruus Park - 1451 Folsom Avenue, Hayward CA 94544

The site is bounded to the north by Ruus Elementary School, to the south by Folsom Avenue, to the west by Tampa Avenue, and to the east by Dickens Avenue. The site is used for recreational purposes and is mostly non-paved. The surrounding area is primarily residential and abuts an elementary school. The nested monitoring well will be installed near the southeast corner of the site.

Location #2 – Weekes Community Center Park – 27182 Patrick Avenue, Hayward CA 94544

The site is bounded to the north by Gomer Street, to the south by trees and residential homes parallel to Rieger Avenue, to the west by Patrick Avenue, and to the east by Tampa Avenue. The site is used for recreational purposes and is mostly non-paved. The surrounding area is primarily residential with a long-term care facility along Tampa Avenue and a community food center along Patrick Avenue. The nested monitoring well will be installed near the southeast corner of the site.

Location #3 – EBMUD Wet Weather Station Q – 1451 2nd Street, Berkeley CA 94710

The site is bounded to the north by Page Street, to the south and east by an industrial equipment open storage facility, and to the west by 2nd Street. The site is used for storm water treatment purposes and is completely paved. The surrounding area is primarily heavy industrial. The nested monitoring well will be installed within the site.

Location #4 – EBMUD Stege Pumping Plant (former) – 5019 Central Avenue, Richmond CA 94804

The site is bounded to the north and east by open space and marshlands, to the south by Central Avenue, and to the west by Rydin Road. The site was previously used as a wastewater pump station and is currently used for equipment storage; the site is mostly non-paved. The surrounding area is mixed use with office space, retail stores, and marshlands with the San Francisco Bay Trail approximately 60 feet due west of the site. The nested monitoring well will be installed within the site.

Location #5 – Wendell Park – 26th Street/Wendell Avenue, Richmond CA 94804

The site is bounded to the north by residential units, to the south by Esmond Avenue, to the west by Wendell Park Mini-Patches and residential homes, and to the east by 26th Street. The site is used for recreational purposes and is mostly non-paved. The surrounding area is primarily residential. The nested monitoring well will be installed near the northeast corner of the site.

Alternative Location #5 – Lucas Park – 724 10th Street, Richmond CA 94801

This proposed site will serve as a back-up site in case of an unsuccessful nested monitoring well installation at Wendell Park. The site is bounded to the north by Last Avenue, to the south by the Pennsylvania Avenue cross-over bridge, to the west by 10th Street and residential homes, and to the east by active railroad tracks. The site is used for recreational purposes and is a mix of paved and non-paved areas. The surrounding area is primarily residential bounded by an active railroad line. The nested monitoring well is proposed to be installed near the southwest corner of the site.

Permits

All work will either be on EBMUD property or within the Hayward and City of Richmond jurisdictions. All necessary permits from the regulatory agencies will be obtained, as necessary, to complete the Project.

Schedule and Work Hours

Construction is expected to start in July 2021 and is estimated to be completed by the end of 2021. Construction activities will be limited to the weekday during daytime hours, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm., to the extent feasible.

Public Considerations

For the Project duration, there will be minimal to no impact to the public. No water service disruptions are anticipated.

Standard best management practices applicable to all EBMUD construction projects, including environmental and safety practices, have been incorporated into the Project. These standard practices minimize impacts to the public.

MTT:LHH:BML:JSC

**FIGURE 1: EAST BAY PLAIN SUBBASIN CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT –
WELL DRILLING (NESTED MONITORING WELL LOCATIONS)
ALAMEDA AND CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES**

