

MAY 20 2025

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

CITY OF SANTA CRUZ  
**Notice of Exemption**

To: ☒ Clerk of the Board  
County of Santa Cruz  
Governmental Center  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

☒ Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

44-05202025-075

062-25

**From:** City of Santa Cruz Water Department, 212 Locust Street, Suite C, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Project Title:** Switchgear Upgrade at Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant

**Project Address:** 715 Graham Hill Road  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Assessor's  
Parcel No.:** 060-141-05

**City of:** Santa Cruz

**County of:** Santa Cruz

**Project Description:**

The City of Santa Cruz proposes to upgrade its existing switchgear system at the Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant (GHWTP). The switchgear upgrade will improve electrical safety and provide greater reliability and safety when switching between Pacific Gas & Electric utility power and backup generator power. The project will consist of installing a new computer interface and equipment enclosure, upgrading or replacing parts within the existing switchgear, and upgrading the proprietary software. Work will occur within existing buildings at the GHWTP and would not involve ground disturbance or construction.

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** City of Santa Cruz Water Department

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** City of Santa Cruz

**Exempt Status: (check one)**

- ☐ Ministerial Project (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(1); 14 Cal Code Regs §15268).
- ☒ Categorically Exempt (14 Cal Code Regs § 15302 ).
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(3); 14 Cal Code Regs §15269(a)).
- ☐ Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(4); 14 Cal Code Regs §15269(b)(c)).
- ☐ Statutory Exemption (Code/Section NA ).
- ☐ The project clearly will not have a significant effect on the environment (14 Cal Code Regs §15061(b)(2)).

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

This project is categorically exempt under California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines under California Public Resources Code Section 15302, Class 2 for Replacement or Reconstruction. Class 2 exemptions consist of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and

capacity as the structure replaced, including existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity. The project entails upgrades and replacement of existing switchgear components which will be located on the same site and would have no change in capacity. Additionally, the project is not barred by the applicable exceptions for taking a Class 2 Categorical Exemption (14 Cal Code Regs Section 15300.2(b)-(f)) including: resulting in cumulative impact from successive projects of the same type in the same place, having a reasonable possibility of a significant effect, causing damage to scenic resources within a State scenic highway, being located on a hazardous waste site, or causing a substantial change to a historical resource.

**Contact Person:** Heidi Luckenbach

**Phone:** (831) 420-5214

**Department:** City of Santa Cruz Water Department

**Address:** 212 Locust St., Suite C,  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Signature:** Heidi Luckenbach

**Date:** 5-19-2025

**Title:** Water Director

☒ Signed by Public Agency  
☐ Signed by Applicant

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK  
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A  
PERIOD COMMENCING 05/20/2025  
AND ENDING 06/25/2025