

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, LEAD AGENCY

2019 AUG 26 PM 1:36
Clerk of the Board - Filing Date
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Based on a review of the project and project description, the following activity is determined as indicated below. Specific findings are indicated below and environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as amended, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA are included, if applicable.

APN(s) (or N/A): 141-440-002

Case No. GSD-082319-8770-0001
(current date, project# and NOE number for this project)

LOCATION(city/unincorporated area/NA): Unincorporated area of Santa Ynez Valley

PROJECT TITLE: Santa Ynez Airport Capital Improvement Project (ACIP-17)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION : The scope of work includes planning and design for the eventual construction of a concrete apron approximately 350 feet by 150 feet, including fixed wing and helicopter tie-downs and pavement markings. It is anticipated that the improvement will allow shifting of rotor-craft further to the east and away from the fixed wing tie-down area. With access to the rotor-craft from the east, moving the helicopters east will keep those helicopter serving vehicles away from the fixed wing aircraft. The expansion will result in a net increase of 15 tie-down spaces. The scope of work also included erosion control grading along the north slope of the apron (approximately three acres) and installation of approximately 900 feet of airfield perimeter fence. The erosion control grading will address soil migration issues down the bank. The fencing and grading will address a security and safety issue by closing off direct public access to the portion of the apron typically occupied by rotor-craft.

DETERMINATION:

NOT A PROJECT (§15378): *A project as defined by CEQA is one in which the whole of the action has a potential for resulting in either a direct or indirect physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The action described above has been determined by the Lead Agency to not be a Project under CEQA. **No further environmental review is required.***

EXEMPT STATUS: (Check Only One)

- Ministerial (§15369)
- Statutory (§15260)
- Categorical Exemption (§15354)
- Emergency Project (§15359)

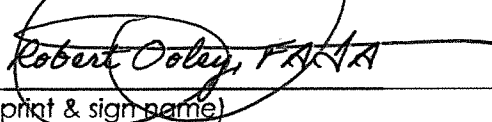
Cite specific CEQA Guideline Sub-Section(s) §15301(c)

FINDINGS TO SUPPORT DETERMINATION:

In accordance with §15301(c), this project consists of repair, maintenance, minor improvements and alterations of existing public structures, facilities and topographical features, involving negligible expansion of existing use. No exceptions to this exemption where take.

DISTRIBUTION: File, Clerk of the Board

Robert Ooley, FAIA County Architect
Department/Division Representative (print & sign name)



8/23/19
Date

NOTE: A copy must be posted at least 6 days prior to consideration of the activity by the decision-makers to comply with County CEQA guidelines and a copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

- (a) **Location. 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 in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. 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.**

CEQA Guidelines §15301 is a Class I exemption. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (b) **Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.**

Despite ACIP projects being constructed almost every year, the projects are simply improvements and replacements of existing site facilities. There is no possibility of a cumulative impact. This exception does not apply.

- (c) **Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.**

The ACIP-17 project will not have a significant effect on the environment, and the ACIP-17 project has no features which distinguish it from others in the exempt class and might establish an unusual circumstance. This exception does not apply.

- (d) **Scenic Highways. 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. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.**

The ACIP-17 project will not be visible from any Scenic Highway, and will not otherwise impact any scenic resources such as trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings. This exception does not apply.

- (e) **Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.**

The ACIP-17 project area has not been designated a hazardous waste site. This exception does not apply.

- (f) **Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.**

Construction of the ACIP-17 project will not cause an adverse change to the significance of any historical resources. This exception does not apply.