



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: General Services
Department No.: 063
For Agenda Of: January 14, 2014
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: General Services Matthew P. Pontes, Director (805) 560-1011
Contact Info: Greg Chanis, Assistant Director, Support Services (805) 568-3096
Ryan Rockabrand, OEM Chief (805) 681-5532
SUBJECT: Site Access License Agreements for Seismic Monitoring, Multiple Locations, First, Third, and Fifth Districts, Folio: 003690.

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Manager, Office of
Emergency Management, and Fire Dept.

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the attached original and duplicate original Site Access Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara, as licensor, and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), as licensee, to locate USGS seismic monitoring equipment on five (5) County-owned facilities for a period of twenty (20) years (First, Third, and Fifth Districts); and
- b) Determine that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, pursuant to Sections 15301, "Existing Facilities" and 15304 "Minor Alterations to Land," and approve and direct staff to file and post the attached Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

The Board's action to approve the Site Access Agreements will allow the USGS to locate Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) seismic sensors and equipment in approximately one hundred fifty (150) square feet of exterior space on each of five (5) County-owned facilities for the purposes of seismic monitoring, for a period of twenty (20) years.

Background:

This request is from the USGS on behalf of Southern California Seismic Network (SCSN), a cooperative project of the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and the USGS. The SCSN conducts research necessary to characterize and identify earthquake hazards, assess earthquake risks, monitor seismic activity, and improve earthquake warning. The SCSN also provides rapid earthquake notifications and ShakeMaps to emergency responders. Further, the SCSN share data and works closely with seismologists at UC Santa Barbara. This research is associated with the Southern California Seismic Network (SCSN), a cooperative project of the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), and the USGS.

The Santa Barbara County's Earthquake Early Warning Task Force, which includes representatives from the County's Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), is interested in cooperating with the USGS to enhance the County's capacity to respond quickly to earthquake emergencies.

The USGS uses two types of equipment installations. Exterior vaults housing monitoring equipment are composed of an underground vault six feet in diameter and eight feet deep, or a "Hut Style Vault" similar to ones proposed to be installed at Southern California Edison sub-stations. The Hut Style Vault is an above-ground equipment cabinet (36" L x 24" W x 30" H in size). Both types of installations often use a small solar array as a source of power.

The seismic equipment proposed for installation at the Emergency Operation Center off of Cathedral Oaks Road, Fire Station 32 in Santa Ynez, Fire Station 31 on Highway 246 in Buellton, and Fire Station 51 in Lompoc, will all utilize underground vaults powered by solar arrays. The Sisquoc Fire Station 23 in Santa Maria will utilize the hut style vault, and due to its location will not be able to utilize solar power.

The term of the agreement is to commence on or before February 1, 2014, and shall be for twenty (20) years unless terminated earlier by either party with thirty (30) days advance written notice.

The SCSN has secured funding to install EEW sensors to improve the EEW coverage across southern California. As part of this research, the USGS desires to locate EEW sensors at a number of Santa Barbara County Fire Stations and the Emergency Operations Center. The grant requires the proposed installations be completed by March 31, 2014.

Section 15301–Class 1 exemptions consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alterations of existing public or private existing structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. Section 15304–Class 4 exemptions consist of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. Licensing the small area for the USGS equipment on existing County-owned facilities does not involve any significant physical changes that would have any potential effect on the environment.

Therefore, approval and execution of the Site Access Agreement is exempt from environmental review in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15301–Class 1 and 15304–Class 4.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Executing these Agreements will not cause any fiscal impacts or direct facilities impacts on the County. The cost of the installation, maintenance and removal of the seismic monitoring facilities will be borne entirely by the SCSN.

Special Instructions:

After Board action, please distribute as follows:

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| 1. Original Agreement | Clerk of the Board Files |
| 2. Duplicate Original Agreement & Minute Order | Office of Real Estate Services |
| 3. Copy of Agreement & copy of Minute Order | Auditor-Controller,
Financial Reporting Division,
Attn: Betsy Schaffer |

Attachments:

1. Site Access Agreement (Original and duplicate original)
2. Notice of Exemption