

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM  
3.31  
(ID # 2629)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

**FROM :** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (EDA) AND TRANSPORTATION AND LAND  
MANAGEMENT, AND FLEET SERVICES :

**SUBJECT:** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (EDA) AND TRANSPORTATION AND  
LAND MANAGEMENT, AND FLEET SERVICES : Adoption of Resolution No.  
2017-133 for Authorization to Apply to the State Water Resources Control Board  
for Funding from the Groundwater Quality Funding Program, California  
Environmental Quality Act Exempt and Notice of Exemption, District 4. [\$508,000  
- Transportation and Land Management Agency Gas Tax Fund – 59%, and Fleet  
Services Internal Service Fund - 41%] (Clerk to file Notice of Exemption)

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2017-133 which authorizes the Economic Development Agency (EDA) to submit grant applications to the State Water Resources Control (SWRC) Board for funding from the Groundwater Quality (GQ) Funding Program for groundwater and surface water remediation at four sites identified as Blythe Fleet Services, Blythe Road Maintenance Yard, Thermal Road Maintenance Yard, and Twin Pines;

**ACTION:** Policy

  
Robert Field, Assistant County Executive Officer/EDA

6/27/2017

  
Juan C. Perez, Director of Transportation & Land Management

7/11/2017

  
Lisa Brandt

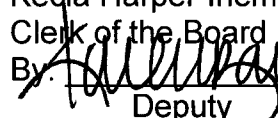
7/12/2017

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Tavaglione and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington, Perez and Ashley  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: July 25, 2017  
xc: EDA, TLMA, Fleet, Purchasing, Recorder

Kecia Harper-Ihem  
Clerk of the Board  
By:   
Deputy

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** (Continued)

2. Find that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15301 – Class 1 (Existing Facilities Exemption), and 15308 – Class 8 (Actions By Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment) of the State CEQA Guidelines;
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to file the Notice of Exemption with the Office of the County Clerk within five working days from this Board action;
4. Authorize the use of the Transportation and Land Management Agency (TLMA) Gas Tax Fund and Fleet Services Internal Service Fund not-to-exceed a total amount of \$508,000, upon award of the Site Cleanup Subaccount Program Grant, including reimbursement to the Economic Development Agency (EDA) for incurred project expenses;
5. Delegate project management authority for the project to the Assistant County Executive Officer/EDA in accordance with applicable Board policies, including the authority to utilize consultants on the approved pre-qualified list for services in connection with the project, and are within the approved project budget; and
6. Authorize the Purchasing Department to execute consultant services agreements for consultants that have been pre-qualified for services up to \$100,000 per project, per fiscal year, in accordance with applicable Board policies.

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
<b>COST</b>	\$ 254,000	\$ 254,000	\$ 508,000	\$ 0
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b> Transportation and Land Management Agency Gas Tax – 59%; Fleet Services Internal Service Fund - 41%			<b>Budget Adjustment:</b> No	
			<b>For Fiscal Year:</b> 2017/18-2018/19	

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

The County of Riverside (County) has sites that were identified by the Region 7 Water Quality Control (RWQC) Board as former leaking underground storage tank sites that require cleanup. The sites identified are Thermal Road Maintenance Yard (Thermal Road), Blythe Fleet Services (Blythe Fleet), Blythe Road Maintenance Yard (Blythe Road) and Twin Pines.

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The County has met the RWQC Board initial requirements at the sites by removing the leaking underground storage tanks and assessing and monitoring the initial extent of the cleanup required. In addition, soil gas sampling was recently conducted at the Thermal Road, Blythe Fleet, and Blythe Road sites to assess the potential for vapor intrusion. The testing results indicated that soil vapor constituents are below the California Human Health Screening Levels. As a next step, the RWQC Board is requesting the County to define and implement a Low Threat Closure Policy (LTCP) Plan that would satisfy required cleanup obligations.

Senate Bill (SB) 445 authorizes the use of the Site Cleanup sub-Account Program (SCAP). This program gives the SWRC Board the ability to issue grants for groundwater remediation required at former leaking underground storage tank sites.

In July 2016, the SWRC Board allowed public and private entities to pre-apply for the opportunity to compete to qualify for the SCAP Grants. County EDA filled out the pre-applications for all four sites.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary (Continued)**

Since the SWRC Board grant award may not cover the full amount of the cleanup costs, TLMA and Fleet Services have committed up to \$508,000 to take advantage of the potential cost savings and demonstrate the financial commitment and ability to implement the LTCP Plans. A Funding commitment for the Twin Pines site has not been identified; however, EDA is requesting permission to also submit the Twin Pines application while all available funding opportunities are explored.

The County has been notified by the State that it has qualified to submit final SCAP Proposals for evaluation and potential award. EDA recommends the Board adopt Resolution No. 2017-133 and authorize EDA to take all necessary steps to submit competitive applications for each of the four sites to the SWRC Board.

Pursuant to CEQA, the action was reviewed and determined to be categorically exempt from CEQA under CEQA Guidelines 15301, Class 1 – Existing Facilities Exemption, and 15308, Class 8 – Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment Exemption. The proposed project is remediation of soil contamination at three existing County facilities. The obligation to remediate soil is required by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin as a result of previous contamination at existing County sites; no expansion of an existing use will occur.

(Continued)

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**Impact on Citizens and Businesses**

Upon successful award of the SCAP Grant, the resulting remediation will enhance public health and safety; alleviate environmental risk obligations, thus providing a positive impact to residents and businesses of the County.

**Additional Fiscal Information**

Expenditures for FY 2017/18 are estimated at \$254,000; and expenditures for FY 2018/19 are estimated at \$254,000. Upon award of the SCAP Grant, the project will be 59% funded by the TLMA Gas Tax Fund and 41% from the Fleet Services Internal Service Fund for cleanup of their respective sites. No departmental budget adjustments are required at this time.


Attachments:

Resolution No. 2017-133

Notice of Exemption – Remediation of County Sites Project

RF:JV:VC:SP:MS:tv                      2629 – 13380  
FM083720003899 (Thermal Road); FM087200021998 (Blythe Fleet);  
FM087200022252 (Blythe Road); FM05720007665 (Twin Pines)

S:\Project Management Office\FORM 11'S\FORM 11's in Process\2629 - 13380\_D10 - Resol No. 2017-133 State Water Resource Control Board - SCAP Grant CEQA\_072517.docx

  
Nehini Laake, Principal Management Analyst

7/17/2017

  
Gregory L. Priamos, Director County Counsel

7/12/2017

1 **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2017-133**

3 **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF**  
4 **RIVERSIDE AUTHORIZING PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL OF GRANT**  
5 **APPLICATION TO THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD FOR**  
6 **THE GROUNDWATER QUALITY FUNDING PROGRAM THROUGH THE SITE**  
7 **CLEANUP SUBACCOUNT PROGRAM**

8 **WHEREAS**, The people of the State of California have enacted the Site  
9 Cleanup Subaccount Program, which provides funds to the State Water Resources  
10 Control Board to issue grants for projects that remediate the harm or threat of harm to  
11 human health, safety, or the environment caused by existing or threatened surface or  
12 groundwater contamination; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the State Water Resources Control Board has been delegated the  
14 responsibility to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water  
15 resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and  
16 all beneficial uses; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Economic Development Agency, Transportation Land  
18 Management Agency, and Purchasing and Fleet Services have established a  
19 collaborative team to secure funding to for the remediation of four contaminated  
20 County sites.

21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, FOUND, AND DETERMINED** by the  
22 Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, in regular session  
23 assembled on November 8, 2016, as follows:

- 24 1. That the Board of Supervisors hereby finds and declares that the above  
25 recitals are true, correct and incorporated herein.  
26  
27  
28

1 That the Board of Supervisors hereby approves the preparation and submittal of a grant  
2 application to the State Water Resources Control Board to secure funding to remediate  
3 contaminated soils at four sites at the Blythe Fleet Services, Blythe Road Maintenance,  
4 Thermal Road Maintenance, and Twin Pines sites within the County of Riverside.

5  
6  
7  
8 ROLL CALL:

9  
10 Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington, Perez and Ashley  
11 Nays: None  
12 Absent: None

13 The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution duly  
14 adopted by said Board of Supervisors on the date therein set forth.

15 KECIA HARPER-IHEM, Clerk of said Board

16 By   
17 Deputy



Original Negative Declaration/Notice of  
Determination was routed to County  
Clerks for posting on.

7/27/17  
Date

KL  
Initial

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

June 14, 2017

**Project Name:** County of Riverside, Authorization to Apply to the State Water Resources Control Board for Funding from the Groundwater Quality Funding Program

**Project Number:** FM087300008332

**Project Location:**

Thermal Road Maintenance Yard (Thermal Road) 86199 Airport Boulevard, Thermal, California 92274

Blythe Fleet Services (Blythe Fleet), 271 North Spring Street, Blythe, California 92225

Blythe Road Maintenance Yard (Blythe Road) 561 South Broadway, Blythe California, 92225

Twin Pines: 49500 Twin Pines Ranch Road, Banning, California, 92220;

**Description of Project:** The County of Riverside (County) has sites that were identified by the Region 7 Water Quality Control (RWQC) Board as former leaking underground storage tank sites that require cleanup. The sites identified are Thermal Road Maintenance Yard (Thermal Road), Blythe Fleet Services (Blythe Fleet), Blythe Road Maintenance Yard (Blythe Road) and Twin Pines. The County has met the RWQC Board initial requirements at the sites by removing the leaking underground storage tanks and assessing and monitoring the initial extent of the cleanup required. As a next step, the RWQC Board is requesting the County to define and implement a Low Threat Closure Policy (LTCP) Plan that would satisfy required cleanup obligations. Senate Bill (SB) 445 authorizes the use of the Site Cleanup sub-Account Program (SCAP). This program gives the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) the ability to issue grants for groundwater remediation required at former leaking underground storage tank sites. The County has been notified by the State that it has qualified to submit Final SCAP Proposals for evaluation and potential award. EDA recommends the Board adopt Resolution No. 2016-220 and authorize EDA to take all necessary steps to submit competitive applications for each of the four sites to the SWRC Board. The resolution and submittal of a grant application for remediation funding is identified as the proposed project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). No direct or indirect physical environmental impacts are anticipated.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency

**Exempt Status:** State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Section 15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities Exemption; Section 15308, Class 8, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Environment Exemption, and Section 15061(b) (3), General Rule or "Common Sense" Exemption, Codified under Title 14, Article 19, Sections 15061 and 15300 to 15308.

JUL 25 2017 3:31

P.O. Box 1180 • Riverside, California • 92502 • T: 951.955.8916 • F: 951.955.6686

[www.rivcoeda.org](http://www.rivcoeda.org)

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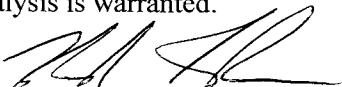
Parking  
Project Management  
Purchasing Group  
Real Property  
Redevelopment Agency  
Workforce Development

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA specifically by the State CEQA Guidelines as identified below. The project will not result in any specific or general exceptions to the use of the categorical exemption as detailed under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. The project will not cause an impact to an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern nor would the project include unusual circumstances which could potentially have a significant effect on the environment. The project would not result in impacts to scenic highways, hazardous waste sites, historic resources, or other sensitive natural environments, or have a cumulative effect to the environment. No significant environmental impacts would result from the submittal of a grant application to the SWRCB for remediation funding.

- **Section 15301 – Class 1 Existing Facilities Exemption:** This categorical exemption includes the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities, provided the exemption only involves negligible or no expansion of the previous site's use. The project, as proposed, is limited to approval of a resolution to authorize the submittal of a grant application to the SWRCB for remediation funding at four existing sites that have cleanup obligations. The submittal of the grant application would not result in any new environmental effects and the sites would continue to operate in a similar capacity until a LTCP was approved to account for any future physical changes to the property; therefore, the project is exempt as the project meets the scope and intent of the Class 1 Exemption identified in Section 15301, Article 19, Categorical Exemptions of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Section 15308 – Class 8 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment Exemption:** The application for funding to carry out remediation activities would help achieve regulatory compliance with the SWRCB ordinance. The funding would facilitate compliance with the cleanup obligations which would assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment as identified under Section 15308. Therefore, the project is exempt as the project meets the scope and intent of Section 15308, Article 19, of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Section 15061 (b) (3) – “Common Sense” Exemption:** In accordance with CEQA, the use of the Common Sense Exemption is based on the “general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.” State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b) (3). The use of this exemption is appropriate if “it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.” *Ibid*. This determination is an issue of fact and if sufficient evidence exists in the record that the activity cannot have a significant effect on the environment, then the exemption applies and no further evaluation under CEQA is required. See *No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1974) 13 Cal. 3d 68. The ruling in this case stated that if a project falls within a category exempt by administrative regulation or 'it can be seen with certainty that the activity in question will not have a significant effect on the environment', no further agency evaluation is required. With certainty, there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed grant application will not result in any direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical environmental impacts. No alterations and no impacts beyond the ongoing, existing use of the site would occur until an LTCP was completed and approved by the SWRCB which would remediate the site to protect and maintain the environment. Therefore, in no way, would the project as proposed have the potential to cause a significant environmental impact and the project is exempt from further CEQA analysis.

Based upon the identified exemptions above, the County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency hereby concludes that no physical environmental impacts are anticipated to occur and the project as proposed is exempt under CEQA. No further environmental analysis is warranted.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

C/14/17

Mike Sullivan, Senior Environmental Planner  
County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER**

**AUTHORIZATION  
TO BILL  
BY JOURNAL VOUCHER**

Project Name: County of Riverside, Authorization to Apply to the State Water Resources Control Board for Funding from the Groundwater Quality Funding Program

Accounting String: 542040-30100-7200800000- FM087300008332

DATE: June 14, 2017

AGENCY: Riverside County Economic Development Agency

THIS AUTHORIZES THE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER TO BILL FOR FILING AND HANDLING FEES FOR THE ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENT(S).

NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS INCLUDED: One (1)

AUTHORIZED BY: Mike Sullivan, Senior Environmental Planner, Economic Development Agency

Signature: 

PRESENTED BY: John Alfred, Supervising Facilities Project Manager, Economic Development Agency

-TO BE FILLED IN BY COUNTY CLERK-

ACCEPTED BY: -

DATE: -

RECEIPT # (S) -



Date: June 14, 2017

To: Mary Ann Meyer, Office of the County Clerk

From: Mike Sullivan, Senior Environmental Planner, Project Management Office

Subject: **County of Riverside Economic Development Agency Project # FM087300008332**  
Authorization to Apply to the State Water Resources Control Board for Funding from the Groundwater Quality Funding Program

The Riverside County's Economic Development Agency's Project Management Office is requesting that you post the attached Notice of Exemption. Attached you will find an authorization to bill by journal voucher for your posting fee.

**After posting, please return the document to:**

**Mail Stop #1330**

**Attention: Mike Sullivan, Senior Environmental Planner,**

**Economic Development Agency,**

**3403 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 400, Riverside, CA 92501**

**If you have any questions, please contact Mike Sullivan at 955-8009.**

Attachment

cc: file