EBMUD

ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET

COUNTY CLERK : Steve Manning
Alameda County Clerk
1106 Madison Ave.
Oakland, CA 94607

DATE: August 18, 2017

PROJECT TITLE: Almond Reservoir Replacement Project located at four sites in Castro Valley: Almond Reservoir and Proctor Pumping Plant; Cull Creek Reservoir; Almond Rate Control Station; and New Rate Control Station/Regulator – Alameda County

CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

1. ☒ **Notice of Exemption - $50.00 County Clerk's Fee**
2. ☐ Notice of Intent to Adopt a ☐ Negative Declaration (Posting Only)
   ☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration (Posting Only)
3. ☐ Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Posting Only)
4. ☐ Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Posting Only)
5. ☐ Notice of Determination – Fee Required
   A. Negative Declaration
      ☐ $2,216.25 (effective 1/1/16) – State Filing Fee unless de minimus impact (Sec. 2.C)
      ☐ $50.00 – County Clerk's Fee
   B. Environmental Impact Report
      ☐ $3,078.25 (effective 1/1/16) – State Filing Fee unless de minimus impact (Sec. 2.C.)
      ☐ $50.00 – County Clerk's Fee
6. ☐ Other (Specify)
      ☐ $50.00 – County Clerk's Fee
      ☐ _____
      ☐ _____

Questions concerning this filing should be directed to:

Office of the Secretary
East Bay Municipal Utility District
P.O. Box 24055
Oakland, CA 94623
Telephone: (510) 287-0440

Rischa S. Cole

Rischa S. Cole, Secretary of the District

ATTACHMENTS: Notice of Exemption
Check No. 00002499794

05/07 FINAL DISTRIBUTION: 1. Original to County Clerk 2. Copy to District Files 3. Copy to Initiating Unit
W:\Forms\Environmental Transmittals\ET_2017\ALA Cty\Ala Cty_Enviro Trans_Almond Reservoir Replacement Project_081417.docx

ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION

(CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME CODE SECTION 711.4)

LEAD AGENCY NAME AND ADDRESS	FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY
East Bay Municipal Utility District Office of the Secretary, MS 806 375 11th Street, Oakland, CA 94607 Almond Reservoir Replacement Project located at four sites in Castro Valley: Almond Reservoir and Proctor Pumping Plant; Cull Creek Reservoir; Almond Rate Control Station; and New Rate Control Station/Regulator – Alameda County	FILE NO:

CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT:

(PLEASE MARK ONLY ONE CLASSIFICATION)

1. NOTICE OF EXEMPTION/STATEMENT OF EXEMPTION

[X] A – STATUTORILY OR CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT

$50.00 – COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

2. NOTICE OF DETERMINATION (NOD)

[ ] A – NEGATIVE DECLARATION (OR MITIGATED NEG. DEC.)

$2,216.25 – STATE FILING FEE

$50.00 – COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

[ ] B – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

$3,078.25 – STATE FILING FEE

$50.00 – COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

*A COPY OF THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH EACH COPY OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION BEING FILED WITH THE ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK.

FOUR (4) COPIES OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR FILINGS SUBMITTED BY MAIL. FIVE (5) COPIES ARE REQUIRED FOR IN-OFFICE FILINGS.

ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING.

FEES ARE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK

J://VGSTUFF/EIRCOVERSHEET

EBMUD

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Alameda County Clerk-Recorder
1106 Madison Street
Oakland, CA 94607

FROM: Office of the Secretary
East Bay Municipal Utility District
375 Eleventh Street, MS 806
Oakland, CA 94607-4240

PROJECT INFORMATION

1. TITLE: **Almond Reservoir Replacement Project**

2. LOCATION: *(City, County, and specific location)*

The Project is located at four sites in Castro Valley, Alameda County (see attached Figure 1):

Almond Reservoir and Proctor Pumping Plant: opposite 18083 Lamson Road

Cull Creek Reservoir: near 19600 Cull Canyon Road north of Canyon Middle School

Almond Rate Control Station: the northwest corner of the intersection of Somerset Avenue and Stanton Avenue

New Rate Control Station/Regulator: west side of Cull Canyon Road approximately 500 feet northwest of the junction of Cull Canyon Road and Crow Canyon Road.

3. DESCRIPTION:

The project includes demolition of EBMUD's existing open-cut Almond Reservoir followed by construction of two smaller concrete tanks within the existing basin; replacement of the existing Proctor Pumping Plant located at the same site as the Almond Reservoir; conversion of the existing Almond Rate Control Station into a regulator; construction of a new rate control station/regulator; and rehabilitation and subsequent demolition of the existing Cull Creek Reservoir (see Attachment A).

EXEMPTION FINDING (Check one)

This project is exempt from CEQA because:

1. ☐ Activity is not a project
2. ☐ Activity is Ministerial (Sec.21080(b)(1); Guideline 15268)
3. ☐ Activity is a Declared Emergency (Sec.21080(b)(3); Guideline 15269(a))
4. ☐ Activity is an Emergency Project (Sec.21080(b)(4); Guideline 15269(b)(c))
5. ☒ Activity is Categorically Exempt Under Guideline 15301, 15302, 15303
6. ☐ Activity is Statutorily Exempt Under Guideline _____
7. ☒ Reasons why project is exempt:

The project will be conducted in previously disturbed/developed areas and meets the definition of Section 15301 relating to alteration of existing equipment, Section 15302 relating to replacement/reconstruction of existing facilities/structures, and Section 15303 relating to new construction of small facilities.

INITIATING UNIT: APPROVAL

8/8/2017	Charles Njoroge CNN	Jose L. Rios JLR
1. DATE PREPARED	2. PREPARED BY (initial)	3. REVIEWED BY (Unit Supv. initial)

David J. Rehnstrom Davi J Rehnstrom
4. RECOMMENDED BY (Division/Section Manager)

Charles Njoroge	701	Assistant Engineer	510-287-1031
5. CONTACT PERSON	MAIL SLOT #	TITLE	PHONE

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION APPROVED FOR FILING WITH THE COUNTY CLERK

8-11-17	
DATE	DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
8/18/2017	Rischa S. Cole
DATE FORWARDED TO COUNTY CLERK	SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
ALMOND RESERVOIR REPLACEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Location/Site Characteristics

The Almond Reservoir Replacement Project (Project) will occur on four sites (Figure 1) as described below, all of which are located in the unincorporated community of Castro Valley in Alameda County.

- Almond Reservoir is located on Lamson Road (Figure 2). The existing reservoir site is designated Public Facility land use, and the surrounding land use is single-family residential (fully developed). The existing 6.0-million-gallon (MG), open-cut reservoir was constructed in 1954 and is under the jurisdiction of the California Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). The south and southwest embankments making up the main dam of the reservoir are compacted earth. The reservoir is lined with four-inch-thick concrete slabs overlying a 3/16-inch layer of impervious membrane, four-inch layer of stabilized base, and a layer of drain rock. Almond Reservoir has a concrete slab roof that was installed in 1964. The roof system consists of pre-cast concrete roof panels supported by pre-cast concrete beams, girders, and columns. The Proctor Pumping Plant (PP) is also located at the Almond Reservoir site on the western embankment of the Almond Reservoir dam (Figure 2). The Proctor PP is housed in a structure and consists of three pump units with a total capacity of about 5.7 million gallons per day.

- Cull Creek Reservoir is located off Cull Canyon Road, about 200 feet north of Canyon Middle School (Figure 3). The existing reservoir site is designated Public Facility land use, and the surrounding land use is schools. The reservoir is a steel tank constructed in 1967 with an operational capacity of about 3.0 MG. Cull Creek Reservoir was removed from service in October 2003 to improve water quality operations due to excess storage in the Almond Pressure Zone (PZ).

- A new rate control station (RCS)/regulator will be located in a below-grade concrete structure in the public right-of-way on the west side of Cull Canyon Road, approximately 500 feet northwest of the junction of Cull Canyon Road and Crow Canyon Road (Figure 3). The surrounding land use is both open space parks and schools. The site is located off the street on unpaved ground adjacent to the sidewalk.

- Almond RCS is located in a below-grade concrete structure in the public right-of-way on the northwest corner of the Somerset Avenue/Stanton Avenue intersection (Figure 4). The surrounding land use is both single-family residential (fully developed) and schools. The site is located off the street on unpaved ground adjacent to the sidewalk.

Purpose

The Project will rehabilitate and replace critical aging water distribution facilities in order to increase both system reliability and operating efficiency and improve water quality operations.

Project Details

The Project includes replacing the existing open-cut reservoir with two partially buried concrete tanks in the existing reservoir basin (Figure 5); replacing the existing Proctor PP located at the Almond Reservoir site (Figure 5); constructing a new RCS/regulator (to supply the Almond PZ with water from the Southern Loop Pipeline), which will be converted into a regulator after the Almond Reservoir is replaced; converting the existing Almond RCS into a regulator prior to replacing the Almond Reservoir; and rehabilitating the existing Cull Creek Reservoir before replacing the Almond Reservoir and then and subsequently demolishing the Cull Creek Reservoir after replacing the Almond Reservoir. The Project scope of work includes the following:

Almond RCS

The existing Almond RCS will be converted into a regulator which includes minor installation of piping and valves inside the existing concrete vault that houses the RCS.

New RCS/Regulator

Construction of a new RCS/regulator includes leveling of uneven ground within the public right-of-way, installation of a concrete vault and a short retaining wall around the vault, and installation of approximately 100 feet of 12-inch pipeline in Cull Canyon Road. The excavated earthwork will be hauled off site.

Cull Creek Reservoir Rehabilitation and Demolition

The existing Cull Creek Reservoir will be rehabilitated and placed back into service to provide storage in the Almond PZ while the Almond Reservoir is being replaced. Rehabilitation work includes replacing the aging roofing of the tank, installing fall-protection improvements, and power washing and recoating the interior of the tank. Subsequently, Cull Creek Reservoir will be demolished after the new Almond Reservoirs are placed in service. The demolished tank materials will be transported to a recycler.

Almond Reservoir Demolition

Demolition of the existing Almond Reservoir pre-cast concrete roof and liner structures will entail a series of steps including cutting, crushing, and grinding the concrete roof and columns and removing paneling, joists, girders, and lining. The existing lining, floor, slope, and roof will be ground up and reused on site. Recycling of concrete is the preferred method of disposal in order to recycle and reuse materials. All recycled concrete demolition materials and excavated earthwork will be utilized as fill material.

Almond Reservoir and Proctor PP Replacement

Site preparation for the Almond Reservoir includes breaching the western dam embankment and constructing a new access road to the bottom of the basin. The new access road will be approximately 12 feet wide and will be graded from Almond Road to the reservoir basin at a slope of about 12 percent. The existing valve pit on the western embankment of the reservoir will be backfilled and abandoned in place after removal of any necessary appurtenances. Existing drain lines will be reused where possible and enhanced or abandoned in place as necessary. All other appurtenances, such as the existing monitoring wells and piezometers, will be decommissioned by grouting in place.

Site preparation for the new valve pit and Proctor PP will include removal of some vegetation and ground leveling. An approximately ten-foot-high vertical cut will be made and retaining walls constructed for a new valve pit and pumping plant structure. Approximately 30 trees with diameters of six inches or more will be removed.

Once site preparation activities are complete, construction will begin on the dual 1.8 MG concrete tanks inside the existing reservoir basin. As part of the tank construction, a new 30-inch inlet/outlet main will be installed from the new tanks to the new valve pit along the new access road, an approximate ten-foot-high pole with an antenna will be installed at the top of the tanks for communication, and a photovoltaic system (i.e., solar panels) will be installed on the roof of the new tanks to generate electricity for the replacement pumping plant. There will be no significant changes to the existing view for nearby residents owing to screening from existing landscaping and similar roof heights between the existing reservoir and replacement tanks with a much smaller roof area. Additional trees for screening may be added, as needed.

A valve structure for the new dual tanks and the replacement Proctor PP will be constructed in a new structure at the Almond Reservoir site. The new structure will be approximately 27 feet by 95 feet and approximately 13 feet in height (to the top of the roof) and constructed of concrete masonry units. The pumping plant's electrical panels will be housed in a structure that will be approximately eight feet by 12 feet with a height of approximately seven feet. An aboveground transformer will also be installed adjacent to the electrical panels. The existing Proctor PP will be demolished once the new pumping plant is placed in service. The pumps, building materials and instrumentations will be transported to a recycling yard and the site backfilled.

Construction

Project construction will begin with the conversion of the existing Almond RCS into a regulator and construction of the new RCS/regulator on Cull Canyon Road. Subsequent to the conversion of the Almond RCS and construction of the new RCS/regulator, the Cull Creek Reservoir, which is currently out of service, will be rehabilitated and brought back into service to accommodate the outage of the Almond Reservoir. The existing roof and interior components of Almond Reservoir will then be demolished and concrete components crushed onsite. Site preparation, including excavation earthwork and retaining wall installation, will follow demolition. The western embankment of the Almond Reservoir will then be notched near the existing Proctor PP to create a new access road and to ensure that the reservoir basin will not be capable of impounding more than

15 acre-feet of water, the volume threshold for DSOD jurisdiction. Construction of the new tanks will follow along with final backfilling earthwork and site landscaping. Once the new facilities are placed in service, Cull Creek Reservoir will be removed from service and demolished and the property surplused for sale.

Standard construction practices will be in use for all demolition and construction activities, including measures to minimize noise, vibration, dust, and traffic generated by the Project.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the regional agency responsible for air quality regulation within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin. The contractor will be responsible for air pollution control measures and use of Best Management Practices to control dust and emissions. EBMUD will incorporate BAAQMD Basic Control Measures and BAAQMD Exhaust Controls into the contract specifications, such as using water trucks to control dust, tarping truckloads containing any loose materials, sweeping paved access roads daily, and removing soil material on public streets.

Basic greenhouse gas control measures standard for EBMUD will be written into contract specifications to limit idling vehicle times and to ensure vehicle efficiency (such as appropriate tire pressure and preventive maintenance). Additionally, the Project will reuse construction concrete materials to the extent feasible, significantly reducing truck trips and landfill contribution.

After construction, normal operation of the facilities will not generate any noise that exceeds ambient noise levels. Construction-related noise increases will occur over approximately a three-year period during daytime hours, which will be between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for emergencies. Construction activities for the Almond Reservoir replacement will occur primarily within the existing reservoir basin; the reservoir embankment is higher in elevation than the surrounding residences, and the sloped embankments will tend to direct noise upward and away from neighbors. If necessary, construction hours will be reduced for certain noise-generating activities such as concrete grinding. Reasonable effort will be made to limit noise-related construction from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for noise-generating activities greater than 90 dBA measured at the surrounding property lines.

Normal operation of the facilities will not generate ground vibrations. Construction-related activities could cause ground vibrations at short intervals over approximately a three-year period, most likely during demolition with the use of heavy equipment. Vibration will be monitored and specified to not exceed the EBMUD standard of less than 0.5 inches/second peak particle velocity, a vibration level that may result in minor cosmetic damage to residential buildings; to date, this has not occurred on other similar projects.

Construction activities will generate vehicle trips during Project construction, temporarily contributing to increased traffic on local roadways. Construction traffic to the site would vary by type of activity and construction phase. Construction access to the Almond Reservoir site will likely utilize Redwood Road or Lake Chabot Road, then Seven Hills Road, and then Almond Road and Lamson Road to enter the site. Truck trips will be associated with hauling materials, debris, and equipment to and from the site. Road conditions on the haul route will be

documented before and after construction, and roads damaged by construction will be repaired. Construction activities would contribute approximately seven one-way truck trips per hour, while construction employees would contribute approximately eight one-way vehicle trips per day. A Traffic Control and Safety Plan will be developed by the construction contractor for the Project, including the potential use of flaggers to help keep traffic moving efficiently.

Impacts to Water Service

EBMUD developed an outage plan with appropriate mitigations to ensure there are no impacts to water service or operations during the replacement of the existing Almond Reservoir. Once completed, the Project will improve level of service and system redundancy without inducing growth, as the new tanks will be much smaller than the existing reservoir.

Permits

Grading, drainage, and road encroachment permits may be required for this Project. DSOD's review and approval of plans for modifying the Almond Reservoir will be required.

Schedule

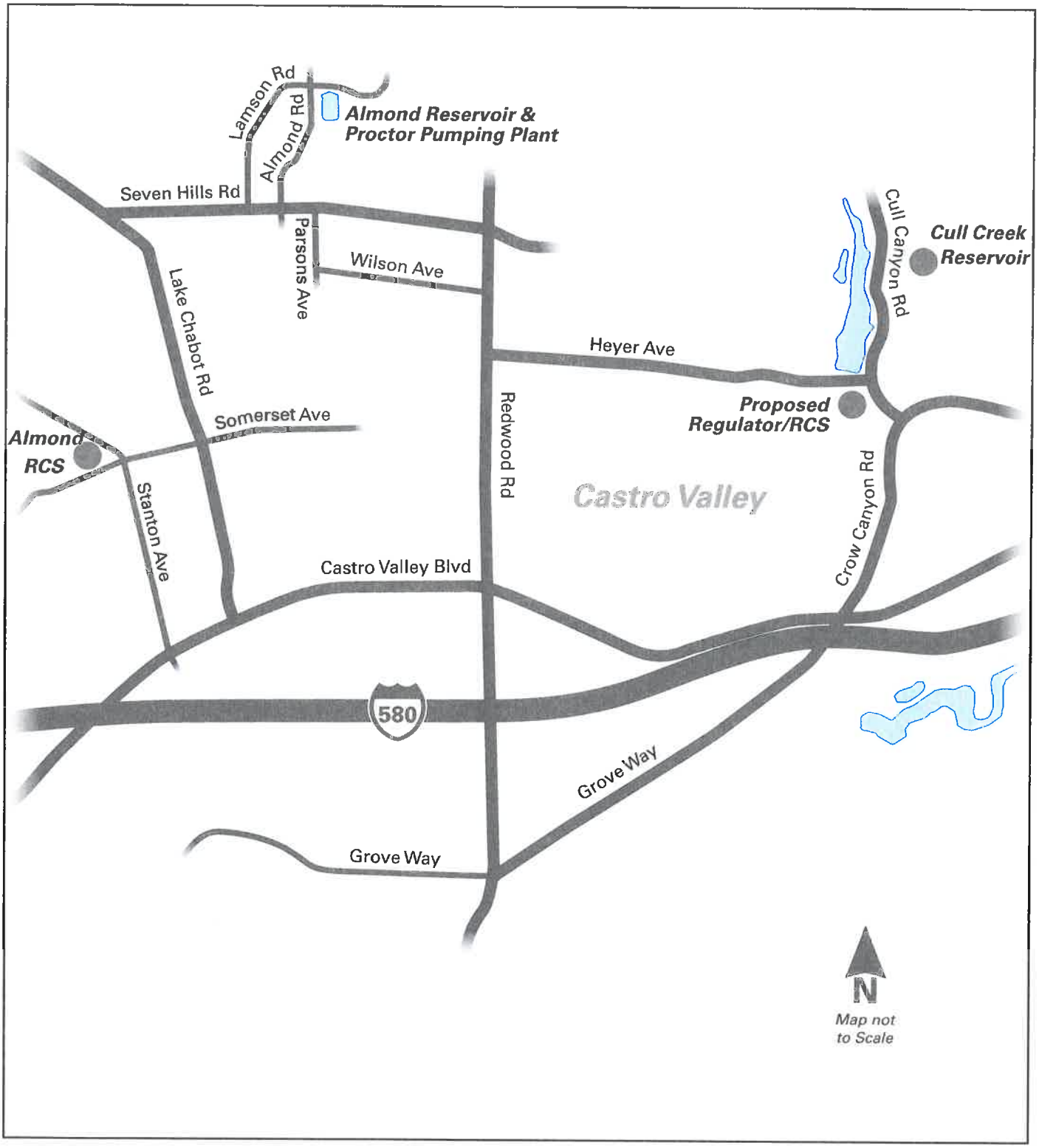
Construction of this Project is estimated to begin in summer 2020, and the overall duration is expected to last about three years.

JLR:CMN:dks
sb17_043.docx

Attachments: Figure 1 – Almond Reservoir Replacement Project Location Map
Figure 2 – Existing Almond Reservoir and Proctor Pumping Plant
Figure 3 – Existing Cull Creek Reservoir and New Rate Control Station/Regulator
Figure 4 – Existing Almond Rate Control Station
Figure 5 – New Almond Reservoir and Proctor Pumping Plant

FIGURE 1

Almond Reservoir Replacement Project location map



Map 540 • 05/17 (3438)

FIGURE 2

Existing Almond Reservoir and Proctor Pumping Plant

FIGURE 3

Existing Cull Creek Reservoir and New Rate Control Station/Regulator

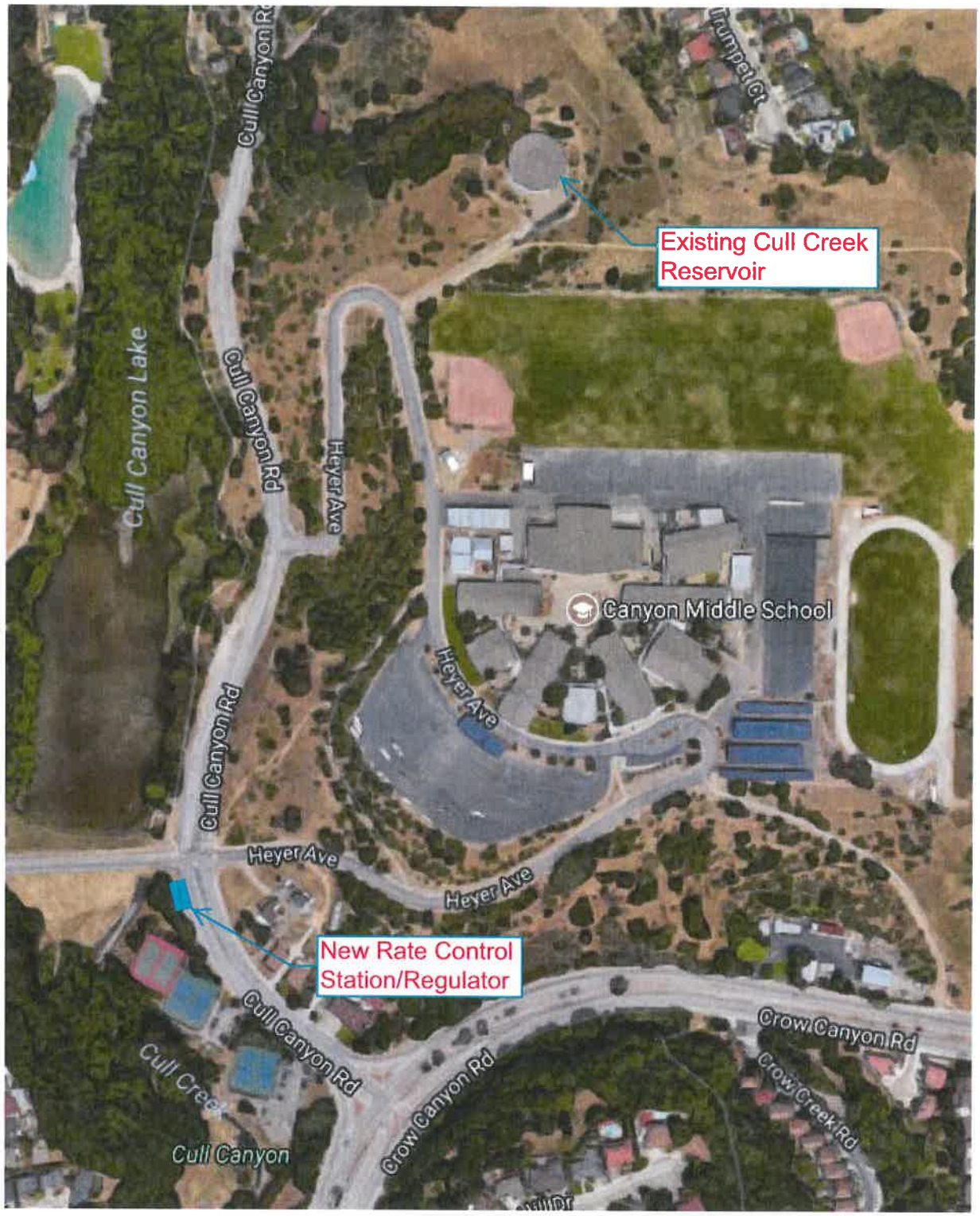


FIGURE 4

Existing Almond Rate Control Station

FIGURE 5

New Almond Reservoir and Proctor Pumping Plant