

2022-00343

FILED

August 16, 2022

DEBORAH COOPER

CLERK-RECORDER

By 
Deputy clerk

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Environmental Filing



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:
Contra Costa County
Clerk-Recorder's Office
555 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

FROM: (LEAD AGENCY)
EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
Office of the Secretary - (510) 287-0404
375 Eleventh Street, MS 806
Oakland, CA 94607-4240
 Lead Agency is the Project Applicant
 Lead Agency is Public Agency Approving Project
 Lead Agency is Carrying Out Project

PROJECT INFORMATION

- TITLE:** Lafayette Reservoir Outlet Tower Seismic Retrofit Project
- LOCATION:** (City, County, and specific location)
Lafayette Reservoir, City of Lafayette, Contra Costa County, California
- DESCRIPTION:** The Project includes the seismic retrofit of the Lafayette Reservoir Outlet Tower (Tower) and the outlet conduits within the embankment. The Project is needed to comply with the California Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) requirements and to safeguard Lafayette Dam in the event of an earthquake.

EXEMPTION FINDING (Check one)

This project is exempt from CEQA because:

- Activity is not a project
- Activity is Ministerial (Sec.21080(b)(1); Guideline 15268)
- Activity is a Declared Emergency (Sec.21080(b)(3); Guideline 15269(a))
- Activity is an Emergency Project (Sec.21080(b)(4); Guideline 15269(b)(c))
- Activity is Categorically Exempt Under Guideline 15301, 15303
- Activity is Statutorily Exempt Under Guideline _____
- Reasons why project is exempt: Under Section 15301, the repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public structures involving negligible or no expansion of use are categorically exempt. Under Section 15303, construction of new, small facilities or structures are exempt. The Project will have no significant environmental effects relative to location, cumulative impact, or significant effects due to unusual circumstances, hazardous waste, or historical resources, pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines.

APPROVAL BY INITIATING UNIT: 522

July 27, 2022	Joshua Alexander	Jennifer L. McGregor
1. DATE PREPARED	2. PREPARED BY (Initial)	3. REVIEWED BY (Unit Supv. Initial)
David Rehnstrom	<i>David Rehnstrom</i>	
4. RECOMMENDED BY (Division/Section Manager)		
Joshua Alexander	701	Assistant Engineer
5. CONTACT PERSON	MAIL SLOT #	TITLE
		510-287-1041
		PHONE

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION APPROVED FOR FILING WITH THE COUNTY CLERK

07/27/2022

DATE: _____

[Signature]
 DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

8/10/22

DATE FORWARDED TO COUNTY CLERK

Rosie S. Cole
 SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT

ATTACHMENT A

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

LAFAYETTE RESERVOIR OUTLET TOWER SEISMIC RETROFIT PROJECT

Overview and Background

The Lafayette Reservoir Outlet Tower Seismic Retrofit Project (Project) will seismically retrofit the Lafayette Reservoir Outlet Tower (Tower) and reinforce the outlet conduits within the embankment. The Project is needed to comply with the California Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) requirements and to improve the structural integrity and operational reliability of Lafayette Dam in the event of an earthquake. The Tower is in the Lafayette Reservoir on EBMUD-owned land in the City of Lafayette, Contra Costa County, California as shown in Figure 1. The Project seismic retrofit activities include shortening the Tower by approximately 40 feet and modifying the existing spillway conduit (located within the tower and embankment) and reservoir inlet/outlet conduit, by installing a 36-inch steel pipeline and a 24-inch steel pipeline within the reservoir spillway and outlet, respectively.

Project Purpose and Objectives

EBMUD completed seismic evaluations of the Tower, including review of previous studies, in 2018 and determined that the Tower could experience damage during a magnitude 7.25 earthquake on the Hayward fault, which is the "Maximum Considered Earthquake" (MCE) expected at the site. The dam outlet and spillway system must remain functional to carry out the basic safety needs of the reservoir. Damage to the Tower could affect its drawdown (emptying) capabilities, inhibiting EBMUD's ability to regulate water levels within the reservoir.

The primary purpose of the retrofit is to ensure that the controlled release of water from the reservoir is not impaired under the MCE and to ensure the continued safe operation of the reservoir following smaller earthquakes.

Project Location

The Tower is located in Lafayette Reservoir which is EBMUD-owned land accessed from the Lafayette Reservoir Recreation Area entrance off of Mount Diablo Boulevard in the City of Lafayette. Figure 1 identifies Lafayette Reservoir Recreation Area features and locations that will be used for Tower construction activities. The staging/storage area adjacent to the reservoir entrance will be used for material laydown, storage, construction worker parking, and temporary construction offices. A portion of the main parking area located on the dam crest will also be used for construction worker parking. Worker access to the Tower will be by boat from the Visitor Center boat ramp, while the existing boat ramp/launch on the eastern side of the Lafayette Dam will be used for transport of material and equipment to the Tower.

The new 36-inch and 24-inch pipelines will be installed within existing conduits under the Lafayette Dam and Tower, accessed by a concrete portal at the downstream toe of the Lafayette Dam as shown in Figure 1.

Project Description

To ensure the continued safe operation of the reservoir during a MCE, the Tower structure will be shortened from its current elevation of approximately 500 feet to approximately 460 feet and the spillway and inlet/outlet conduits will be modified. The proposed design concept for the Tower shortening is shown on Figure 2. The portions of the Tower above elevation 460 feet will be removed and demolished and the top of the Tower will be replaced with an access platform. Approximately 150 feet of new 36-inch diameter steel pipeline will be installed in the existing 60-inch diameter spillway conduit and approximately 60 feet of new 24-inch diameter steel pipeline will be installed in the existing 60-inch diameter inlet/outlet conduit. Additionally, approximately 1,030 feet of the existing 24-inch steel pipeline may be replaced in the existing inlet/outlet conduit depending upon the condition of the existing 24-inch pipeline, which will be inspected as it is removed for access during construction.

Construction of the Tower retrofit will occur in four phases: 1) temporary platform installation, 2) tower sealing and dewatering, 3) tower removal, and 4) platform construction. Equipment to be used will consist of: 100-ton crane, 50-ton crane, Flexifloat (trademark) platform at the Tower, Flexifloat barge, crew boat, flatbed trucks, concrete mixer, grout mixer, storage tanks, tugboat, water pumps and hoses, jack hammers and/or hydro-demolition equipment and/or diamond wire cutting machine. Flexifloats consist of large floating interlocking modular barges.

As shown in Figure 1, the existing boat ramp/launch directly east of the Lafayette Dam will be used for water access to launch the construction crane and barge pieces into the water. The 14-foot-wide bench at the Lafayette Dam will be used for stationing of the 50-ton crane and will be used for material loading/unloading during demolition of the Tower. Construction crews will be transported to the Tower work area by boat from the existing Lafayette Reservoir Visitor Center boat dock.

Construction of the inlet/outlet and spillway conduit retrofits will require that the Tower be dewatered and all gate openings plugged. The conduits will be accessed from the concrete portal at the downstream toe of the dam (see Figure 1). Access within the inlet/outlet conduit is restricted due to the existing 24-inch pipeline and therefore, the 1,030 feet of existing pipeline must be removed before the new approximately 60-foot-long, 24-inch diameter pipeline can be installed. During the removal of the existing pipeline, each section of pipeline will be inspected for reuse inside the conduit. Damaged or unsuitable pipeline sections will be removed from the site for disposal.

Both the spillway and inlet/outlet conduits will be installed with bulkheads close to the Tower. The annulus space within the section of pipeline between the Tower and the bulkhead will be filled with grout for added protection during the event of an earthquake. The remaining sections of pipeline will be installed with pipeline saddles and another bulkhead will be constructed at the end of the pipelines close to the portal.

Permits and Approvals

All work will be on EBMUD property. All necessary permits from the regulatory agencies will be obtained, as necessary, to complete the Project.

Public Considerations

The Lafayette Reservoir and Recreational Area will continue to operate normally, with a small section of the main parking area (i.e., approximately 10 parking spots) to be used for construction crew parking for the duration of construction. Water levels will be maintained as high as possible to aid worker access to the section of the Tower where the retrofit will be performed. There will be no impact on water service to customers. Standard construction environmental and safety practices applicable to all EBMUD construction projects have been incorporated into the Project. These standard practices minimize impacts to the public resulting from EBMUD construction projects.

Schedule and Work Hours

Work is anticipated to take approximately 12 months starting in spring 2024. Typical work hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to the extent feasible.

OOY:DJR:grd

sb22_093a Lafayette Tower NOE Attachment A.docx

Figure 1: Project Site Location Map

Figure 2: Elevation View of the Tower Retrofit

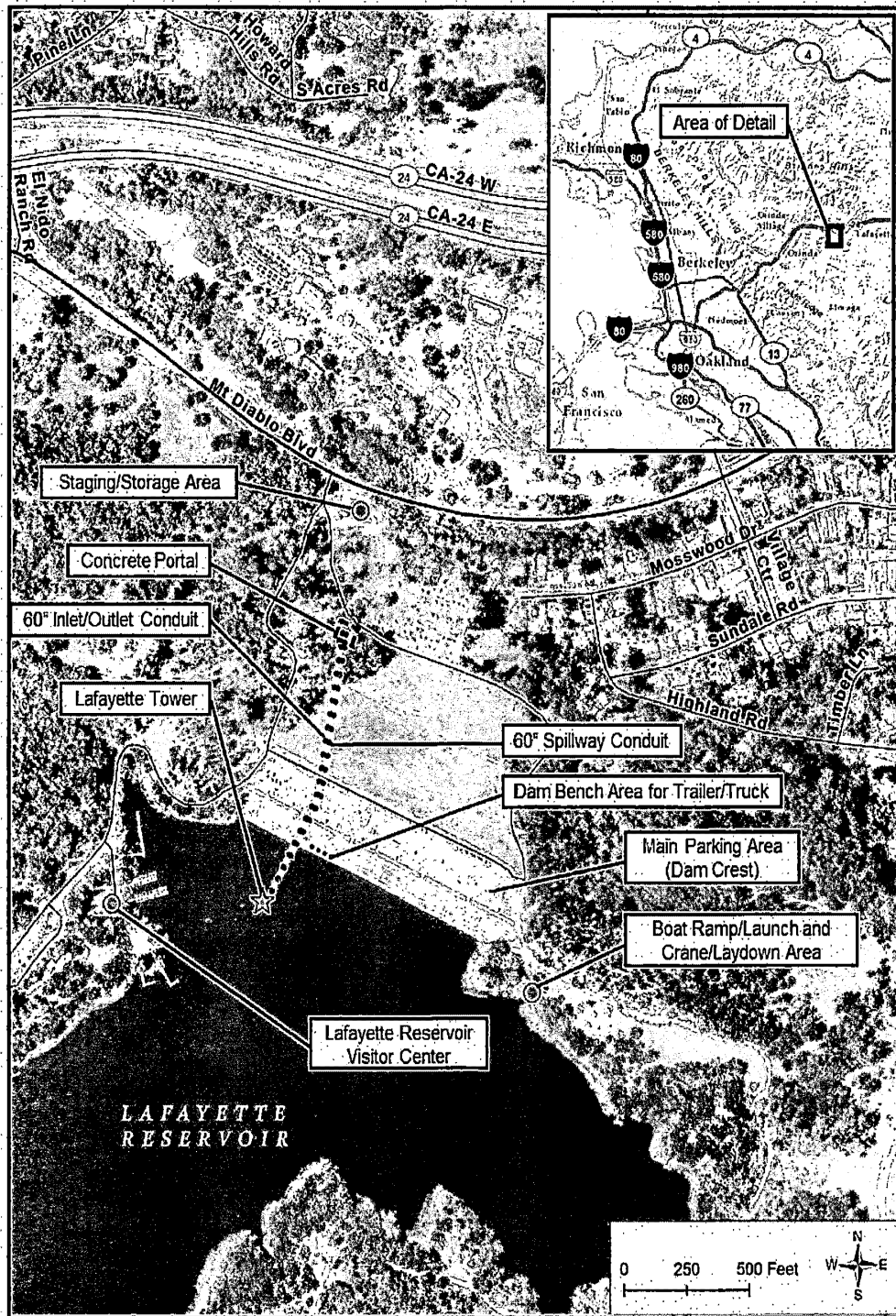


Figure 1
Project Site Location Map

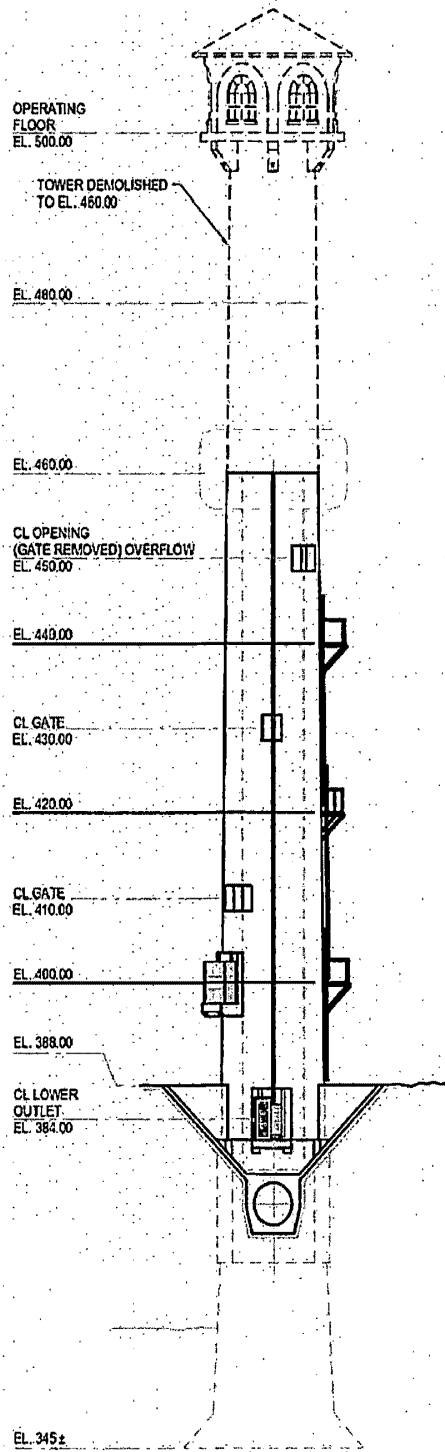


Figure 2
Elevation View of the Tower Retrofit