

**CITY OF FRESNO  
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE CATEGORICALLY  
EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS  
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES.

**CONTACT:** Patricia Diep, Project Manager  
City of Fresno – Capital Projects Department  
1626 E Street  
Fresno, CA 93706  
**Phone:** 559-621-1609  
**Email:** Patricia.Diep@Fresno.gov

**PROJECT TITLE:** Replacement of Variable Frequency Drives

**PROJECT LOCATIONS:** Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility  
5607 W. Jensen Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93706

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The project is for the replacement of two (2) Allen-Bradley PF755TL 800 HP ND TYPE 1 Variable Frequency Drives (VFD).

**The Project is exempt under Section 15302/Class 2 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.**

Under Section 15302/Class 2, projects are exempt from CEQA requirements when they consist of the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

The Variable Frequency Drive Replacement Project (Project) involves the purchase and recommended replacement of the existing two variable frequency drives that are no longer reliable and become less efficient as time progresses at the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility. The specific work tasks are the purchase and installation of two new Allen-Bradley Variable Frequency Drives (VFD).

The Project will not expand the use of the existing facility, nor will it relocate any existing facilities or structures. The Project is merely the purchase and installation of two new Allen-Bradley VFDs to replace the existing VFD that are no longer reliable at the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility (RWRf). The VFDs are used to power the raw sewage pump motors and vary the speed in order to accommodate the varying wastewater flows in the facility. The new VFDs will be replaced installed in the same location as the old VFDs and will have the same purpose and capacity as those being replaced. In the past

five years, the Wastewater Management Division has been experiencing VFD output section failures at the rate of two per year, necessitating new and reliable VFDs.

As such, replacement work for the variable frequency drives is exempt under Section 15302/Class 2.

**None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2, apply:**

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>(a) Location</b>              | The Project is not located in a sensitive environment or an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern as designated by federal, state, or local agencies. The work is entirely located at the RWRf.   |
| <b>(b) Cumulative Impact</b>     | The Project will not have a cumulative negative impact over time that is significant. The Project merely entails replacement work at an existing facility.  |
| <b>(c) Significant Effect</b>    | The Project will not have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. All work will be limited to an existing facility at the RWRf.   |
| <b>(d) Scenic Highways</b>       | The Project will not 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. The Project is not located near scenic highways. |
| <b>(e) Hazardous Waste Sites</b> | The Project is not located on a hazardous waste site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.   |
| <b>(f) Historical Resources</b>  | The Project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. The existing facilities at the RWRf are not considered historical resources.  |

Furthermore, the proposed project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, a categorical exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project.

**Date: January 11, 2024**

**Prepared by: Patricia Diep**