



**INYO COUNTY CLERK
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET**

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk

TYPE OF PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

Tinemaha Dam Geotechnical Investigation - Phase 2A and 2B

Check Document being Filed:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- Other (Please fill in type):

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Submission of this form is optional. The form shall be filed with the County Clerk, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21168(d), the filing of this notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on Court challenges to the approval of the project. Failure to file the notice results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

LEAD AGENCY/ APPLICANT AND ADDRESS: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) 111 N. Hope Street, Room 1044 Los Angeles, CA 90012	COUNCIL DISTRICT N/A
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PROJECT TITLE Tinemaha Dam Geotechnical Field Investigation – Phase 2A and 2B	LOG REFERENCE N/A
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PROJECT LOCATION
Tinemaha Dam is located in Inyo County, situated on the Owens River approximately 8 miles south of Big Pine, California. Please see attached map.

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:
LADWP proposes to conduct geotechnical explorations to investigate the existing conditions of the area surrounding and encompassing the Tinemaha Dam and reservoir. Built in the 1920s, there are several safety issues with the dam and appurtenant works which will eventually require replacement to resolve. The proposed field investigation will be used to inform how the dam will be replaced as a future project and would be comprised of drilling approximately 124 borings/test points split into two sequential phases, Phase 2A and Phase 2B.

Phase 2A of geotechnical explorations focuses in the upland areas of Tinemaha Dam, specifically with the drilling and/or testing of approximately half of the borings/test points to further characterize the geotechnical and geologic conditions at the site. The investigation will include the following: mud rotary borings to investigate the soil and bedrock properties for design of the proposed dam, outlet works structures, spillway, and river diversion structures; cone penetration testing along the potential dam alignment and outlet works to investigate foundation soil properties; hollow stem auger borings along the existing dam alignment to provide data on the embankment soils for re-use as fill for the new dam; and core borings to investigate the bedrock properties at the dam abutments, outlet works, auxiliary outlet, and coarse material borrow site.

Phase 2B would be conducted after the completion of Phase 2A, outside of nesting bird season, and includes work within the reservoir, adjacent shoreline, and possible wetlands. These geotechnical investigations are comprised of the drilling of the remaining borings and will include the following: vibracore borings within the reservoir to investigate soil properties for potential use as dam embankment fill, additional mud rotary borings to investigate the soil and bedrock properties, and core borings to further investigate the bedrock properties.

The mud rotary borings, hollow stem auger borings, and core borings are approximately 8 inches in diameter while the vibracore borings and cone penetration tests are 3-4 inches in diameter. The mud rotary and core borings will be backfilled to the ground surface or reservoir bottom elevation immediately upon completion of drilling and/or testing. The vibracore borings collapse when the core is removed so backfilling is unnecessary.

CONTACT PERSON Jazmin Martin	TELEPHONE NUMBER 213-367-1768
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EXEMPT STATUS (Check One)	CITY CEQA GUIDELINES	STATE CEQA GUIDELINES
<input type="checkbox"/> MINISTERIAL	Art. II, Sec. 2b	Sec. 15268
<input type="checkbox"/> DECLARED EMERGENCY	Art. II, Sec. 2a(1)	Sec. 15269
<input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY PROJECT	Art. II, Sec. 2a(2) & (3)	Sec. 15071(b) & (c)
<input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL EXEMPTION	Art. II, Sec. 1	Sec. 15060
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION	Art. III, Sec. 1	Sec. 15300
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER		Public Resources Code Sec. 21080(b)

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION:
Section 15306, Information Collection - Class 6 consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

SIGNATURE  Jane Hauptman	TITLE Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment	DATE 9/12/2023
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FEE: RECEIPT NO. N/A	REC'D BY	DATE
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Los Angeles
Department of
Water & Power

Vicinity Map

Figure
1

Tinemaha Dam

Geotechnical Investigations - Phase 2A and 2B

Legend

- Cone Penetration Test
- Core Boring
- Hollow Stem Auger Boring
- Mud Rotary Boring
- Mud Rotary Boring with Coring
- Vibracore Boring

