

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.

TO:
 Office of Planning and Research
 P.O. Box 3044
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

TO:
 Los Angeles County Clerk
 12400 Imperial Highway
 Norwalk, CA 90650

FROM (LEAD AGENCY AND APPLICANT ADDRESS):

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
 111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
 Los Angeles, CA 90012

PROJECT TITLE: Landscape Efficiency Assistance Program

PROJECT LOCATION:
 City of Los Angeles – various
 locations

CITY:
 Los Angeles

COUNTY:
 Los Angeles

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power proposes the Landscape Efficiency Assistance Program to provide landscape direct install services for customers in disadvantaged communities within the City of Los Angeles. Outdoor landscaping is typically the largest contributor to residential water usage, and the high cost of turf replacement services is often a barrier for many disadvantaged community residents. The proposed program will provide direct installation services to replace existing turf with drought tolerant landscaping to achieve significant water savings and reduce utility bills for eligible customers.

The project would involve an average turf removal and replacement with drought tolerant landscaping of 1,400 sq. ft. per household, engaging with approximately 1,000 customers. Overall, the Program is estimated to remove a total of 1.4 million square feet of turf by December 2026.

CONTACT PERSON:
 Nadia Parker

TELEPHONE NUMBER:
 213-367-1745

EXEMPT STATUS:
 Categorically Exempt

SECTION:
 15301 and 15304

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION:

In accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15301 and 15304, the residential turf replacement program that consists of removing and replacing an estimated 1.462 million square feet of turf at approximately 1,000 customer’s homes is categorically exempt pursuant to Class 1 (Existing Facilities) and Class 4 (Minor alterations to land) as described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(h) and 15304(c). These exemptions apply to activities at existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use as well as “new gardening or landscaping; including the replacement of existing conventional landscaping with water efficient or fire-resistant landscaping.” Therefore, the Landscape Efficiency Assistance Program is categorically exempt from CEQA.

LEAD AGENCY SIGNATURE:

 Jane A. Hauptman

TITLE:
 Manager of Environmental Planning and
 Assessment

DATE:
 06/25/2024