**STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

**2022 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE**

**CASH RECEIPT**

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/22) Previously DFG 753.5a

**RECEIPT NUMBER:**

41-12192022-0001

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEAD AGENCY</th>
<th>LEAD AGENCY EMAIL</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/19/2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING</th>
<th>DOCUMENT NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAN MATEO COUNTY</td>
<td>128486</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROJECT TITLE**

GROUNDWATER WELL DECOMMISSIONING IN MIDPENINSULA OPEN SPACE PRESERVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT APPLICANT NAME</th>
<th>PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL</th>
<th>PHONE NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ZIP CODE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROJECT APPLICANT** (Check appropriate box)

- [ ] Local Public Agency
- [ ] School District
- [x] Other Special District
- [ ] State Agency
- [ ] Private Entity

**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**

- [ ] Environmental Impact Report (EIR) $3,539.25 $
- [ ] Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)/(ND) $2,548.00 $
- [ ] Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW $1,203.25 $

- [ ] Exempt from fee
  - [x] Notice of Exemption (attach)
  - [ ] CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)
- [ ] Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

- [ ] Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) $850.00 $
- [ ] County documentary handling fee $50.00 $50.00 $
- [ ] Other $ $

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

- [ ] Cash
- [x] Credit
- [ ] Check
- [ ] Other

**TOTAL RECEIVED** $ 50.00

**SIGNATURE**

X

Besz De La Vega Deputy Clerk

**ORIGINAL - PROJECT APPLICANT**

**COPY - CDPWASB**

**COPY - LEAD AGENCY**

**COPY - COUNTY CLERK**

DFW 753.5a (Rev. 01/01/22)
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: County Clerk
   County of San Mateo
From: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
      5050 El Camino Real
      Los Altos, CA 94022

Project Title: Groundwater Well Decommissioning in Midpeninsula Open Space Preserves

Project Location: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Preserves

City: Unincorporated
County: Santa Clara County & San Mateo County

Project Description:
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) Preserves contain extensive groundwater systems. The District’s acquisition and restoration of domestic land parcels in the Preserves has resulted in abandoned wells. To protect water quality in California, inactive wells are decommissioned to reduce the potential for the transfer of surface contaminants to groundwater. The District has followed state and county regulations to properly decommission 10 wells since spring 2021.

The District has identified 37 remaining wells in the Open Space Preserves (Figures 1 and 2) that meet Santa Clara Valley Water District’s (Valley Water) and San Mateo County Health Groundwater Protection Program’s definitions of abandonment and require decommissioning. Beginning summer 2023, the District will contract with a C-57 licensed drilling company to continue decommissioning wells in Open Space Preserves across the mid- to northern Santa Cruz Mountains Region. The drilling company will work with the counties to obtain permits and to assess how to appropriately decommission each of the wells, which could vary based on the geologic setting, well type, and other factors that influence decommissioning protocols. Trucks will be used to prepare the wells for decommissioning, and a cement truck or crew using hand tools will fill each well casing with a cement-based mixture to a depth compliant with county regulations—typically from the bottom of the well to 5 feet below ground surface. The remaining casing, pump, cement pad, and wellhead will be removed. The small (5 foot by 5 foot) disturbance area will be leveled, and soils will be left at-grade.

Most of the abandoned wells are adjacent to established roads. None of the work will impact streams or ephemeral channels, and minor vegetation removal will be limited to clearing existing roads that lead to the well sites. Biological surveys conducted prior to each well’s decommissioning will ensure the avoidance of rare plant species, bird nesting, and bat habitat. There are no known contaminants or septic tanks near the wells.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Same

CEQA Compliance: In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the following sections:

Section 15301 – Existing Facilities: Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Well
decommissioning represents minor alterations of existing equipment that would not expand existing or former uses.

**Section 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land:** Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. The project includes minor vegetation removal along existing roadways to facilitate access to the well sites. Botanical surveys conducted prior to the work will ensure avoidance of special-status plant species. There will be no removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Leigh Guggemos, Capital Projects Manager III
lguggemos@openspace.org
(650) 772-3631

**Attachments:**
Figures 1 and 2: Wells Selected for Decommissioning in Open Space Preserves

**Signature:**  
Leigh Guggemos, Capital Projects Manager III  
Date: 12/16/2022
Figure 2: Wells Selected for Decommissioning in Open Space Preserves

Wells to decommission (southern preserves)

Legend

- Well
- Preserve Boundary

0 0.45 0.9 1.8 Miles

N
Figure 1: Wells Selected for Decommissioning in Open Space Preserves

Legend

- Well
- Preserve Boundary

Distance Scale: 0 0.42 0.85 1.7 Miles

Wells to decommission (southern preserves)
County of San Mateo  
Clerk-Recorder  
Mark Church  
555 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
(650) 363-4500

Receipt No.: RPT2022080646  
Finalization No.: 2022080199  
Cashier: 36  
Register: 021  
Date/Time: 12/19/2022 11:01 AM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>NOE</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Document No.: 128486
Filing Time: 11:01 AM
Filing Total: $50.00
Filing Fee: $50.00

Total Amount Due: $50.00

Total Paid

Credit Card Tendered: $50.00

#32213

Amount Due: $0.00

THANK YOU
PLEASE RETAIN THIS RECEIPT FOR YOUR RECORDS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A REFUND PLEASE SEND A LETTER REQUESTING THE REFUND TO ABOVE ADDRESS WITH A COPY OF THIS RECEIPT.

https://www.smcacore.org/