EXEMPTION DECLARATION FORM
FOR AGENCY AND APPLICANT ACTIONS

TO: 1) AGENCY-MAINTAINED PUBLIC FILES FOR CHAPTER 343 HRS EXEMPTION DETERMINATIONS, HAWAI'I REVISED STATUTES.

2.) OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

FROM: STEWART STANT, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNTY OF MAUI

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (E/A) EXEMPTION FOR THE LAHAINA WWRF MODIFICATIONS STAGE 1A PROJECT

DATE: AUGUST 25, 2016

BASES OF EXEMPTION

Check applicable box

☒ This Exemption Declaration for the action described below is based on the Exemption List for the County of Maui, reviewed and concurred by the Environmental Council on January 10, 2007:

CLASS 2: “Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located generally on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height and dimensions as the structure replacement”

No. 3. “Utility services, including sewer, water, drainage, electrical, communications, irrigation, and fuel systems, except where a State Department of Health Permit is required”
This Exemption Declaration for the action described below is based on Exemption Class , Section 11-200-8(a), Hawai‘i Administrative Rules (HAR).

AGENCY OR APPLICANT ACTION

Check applicable box
☒ The exempted action is an agency action as defined by Section 11-200-5, HAR
☐ The exempted action is an applicant action as defined by Section 11-200-6, HAR

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

Name of Agency or Applicant:   County of Maui, Department of Environmental Management, Wastewater Reclamation Division

Brief Description of the Action: Modifying and constructing facilities at the Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility to restore secondary treatment capacity to 9.0 million gallons per day in order to reliably meet current permit requirements, to accommodate maintenance of the existing facilities built in 1985, and to replace the aging and obsolete portion of the facility built in 1975, which is currently out of service.

Beginning Date Anticipated Start of Action: January 2017
Anticipated Ending Date Completion of Action: December 2018
Island and District and Island of Action Location: Lahaina, Maui
Tax Map Key of Action:   (2) 4-4-002:029

CONSULTATION

List the name, title, affiliation, and date of consultation for any parties consulted about the exemption of this action:

1. Mr. Jeffrey Dack,
   County of Maui, Planning Department
   August, 2016

2. Ms. Sina Pruder
   Hawaii Department of Health, Clean Water Branch
   June 2016
CONCERNS/POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Check all applicable boxes

☐ None
☐ Land Use Impact and Zoning Conformance
☐ Traffic (Vehicles, Bicycles, Pedestrian)
☐ Compliance
☐ Waste (Solid, Hazardous, Liquid)
☐ Increased Demand on Infrastructure
☐ Social and Economic Impacts
☐ Health and Safety
☐ Property Acquisition Requirement
☐ Natural Resources, including:
  ☒ Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species
  ☒ Surface and Ground Water Resources,
  ☐ Wetlands or
  ☐ Floodplains
☐ Cultural Resources and Practices
☐ Access to Public Access Resources (such as beach access)
  ☒ Air Quality Pollutant Emissions
  ☒ Noise Emissions
☐ Infrastructure
☒ Visual/Aesthetic Impact
☐ Environmental Justice (disproportionate adverse impact in disadvantaged areas)
☐ Degree of Controversy
☐ Other

Briefly describe concerns and potential adverse environmental, social, and cultural impacts relating to the action, and/or exemption, and remediation (mitigation) measures, and basis for exempting the action from further environmental review:

The purpose of the project is to replace the existing wastewater facilities without changing the treatment capacity. The project will not induce or prevent population growth or have any significant social impacts. The visual impact of the project will likely be minimal, and mostly screened by the landscaping
along Honoapiilani Highway. There is a possibility that the increase in impervious surfaces could increase runoff, but the majority of the new surface area is open, uncovered wastewater basins. During construction, grading could increase dust and erosion, but these effects will be mitigated by implementing best management practices. Land has been previously disturbed so it is unlikely that culturally or historically significant items will be found. Construction will increase noise levels temporarily, and appropriate mitigation measures will be used. The site is 1,200 feet from the Honokowai condominiums, the nearest residential area.
SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Describe any sensitive environments related to the exempted action

There are no sensitive environments that will be detrimentally impacted by the proposed project. Natural ecosystems in the area that used to exist were eliminated by previous sugarcane production. The rodents, birds, and mongoose living in these fields are not considered beneficial, and they are not threatened, since they are common all over Maui. No adverse long or short-term environmental impacts are expected to occur.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Briefly describe any cumulative impacts by the action described above. “Cumulative impact” is the impact on the environment, which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time. Section 11-200-2.

This project will modernize and restore the reliability of the facility, which will ensure treatment meets permit requirements and reduces potential of spills.

APPROVAL OF EXEMPTION

I have considered the direct, cumulative, and potential impacts of the action described above pursuant to provided by Chapter 343, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes and Chapter 11-200, Hawai‘i Administrative Rules. I declare that the action described above will have minimal or no significant impact on the environment and is therefore exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.

This document is on file in our office and is available for public review.

Stewart Stant, Director
Department of Environmental Management

\[Signature\]

9/6/16