

EXEMPTION NOTICE FORM

County of Kauaʻi, Department of Water
4398 Pua Loke Street
Līhuʻe HI 96766

TO: 1. Agency-Maintained Public Files for Chapter 343 HRS Exemption Determinations
2. Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, if publication is desired

FROM: Joseph E. Tait, Manager and Chief Engineer

SUBJECT: Exemption Notice for Kuamoo Road Water Main Replacement

DATE: 6/23/2025

AGENCY OR APPLICANT ACTION

Check applicable box.

- ☒ This exempted action is an agency action as defined by Section 343-5(b), Hawaiʻi Revised Statutes (HRS), and Section 11-200.1-8, Hawaiʻi Administrative Rules (HAR),
- ☐ This exempted action is an applicant action as defined by Section 343-5(e), HRS, and Section 11-200.1-9, HAR

EXEMPTION TYPE:

The Exemption Notice for the action described below is based on the general types enumerated in Section 11-200.1-15(c), Hawaiʻi Administrative Rules (HAR), Exemption Type **2**.

As applicable, the exemption for the action described below is also supported by the Exemption List for the County of Kauaʻi, Department of Water, reviewed and concurred to by the Environmental Council on 9/6/2022.

- Exemption List Class **2**.
- Item Number **B, Part 2.1**.
- Applicable language from the exemption list: Replacement or reconstruction of pipeline and appurtenances (water mains, service laterals, meters, hydrants, valves, manholes, gauges) of equal size or to meet current demands, Water System Standards, fire flow standards and other operational requirements with no intention of providing additional flow for increased development.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

Proposing Agency or Applicant: County of Kauaʻi, Department of Water

Project Name & Address/Location: Kuamoo Road Water Main Replacement, Kapaʻa, Kauaʻi, Hawaiʻi

Anticipated Start Date: 10/1/2026

Anticipated End Date: 9/30/2031

Island and District: Kaua'i

Kawaihau

Tax Map Key(s) and other geolocation means: Within the road right-of-ways of Kuamoo Road between Opaekaa Falls Lookout and the University of Hawai'i Agricultural Experiment Station.

All Necessary Permits and Approvals: State of Hawai'i, Department of Transportation, Highways Division; County of Kaua'i, Department of Public Works, Engineering Division; State of Hawai'i, Department of Health; State of Hawai'i, Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Division.

NARRATIVE

Describe the action and why it qualifies for the exemption: The County of Kaua'i, Department of Water is replacing existing water infrastructure that is nearing the end of its service life in order to provide water mains that meet current fire flow standards.

RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

Describe the site, including any impacts on the receiving environment: The work will be performed in State of Hawai'i, Department of Transportation, Highways Division right-of-way, and County of Kaua'i, Department of Public Works, Engineering Division right-of-way on a County road. The area consists primarily of residential spaces, a University of Hawai'i Agricultural Experiment Station, the Hindu Monastery, a commercial store, and a lookout for the Opaekaa Falls.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

I have considered the potential effects of the proposed project and all related activities against the criteria checked below:

	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Zoning Conformance	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traffic (Vehicles, Bicycles, Pedestrian)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure (Roads, Buildings, Utilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality Pollutant Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solid, Hazardous, and Liquid Waste Management	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Beach Access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources and Practices	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual/Aesthetic	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rare, Threatened, and/or Endangered Species	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface and Ground Water Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Floodplains | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian/Coastal Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Comments/summary of impact analysis: The construction work will cause temporary impact to the community including traffic, noise emissions, social, economic, and visual aesthetic. When the project is complete these temporary impacts will not remain. The completed project will provide improved infrastructure and better health and safety since the existing water mains that are at the end of its useful service life will be replaced with new water lines that meet fire flow standards.

MITIGATION

Describe all mitigation measures and best management practices planned to address impacts during the project activities and after project completion: The construction work will follow federal, state, and local laws in regard to traffic control, noise emissions, waste management and best management practices.

CONSULTATION

The following parties have been consulted about this declaration exemption (Name, affiliation, consultation date): County of Kaua'i, Department of Water, Acting Deputy Manager-Engineer Michael Hinazumi, Acting Civil Engineer VII Jason Kagimoto, Project Management Officer Scott Suga, Acting Chief of Operations Ryan Smith, State of Hawai'i, Department of Transportation, Highways Division.

EXEMPT DECLARATION

The direct, cumulative, and potential impacts of the action described above have been considered pursuant to Chapter 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes and Chapter 11-200.1, 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 requirement to prepare an environmental assessment.



Signature of Director or Delegate

6-27-2025

Date

This document is to be kept on file in the agency's records and made available for public review.

- ☒ Please check here if this document is being submitted to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development for voluntary publication in *The Environmental Notice*