

## Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** Dept. of Water Resources  
San Luis Field Division  
31770 Gonzaga Road  
Gustine, CA 95322

**Lead Agency:** California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

**Project Title:** San Luis Field Division (SLFD) Erosion Repair Milepost (MP) 87.6 Left Side (L) and MP 90.75 Right Side (R).

**Project Location City & County:** Los Banos, Merced County

**Project Location – Specific:** The work will take place within the SLFD right of way at MP 87.6L and MP 90.75R, which is located along the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct). The sites are approximately 0.8 mile south and 3.8 miles south-southeast, respectively, from the Dos Amigos Pumping Plant.

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** SLFD will repair erosions located at MP 87.6L and 90.75R to maintain Aqueduct integrity. The erosions will first be backfilled with the eroded material remaining at each site. If more fill is required, it will be imported from existing DWR spoil piles. Once backfilled, each site will be compacted either by using a sheepsfoot roller attachment or by using a tamper and then re-contoured. The Aqueduct is the major conveyor of water for the State Water Project (SWP) and is vital for delivering water to millions of California residents. This work will help ensure continued safe and reliable water delivery to SWP Contractors.

### Exempt/Suspend Status:

- Ministerial (§21080[b][1]; 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to Drought)
- Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080[b][4]; California Code of Regulations §15269[c])
- Categorical Exemption: 15301(b) – Existing Facilities
- Statutory Exemptions:

**Reasons Why Project Is Exempt:** The DWR's erosion repair involves repairing existing Aqueduct embankments to restore them to original condition. The repair will not involve an expansion of existing or former use and will not have a significant effect on the environment; Categorical Exemption 15301(b) (Existing Facilities) applies.

### Name of Public Agency Approving Project:

**Contact Person:** Cody Nelson

**Telephone:** (209) 827-5127

**Signature:**  **Date:** 3/16/21 **Title:** UCW SUPERVISOR

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant