

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): San Luis &
Delta-Mendota Water Authority
P.O. Box 2157, Los Banos, CA 93635

County Clerk
County of: Merced

(Address)

Project Title: Geotechnical Evaluation of San Luis Reservoir State Route 152 Embankment Raise

Project Applicant: San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

Project Location - Specific:
37.06154, -121.07574

Project Location - City: near San Luis Reservoir Project Location - County: Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Drill and sample two (2) geotechnical test borings within CALTRANS Right-of-Way to depths of 50 feet and 200 feet below the existing roadway elevation. Advance two (2) Cone Penetration Test (CPT) soundings to depths of 100 feet below the existing roadway elevation. Test borings and CPT soundings will be performed at night and will be grouted to the existing grade upon completion of the boreholes. Traffic control is proposed and one lane shut down will be required for safety of field crew.
Drilling operations and traffic control will be performed by a subcontractor (Tabor Drilling) and will be under the supervision of CDM Smith, Inc. Geotechnical Engineer. Site will be cleaned and roadway can be opened back up at CALTRANS specified time each morning. It is requested that work be allowed to continue at least 5 nights per week (Monday night through Friday night) to allow for time efficiency in completion of geotechnical borings. If allowed, it would be desirable to complete boreholes in consecutive manner (i.e., work consecutive nights until work has been completed, which is being budgeted for 5 to 8 nights worth of work). No work will be performed within existing asphalt areas (work will be performed within median on West Bound Lane if utility locations are cleared).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 14 CCR, Sec 15300-15333; ref Sec 15306 (information collection)
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt pursuant to Class 6 because it consists of geotechnical boring (e.g. basic data collection) within two areas and two CPT soundings, and is temporary in nature and would not result in a serious major disturbance to any environmental resources, including scenic resources within a highway officially designated as a scenic highway. No exceptions to Categorical Exemptions (pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2) would apply to the project.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Pablo Arroyave Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 209-826-9696

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Pablo R. Arroyave Date: 4/22/21 Title: COO

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR:
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.