

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Dept. of Water Resources
San Luis Field Division, 31770 Gonzago Rd.
Gustine, CA 95322

Project Title: California Aqueduct Milepost 147.75R Temporary Pipe Repair

Project Location City and County: Calflax, Fresno County

Project Location, Specific: Work will occur in the Department of Water Resources (DWR) right of way (ROW) on the right side (R) of the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct) at milepost (MP) 147.75. The worksite is located approximately 4.3 miles southwest of the unincorporated community of Calflax in Fresno County.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Westlands Water District (WWD) has requested permission to encroach in DWR's ROW to conduct temporary repairs on a leaking, damaged pipe. A contractor, Agri-Valley Irrigation, will excavate a 10-foot-wide by 10-foot-long by 3-foot-deep area (approximately 11.1 cubic yards) at the land-side toe of the Aqueduct embankment at MP 147.75R using a mini-excavator; the soil will be stockpiled next to the excavated area. A full circle repair clamp will be placed on the outside diameter of the pipe and tightened using hand tools to contain the leak. The area will then be backfilled to the original elevation using the stockpiled, excavated soil and will be compacted to 90 percent or higher compaction using a wheel roller or tamping rammers. The project is necessary to continue water deliveries to WWD Contractors.

Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources, as Responsible Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Westlands Water District

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));

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15305(b) Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations; Issuance of minor encroachment permits

- Statutory Exemptions. State code number(s):

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: WWD requests encroachment permission to conduct temporary repairs on a damaged pipe in DWR's ROW. DWR is the Responsible Agency that will issue an encroachment permit to WWD. Work consists of minor alterations to land with an average slope of less than 20 percent. Categorical Exemption 15305(b) (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations - Issuance of Minor Encroachment Permits) applies. WWD, as the Lead Agency, is responsible for any additional California Environmental Quality Act documentation and will obtain any necessary permits.

Responsible Agency Contact:

Signature: Frank Johnson Date: 9/8/2021

Printed Name: Frank Johnson Title: Utility Craftswoker, Supv., WR

Phone: (209) 827-5190