

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 Westlands Water District Pipeline Repair

Project Location City and County: Fresno County

Project Location, Specific: The work will occur in the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) right of way on the right (R) side of the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct) at milepost (MP) 147.75. The worksite is in Fresno County and is located about 7.2 miles northwest of the City of Huron.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Westlands Water District (WWD) has requested permission to encroach in the DWR right of way to repair damaged sections of pipeline associated with a temporary turnout at MP 147.75R. An existing 29-foot section of 14-inch diameter steel meter pipe on the waterside slope of the Aqueduct will be removed and replaced with new 14-inch diameter steel pipe. Additionally, the pipeline that connects the meter pipe to the existing booster pump in the temporary turnout will be removed and replaced with new 12-inch diameter steel pipe. To remove the pipeline, WWD will excavate an approximately 300 foot long by 4 feet wide by 5 feet deep trench on the landside of the Aqueduct embankment; approximately 220 cubic yards of material will be excavated. Approximately 100 feet of this excavation will occur in DWR's right of way and the remaining 200 feet will occur in adjacent private properties. Once the new pipe is installed, WWD will backfill and compact the excavation to 90 percent compaction or higher and will return the area to the original grade. The project is necessary to continue water deliveries to WWD Contractors; WWD and their Contractors will benefit.

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 remove and replace a pipeline in DWR's right of way. DWR is the Responsible Agency issuing an encroachment permit to WWD. Work will consist of removing and replacing an existing pipeline. Work will occur in areas with an average slope of less than 20% and no changes in land use or density will occur. Categorical Exemption 15305 (b) (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations – Issuance of Minor Encroachment Permits) applies.

Responsible Agency Contact:

Signature: Eleuterio Diaz Date: 2/2/2022

Printed Name: Eleuterio Diaz Title: Planner/Scheduler and Utility Craftworker Supervisor, WR

Phone: (209) 827-5190