

## 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

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**Project Title:** California Aqueduct Milepost 105.18L Westlands Water District Grounding Rod Installation

**Project Location City and County:** Fresno County

**Project Location, Specific:** Approximately 2.54 miles southeast of the intersection of North Russell Avenue and the California Aqueduct.

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** Westlands Water District (WWD) requested permission to encroach on the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) right-of-way (ROW) to install a grounding rod for the well located near the base of the Aqueduct's left (L) embankment at milepost (MP) 105.18. Work will involve using a rotor hammer to drive a grounding rod into the ground at a marked location directly next to the well. Once the grounding rod is driven into the ground, it will be attached to the well meter. Ground disturbance will be localized in an approximate 2-foot diameter area. WWD and its 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 requested encroachment permission to install a grounding rod for a well 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.

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**Responsible Agency Contact:**

Signature: Eleuterio Diaz Date: 3/29/2022

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

Phone: (209) 827-5190