

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 171.00L Westlands Water District Subline Valve Repair or Replacement

Project Location City and County: Kettleman City, Kings County

Project Location, Specific: The project site is located on the left (L) side of the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct) at milepost (MP) 171.00, approximately 0.58 miles southeast of the intersection of Quail Avenue and the Aqueduct. GPS coordinates for the site are 36.029073, -119.989114.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Westlands Water District (WWD) requested permission to encroach in the Department of Water Resources' right-of-way (ROW) to repair or replace a subline valve. WWD will use a backhoe to excavate an approximately 10 feet by 10 feet wide by 5 to 8 feet deep pit to expose the subline valve on a 24-inch diameter cement water pipe. Excavated soil will be placed in a dump truck and moved to a spoil pile in the work area. When the subline valve is exposed, it will be separated from the pipe using hand tools and lifted out of the pit using a small truck-mounted crane. The valve will be repaired if possible, or replaced if necessary; the repaired or replaced valve will be lowered into the pit using the crane. WWD will use a backhoe to backfill the excavated area to the original grade and will compact it to at least 90 percent compaction. The project is necessary to continue deliveries to WWD Contractors; 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 from DWR to repair or replace a valve located in the DWR ROW. DWR as the Responsible Agency will issue this permit. Work will take place in areas with an average slope of less than 20 percent and will not result in any changes in land use or density; Categorical Exemption 15305 (b) (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations - Issuance of minor encroachment permits) applies.

Responsible Agency Contact:

Signature: Eleuterio Diaz Date: 4/5/2022

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

Phone: (209) 827-5190