

Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
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Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd, Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: Marina Barton
Phone: (909) 483-6319



Project Title: 43895 De Luz Road Vegetation Management Project (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-RIV-23965-R6)

Project Location (include county): The 43895 De Luz Road Vegetation Management Project (project) is located at Sandia Canyon Creek, a tributary to Santa Margarita Creek, in Riverside County, State of California; Latitude 33.508600, Longitude -117. 231521; Assessors Parcel Number [APN] 935-160-031. The project is located in utility easements along properties at 93975, 93895, 43733, 43683, and 43988 De Luz Road in unincorporated Riverside County, approximately 4.7 miles northwest of Temecula.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-RIV-23965-R6, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Southern California Edison as represented by Hazem Gabr.

The project is limited to trimming and removal of trees and vegetation, as needed, to maintain fire abatement clearance within an approximate 1.56-acre area along a portion of SCE's Archie 33kV Circuit along De Luz Road, northwest of Temecula. Impacts to Fish and Game Code section 1602 resources are limited to a 0.63-acre area within the broader project footprint. Vegetation in the trimming area may include pepper (*Schinus* sp.), eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.), ailanthus (*Ailanthus altissima*), pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), pine (*Pinus* sp.), oak (*Quercus* sp., primarily *Q. agrifolia*), sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), and willow (*Salix* sp.). Diameter at breast height [DBH] of trees to be trimmed range from less than 2 inches to 16 inches and removals range from less than 2 inch to 36 inches.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Southern California Edison

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption. Class 1 § 15301 (h), Existing Facilities, and Class 4 § 15304, Minor Alterations to Land

Reasons why project is exempt: The project involves routine maintenance, trimming, and removal of trees and vegetation along SCE utility transmission and distribution lines pursuant to Section 15301 (h). The project is also exempt under Class 4, specifically, pursuant to Section 15304 example (i), detailing fuel management activities within 30 feet of structures to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation. Project activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species or significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. This exemption applies to fuel management activities within 100 feet of a structure if SCE has determined that 100 feet of fuel clearance is required due to extra hazardous fire conditions.

CDFW Contact Person: Marina Barton, Environmental Scientist, (909) 483-6319

DocuSigned by:
Scott Wilson
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5/19/2022

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Scott Wilson
Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____