

## 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 Gonzaga Rd.  
Gustine, CA 95322

**Project Title:** California Aqueduct Milepost 141.53R Westlands Water District Pipeline Excavation and 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) 141.53. The worksite is in Fresno County and is located about 1.4 miles northwest of the intersection of the Aqueduct and State Route 145.

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

Westlands Water District (WWD) has requested permission to encroach in the DWR right of way to excavate and repair a damaged waterline at MP 141.53R. Pondered water leaking from a damaged section of pipe will be pumped into existing, adjacent 0.12-acre basins. The excavated area will be approximately 15 feet long by 15 feet wide and approximately 4 feet deep. The damaged 27-foot section of 4-inch diameter PVC pipe located between the mainline and a concrete meter vault will be removed. It will be replaced with the same size PVC pipe and will be tied in with PVC couplings. Once the waterline is repaired, WWD will backfill and compact the excavated areas 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 excavate and repair an existing water line in DWR's right of way. DWR is the Responsible Agency issuing an encroachment permit to WWD. Work will occur in areas with an average slope of less than 20 percent 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: 7/1/2022

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

Phone: (209) 827-5190