

## Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** Dept. of Water Resources  
Division of O & M  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Lead Agency:** California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

**Project Title:** Physical Security and Modernization Project at Dos Amigos Pumping Plant (DAPP) and San Luis Field Division (SLFD) Operations & Maintenance (O&M)

**Project Location City & County:** Los Banos, Merced County

**Project Location – Specific:** DAPP is located 10 miles south of Los Banos, CA. The site is accessed from Interstate 5, Highway 165, and Poleline Road.

SLFD O&M Center is located near the toe of B.F. Sisk Dam, east of the Pacheco Pass and about 10 miles west of Los Banos. The site is accessed from Highway 152, Basalt Road, and Gonzaga Road.

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** At the SLFD O&M Center, entrance upgrades include a new crash rated vehicle gate, road widening, card reader islands, fencing, bollards, and temporary k-railing. The new gate will be bidirectional with a 15-foot opening for ingress and 24-foot opening for egress. Road widening include a 14 feet wide and 160 feet long visitor lane in front of the existing guard shack. K-rails will be placed on the unprotected side of the fence outside both gate openings. Eight bollards will be installed in front of the guard shack. Additionally at the O&M Center, a new prefabricated building will be installed and used as a Security Operations Center.

At DAPP, perimeter physical security upgrades include two power operated crash rated gates with card reader islands, one manual operated crash rated gate, fencing, a security cameras pole, cameras, and utility trenching. One of the power operated gates will be installed at the primary entrance near the switchyard. The second power operated crash rated gate will replace the existing powered gate at the primary canal road, located on the east embankment of the aqueduct.

A manually operated 24-foot crash rated swing gate will replace the existing gate at the south side of the Maintenance building east of the pumping plant. One new security camera pole with footing 13-feet deep will be installed in the vicinity of the existing pole on the hillside north of the pumping plant for coverage of the plant and switchyard. The existing pole will be removed.

Cameras will be mounted on existing poles around the plant perimeter and on the building corners to provide 360° monitoring of the plant exterior. An additional camera would be installed on the southwest side of the paved ground surrounding DAPP.

The Reliability and Security Office (RSO) has issued O&M Policy CP\_60 under which physical security of State Water Project (SWP) assets should be addressed. The Physical Security Modernization Project's (PSMP) purpose is to promote a standardized approach to physical security for the SWP assets that have been identified by the RSO. The Aqueduct is the major conveyor of water for the SWP and is vital for delivering water to millions of California residents. This work will help ensure continued safe and reliable water delivery to SWP Contractors.

**Exempt/Suspend Status:**

- Ministerial (§21080[b][1]; 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to Drought)
- Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080[b][4]; California Code of Regulations §15269[c])
- Categorical Exemption: Class 1, Existing Facilities, Section No. 15301(m)
- Statutory Exemptions:

**Reasons Why Project Is Exempt:** The State Water Project provides significant and important services to many Californians. This project is exempt because it involves minor work activities to appurtenant structures under the supervision of the Department of Water Resources. This project will not result in impacts to the environment.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Department of Water Resources

**Contact Person:** Sara Paiva-Lowry

**Telephone:** (916) 653-9342

**Signature:** Sara Paiva-Lowry **Date:** 8/11/2022 **Title:** Manager, Environmental Regulatory Compliance

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant