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Notice of Exemption

To:
Office of Planning and Research
CEQA Submit

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
South Coast Region
3030 Old Ranch Parkway, Suite 400
Seal Beach, CA 90740
Frederic.Rieman@wildlife.ca.gov

Project Title: Serrano Valley M33-T5 Project (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-ORA-29850-R5)

Project Location (Orange County): The Project is located along the Black Star Canyon Trail and includes areas at Black Star Creek and Santiago Creek within Santiago Canyon, in the County of Orange, State of California; Latitude 33.7733, Longitude -117.6827; Sections 1 and 2, Township 5, Range 8 on the USGS Black Star Canyon, California 7.5-minute quadrangle map; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 105-0-2266, 545.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-ORA-29850-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Southern California Edison as represented by Hazem Gabr.

The Project involves the repair of existing Southern California Edison infrastructure. Currently, the portion of the access road that is required to reach the tower repair is heavily eroded and washed out from recent storms. Work required to support repairs to the tower will include maintenance grading to repair erosion/rutting, maintaining the existing road prism for safe access, and vegetation maintenance which will provide necessary clearance for crane equipment. In addition, a McCarthy drain replacement and general road maintenance are proposed within the Project site.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Statutory Exemption.
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project consists of the maintenance of an existing access road and hiking trail in order to safely get heavy equipment to the transmission tower for maintenance. No expansion of use is proposed. The Project is exempt because it involves the maintenance of existing structures and/or facilities.

CDFW Contact Person: Frederic (Fritz) Rieman, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (562) 619-0605, Frederic.Rieman@wildlife.ca.gov

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Signature: B6E58CFE24724F5... *Date:* 2/17/2023
Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____