

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

(City CEQA Guidelines)

Submission of this form is optional. The form shall be filed with the County Clerk, 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA 90650, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21168(d), the filing of this notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on Court challenges to the approval of the project. Failure to file the notice results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

<b>LEAD CITY AGENCY AND ADDRESS:</b> Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) 111 N. Hope Street, Room 1044 Los Angeles, CA 90012	<b>COUNCIL DISTRICT</b> N/A
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<b>PROJECT TITLE</b> Los Angeles Aqueduct System Flood Preparation & Emergency Response in the Southern District – March 2023	<b>LOG REFERENCE</b> Not Applicable
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**PROJECT LOCATION**  
 Los Angeles Aqueduct facilities located within Los Angeles and Kern Counties. Please see attached maps.

**DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:**  
 The winter months of 2022/2023 have the potential to set the record for the largest snowpack in the eastern Sierra since the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) began record-keeping in 1926. As of March 8, 2023, snowfall in the Eastern Sierra is approximately 243% of normal. The atmospheric river systems that have inundated California established conditions that will result in severe flooding and will place the safety of the public, property, infrastructure, and the environment in extreme risk.

LADWP must take emergency action to armor and repair target Los Angeles Aqueduct (LAA) facilities from floodwater impacts; clean, repair and rebuild water conveyance and delivery facilities to be free of debris; increase water flows in certain controlled waterways throughout the LAA system; and construct flood control projects throughout the LAA system to mitigate potential harm. Additionally, LADWP will be seeking outside construction and professional services to supplement flood damage minimization efforts, as well as to offset the indirect impacts to resource availability (i.e. labor, equipment, and materials) resulting from the emergency response along the entire LAA.

<b>CONTACT PERSON</b> Kathryn Laudeman	<b>AREA CODE   TELEPHONE NUMBER   EXT.</b> (213) 367-6376
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**EXEMPT STATUS:**  
 Section 15269(a): Emergency Projects  
 Public Resources Code Sec. 21080(b)(4)

**JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION:**  
 In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), it has been determined that the expedited purchasing resolution and the activities authorized thereunder are exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080(b)(4) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(c) as specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. (See also CalBeach Advocates v. City of Solana Beach (2002) 103 Cal.App.4th 529.)

In addition, the proposed work is Statutorily Exempt from CEQA review pursuant to section 15269 Emergency Projects. Section 15269(a) states that Projects to maintain, repair, restore, demolish, or replace property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code. This includes projects that will remove, destroy, or significantly alter an historical resource when that resource represents an imminent threat to the public of bodily harm or of damage to adjacent property or when the project has received a determination by the State Office of Historic Preservation pursuant to Section 5028(b) of Public Resources Code. A State of Emergency was declared on March 1st and 8th, 2023 in response to severe winter storms to thirty-four counties. The proposed work meets the requirements of this exemption; therefore, no further CEQA review is required.

**IF FILED BY APPLICANT, ATTACH CERTIFIED DOCUMENT OF EXEMPTION FINDING**

<b>SIGNATURE</b>  Katherine Rubin	<b>TITLE:</b> Director of Environmental Affairs	<b>DATE</b> 3/22/2023	
<b>FEE: \$75.00</b>	<b>RECEIPT NO.</b>	<b>REC'D BY</b>	<b>DATE</b>