



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region, Redding Office
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002

Date: 27 June 2023

Project Title:

2022 Captain Jack-Olinda Access Road Improvement Project (Project)

Project Location - Specific:

Address: Oak Run Road & Pierce Hollow Road
Section 36, Township 33 North, Range 2 West, MDB&M.
Nearest City: Redding
Latitude: 40.67053° and Longitude: -122.03878°

Project Location - County:

Shasta County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Project includes routine maintenance of an existing 500-kV transmission line access road which lies in an area identified as a CalFire High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. The Project involves grading approximately 6 miles of existing ranch roads which serve as access roads for the ongoing maintenance of 500-kV transmission lines. The Project intends to make sure this remote road is usable for patrols, maintenance, and emergency response in all seasons. At selected ephemeral wetland crossings, placement of rip rap is designed to solidify the soft underlying road bed and prevent erosion.

Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:

Federal Agencies: The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404, Nationwide Permit 57.

State Agency approval for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification: California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Redding Office. WDID No. 5A45CR00639.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Jonathan Aust
Western Area Power Administration
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, CA 95630

Exempt Status:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region has determined that the Project is categorically exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, article 19, section 15301 (Existing Facilities). Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

Reasons why Project is Exempt:

This project is categorically exempt under CEQA section 15301 because the Project involves maintenance of existing structures and topographical features with no expansion of use.

Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:

Hillary Regnart
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding
(520) 451-1136

State Lead Agency Contact Person:

Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist
Chief Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Redding Branch Office
(530) 224-2437

Signature: _____
Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

cc: Jonathan Aust, Western Area Power Administration, Folsom
Michael Prowatzke, Western Area Power Administration, Folsom
Hillary Regnart, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding