

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: California Department of Water Resources
San Luis Field Division, 31770 Gonzaga Rd
Gustine, CA 95322

Lead Agency: Westlands Water District

Project Title: California Aqueduct Milepost 158.45R Westlands Water District Pipe Tee Installation

Project Location City & County: Fresno County

Project Location – Specific: The work will occur on the right (R) side of the California Aqueduct at milepost 158.45 near the intersection of South Madera Avenue and West Gale Avenue. The work site is approximately 30 feet east of South Madera Avenue and 65 feet north of West Gale Avenue and is approximately 2.34 miles southeast of the City of Huron. (Latitude/Longitude: 36.1811753, -120.067199.)

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Westlands Water District (WWD) has requested permission to encroach in the Department of Water Resources (DWR) right-of-way to install a water meter and truck filling pipe tee (pipe tee). WWD will excavate an area up to four feet long by four feet wide and two feet deep to expose the existing buried water pipeline. A steel pipe tee and a water meter will be installed on the existing water line. The water meter and a portion of the pipe tee will be above ground; hoses will be able to connect to the above ground portion of the pipe tee for filling water trucks. Once the pipe tee and water meter are installed, WWD will backfill and compact the excavated area and will return the area to the original grade. The open end of the pipe tee will be capped when not in use.

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: 15305(b) Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations – Issuance of Minor

Encroachment Permits


Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons Why Project Is Exempt: WWD requests encroachment permission to install a water meter and pipe tee to an existing waterline in the DWR right-of-way. DWR, as the Responsible Agency, will issue 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 to this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources, as Responsible Agency

Contact Person: Jake Grace

Telephone: (209) 827-5190

Signature:  _____ **Date:** 8/7/2023 _____ **Title:** Planner/Scheduler/UC Supv. _____

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Applicant