

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

**FROM:** Central Valley Flood Protection Board  
 3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 170  
 Sacramento, CA 95821

**Project Title:** Permit No. 19742: Vlot Calf Ranch Project

**Project Applicant (if any):** California Gas Gathering, Inc.

**Project Location/Address/City/County:** The project is located where Avenue 21 crosses the Eastside Bypass in the community of Chowchilla, approximately 17 miles south of the City of Merced, Madera County.

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** To install a 3-inch diameter welded steel natural gas pipeline crossing of the Eastside Bypass by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD). The crossing will include safety shut off valves and leak detection equipment on each side of the Eastside Bypass.

**Public Agency Approving Project:** Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board)

**Public Agency/Person Carrying Out Project:** California Gas Gathering, Inc.

**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Exemption (CEQA Sec 15061(b)(3))
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: § 15303 and § 15304
- Statutory Exemption. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

The Board has determined the project is exempt from CEQA under the Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Section 15303) because the proposed activity consists of the installation of a new gas extension. The project is also exempt under the Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land categorical exemption (CEQA CCR, Title 14, Section 15304) because the proposed activity consists of minor public and private alterations in the condition of land and does not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. Further, none of the exceptions to the exemption in CEQA CCR, Title 14, Section 15300.2 apply.

**CVFPB Contact Person:** Jennifer Calles; 916-837-3683; Jennifer.Calles@cvflood.ca.gov

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:**

August 7, 2023

Signature Chris Lief, Executive Officer

Date

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Responsible Agency

**Date Received for filing at OPR:**

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
 Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.