

**Notice of Exemption**

**Appendix E**

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): Department of Water  
Resources, San Joaquin Field  
Division  
4201 Sabodan Street, Bakersfield, CA 93313

County Clerk  
County of: \_\_\_\_\_

(Address)

Project Title: CK 26-27 Fiber Issue

Project Applicant: Department of Water Resources, San Joaquin Field Division

Project Location – Specific:

Check site 26 and check site 27 of the state water project are located along the California aqueduct. The junction boxes that will be excavated are located at MP 228 (35°21'42.07"N, 119°29'33.71"W) and across check site 27 (35°20'14.3"N 119°26'17.1"W).

Project Location – City: Buttonwillow

Project Location – County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Fiber communication lines between check site 26 to check site 27 of the State Water Project are currently non-operational, causing disruptions within the Department of Water Resources. To repair this issue, contractors will uncover the buried junction box at MP 228. A mini excavator and shovels will be used to excavate. The excavated area is estimated to be around 5 feet wide by 5 feet long by 5 feet deep. All work will take place by the side of the road. Once the box is uncovered, the fiber line within the box will be tested and repaired. If the line is still non-operational after repairs, the junction box across check site 27 will be excavated and the fiber lines within that box will be tested and repaired. The junction box across check site 27 will be excavated in the same manner as described for the junction box at MP 228. After the fiber line is operational, the junction boxes will be sealed and buried. This project is estimated to take one day to complete. All work will take place within the DWR right of way.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: DWR- Operations & Maintenance

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)); 15301 (b)
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project consists of maintenance activities that support the function of the California Aqueduct and water delivery within the State Water Project.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Elizabeth Maldonado Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 661-858-5662

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

Signature: *Elizabeth Maldonado* Date: 12/19/23 Title: Environmental Scientist

Signed by Lead Agency    Signed by Applicant

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

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_