

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. 19721 El Nido Overhead Utility Project

Project Applicant (if any): Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Project Location/Address/City/County: The proposed project spans both the left (west) and right (east) bank levees of Eastside Bypass along Washington Road approximately 18 miles west of the City of Chowchilla, in Merced County.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: To implement the expansion of PG&E's El Nido distribution circuit that consists of installing 24 power poles, 22 of which are within the Board Adopted Plan of Flood Control, along the landside of the left bank levee of Eastside Bypass parallel to the southside of Washington Road and two aerial crossings. The aerial crossings occur at the Eastside Bypass and Washington Road to the east and near the diversion structure at the San Joaquin River and Eastside Bypass confluence to the west.

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

Public Agency/Person Carrying Out Project: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

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: Sections 15301, 15303, 15304
- Statutory Exemption. State code number:

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The Board has determined that the project is exempt under the Class 3 New Construction of Small Structures categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15303) because the proposed activity consists of extension of public utility power lines and the installation of poles to serve the public. The project is also exempt under the Class 4 Minor Alteration to Land categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15304) because the proposed activity consists of minor fill and excavation related to installation of the public utility poles. The project is also exempt under the Class 1 Existing Facilities categorical exemption because the proposed activity consists of the expansion of an existing utility line. Further, none of the exceptions to the exemption in CEQA (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15300.2 apply.

CVFPB Contact Person: Angela Nguyen-Tan; (916) 837-3717; Angela.Nguyen-Tan@cvflood.ca.gov

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

January 30, 2024

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.