

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: WRPP Install New Entry Gate

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

Project Location – Specific:

The Wheeler Ridge Pumping Plant (WRPP) entry gate is located at 35°02'08.1"N 119°00'38.6"W.

Project Location – City: Bakersfield

Project Location – County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

San Joaquin Field Division plans to replace an entry gate, add 2 solar light poles, add exit and safety loops, and relocate a fencepost. This work is necessary to update aging infrastructure and to add modern safety features.

To do this work, either DWR staff or a contractor will remove the existing gate, a guard rail, and an adjacent fencepost using either hand tools or a backhoe. Once the gate, guardrail, and fenceposts are removed, 2 concrete pads would be constructed to mount the new gate operating system and gate receiver. To construct the concrete pads, a vacuum truck or hand tools would be used to excavate the pad sites, and a wooden frame would be built within each of the excavated sites. Then, a cement mixer would be used to prepare the cement, and the mix would be poured into the wooden frames. The finished operator pad would be 4'W x 7'L x 3'D, while the receiver pad would be 1'1" W x 1' 6" L x 3' D. DWR staff would also excavate a hole for the new fencepost. Cement would be added to keep the new fencepost in place. Two concrete posts would be built for the new solar lights. Solar lights would be placed on the west side of the road, on either side of the gate, near the key terminals. All concrete will need 5 days to cure.

To install the safety loops, the contractor would remove a portion of the asphalt. Then, they would lay the loop into the cut-out portion. Lastly, they would cover the area with asphalt. Wires within the key terminals would be replaced. Existing conduit would be used. If the existing conduit is not in good condition, the old conduit would be dug out and new conduit would be installed. Lastly, the gate solar panel would be replaced, and the guard rail would be reinstalled.

Construction work is estimated to take less than 2 weeks to complete. All equipment staging will take place southwest of the gate on a graveled area. All work will take place within DWR's 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: 2/23/2024 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: _____