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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

### California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Central Valley Region, Redding Office  
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205  
Redding, CA 96002

**Date:** 9 April 2024

**Project Title:**

Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), Valley Subdivision  
Mile Post 166.01 Bridge Replacement Project (Project)

**Project Location - Specific:**

Sections 22, 23, 27, and 28, Township 19 North,  
Range 02 East, MDB&M.  
Nearest City: Richvale, CA  
Latitude: 39.476285° and Longitude: -121.736287°

**Project Location - County:**

Butte County

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The project will replace the existing 37-span, 556-foot long, timber stringer trestle ballast deck bridge with a 19-span, 570-foot long, pre-stressed concrete box girder bridge. Construction will occur within an existing UPRR right-of-way (ROW) extending 100 feet to both sides of the track alignment (200 feet total ROW width). The Project limits include the existing bridge structure, access routes via existing levee roads, and staging areas on all four corners of the bridge.

**Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:**

**Federal Agencies:** The project requires authorization under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404, Nationwide Permit 14, Linear Transportation Projects.

***State Agency approval for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification:***

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Redding Office.  
WDID No. 5A04CR00361.

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**

Steve Cheney  
Union Pacific Railroad  
1400 Douglas Street, Stop 0910  
Omaha, NE 68179

**Exempt Status:**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region has determined that the Project is categorically exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Article 19, section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

**Reasons why Project is Exempt:**

This project is Categorically Exempt under CEQA section 15302 because the project involves replacement of an existing structure with a new structure that will be located in the same footprint and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

**Federal Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Shannon Morgan  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District  
(916) 326-9130

**State Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist  
Chief Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Redding Branch Office  
(530) 224-2437

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Title:** Senior Environmental Scientist

cc: Steve Cheney, Union Pacific Railroad, Omaha, NE  
Janet Hill, Arcadis U.S., Inc., Highlands Park, CO  
Shannon Morgan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District