

Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

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

From: Dept. of Water Resources
San Luis Field Division
31770 Gonzaga Road
Gustine, CA 95322

Lead Agency: California Department of Water Resources

Project Title: PG&E Canyon Road Repair at Los Banos Creek Detention Dam

Project Location City & County: Merced

Project Location – Specific: The project consists of road repairs in five locations at Los Banos Creek Detention Dam (Dam) (Figure 1). The Dam is approximately 1.1 miles southwest of the intersection of Interstate 5 and Canyon Road in Merced County.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: PG&E will repair portions of Canyon Road, an existing asphalt road that leads into the California State Parks Los Banos Creek Reservoir recreation area. The road sections were damaged while completing a separate project in the area; all of the repairs will be in the Department of Water Resources right of way. Each length of damaged road will be repaired by pulverizing its entire width to a 6-inch depth. Once the pulverized section of road is compacted to at least 95 percent, 3 inches of new hot mix asphalt will be installed on top of the compacted areas. Approximately 1192 cubic yards of damaged road will be repaired. The work area is part of the 2007 *PG&E San Joaquin Valley Operations & Maintenance Habitat Conservation Plan* that was implemented by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Department of Fish and Game, and PG&E; applicable measures in the HCP will be followed during the road repairs. This work is necessary to ensure safe, public access to the Los Banos Creek Detention Dam recreation area and safe access for maintenance of the Dam and PG&E structures. The public, California State Parks, PG&E, and the State Water Project will benefit.

Exempt/Suspend Status:

- Ministerial (§21080[b][1]; 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to Drought)
- Emergency Project (Public Resources Code §21080[b][4]; California Code of Regulations §15269[c])
- Categorical Exemption: 15301 (Existing Facilities)
- Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons Why Project Is Exempt: PG&E will repair sections of existing asphalt road in the Department of Water Resources right of way. This work will not expand existing or former use of the road. Categorical Exemption 15301 (Existing Facilities) applies.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources

Contact Person: Cody Nelson

Telephone: (209) 827-5190

Signature: Cody Nelson **Date:** 5/13/2024 **Title:** Planner/Scheduler/UC Supv.

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Figure 1

