

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: SF Bay Regional Water Board
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland CA, 94612

Project Title: Lateral 56D Over Green Valley Creek Repair Project (Project)

Project Location - Specific: (38.246180, -122.162840)

Project Location – City: Green Valley (Unincorporated)

Project Location - County: Solano County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The Project purpose was to replace the buried lateral water pipeline 56D (Pipeline) that crossed Green Valley Creek (Creek), west of Green Valley Road and south of Via Palo Linda, in Green Valley, Solano County (38.246180, -122.162840). The Pipeline serves residences in the Green Valley Estates area, several vineyards and agricultural parcels, and fire protection purposes.

The Permittee discovered a leak in the Pipeline on April 16, 2023, and conducted an initial emergency repair between April 27 and 30, 2023, involving the isolation of the broken Pipeline, and the installation of a temporary diversion pipe over the Creek. Both activities occurred outside of the top of bank.

The Permittee then conducted full repair work on the Pipeline on September 25, 2023, without authorization, and therefore the San Francisco Bay Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) issued a Notice of Violation, dated October 17, 2023. The repair work involved the excavation of the Creek bed, abandoning the damaged Pipeline, installing a new 16-inch (in) HDPE pipeline directly upstream, and restoring the Creek bed and surrounding areas to pre-Project Conditions. The Project required clearing and grubbing for construction access, equipment staging, installing a temporary water diversion, and trenching to install the new pipeline segment. One willow tree was removed. The temporary water diversion used well points, sump pumps, cofferdams, and temporary pipelines for water disposal. Flow to the downstream area was maintained at all times. The Project used native backfill, sand, and ½-in crushed aggregate for the initial backfill, as well as concrete for the encasement of the new pipe. The Creek bed topography and profile were returned to pre-Project conditions. Work was completed on October 7, 2023, and the Water Board permitted the Project with an after-the-fact Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification on May 16, 2024.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project as Responsible or Lead Agency:

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Board

Name of Legally Responsible Persons or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Solano Irrigation District

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption (State Type and Section Number): 15302 – Reconstruction or Replacement, Class 2.

Reasons why the Project is exempt: Replacement of an existing water utility system pipe involving no expansion of use.

Responsible or Lead Agency Contact Person: Erin Fairley

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