

## 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:** California Department of Water Resources  
SLFD, 31770 Gonzaga Road  
Gustine, CA 95322

**Lead Agency:** California Department of Water Resources

**Project Title:** California Aqueduct MP 120.77L PG&E Utility Pole Inspection

**Project Location City & County:** Fresno County

**Project Location – Specific:** Work will occur in the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) right of way on the left side (L) of the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct) at milepost (MP) 120.77. The work site is about 1.19 miles northwest of the intersection of the Aqueduct and South San Diego Avenue. The coordinates of the work site are (36.564799, -120.461228).

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** PG&E requested encroachment permission to inspect and test a utility power pole located in the DWR right of way at Aqueduct MP 120.77L. To perform the inspection, an excavation will be dug around the base of the pole. The excavation will be one to two feet deep and within a 12-inch to 24-inch radius from the pole. After the area is excavated, a sounding test will be performed by hammering against the pole and noting any differences in sound that may indicate deterioration inside. When testing is completed, the excavation will be backfilled and compacted to original grade. The inspection and testing will allow PG&E to determine if previous protective treatments have been effective or if other work on the pole needs to be done. PG&E will benefit from this work.

### 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: Categorical Exemption 15306 (Information Collection) and Categorical Exemption 15305(b) (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations – Issuance of minor encroachment permits) apply.
- Statutory Exemptions:

**Reasons Why Project Is Exempt:** Work consists of basic data collection and will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. Work will take place in areas with an average slope of less than 20 percent. There will be no changes in land use or density. DWR will issue an encroachment permit for this work. Categorical Exemptions 15306 (Information Collection) and 15305(b) (Minor Alterations to Land Use Limitations – Issuance of minor encroachment permits) apply.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** DWR

**Contact Person:** Cody Nelson

**Telephone:** 209-827-5190

**Signature:** Cody Nelson **Date:** 8/13/2024 **Title:** Planner Scheduler/UC Supv.

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant