

Notice of Exemption

Form D

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

From: (Public Agency) CA Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 94814

(Address)

County Clerk
County of Alameda
1106 Madison St, Oakland CA 94607

Project Title: Arroyo del Valle Fiber Optic Cable Replacement

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located at Sycamore Grove Park, off Wetmore Rd, south of Livermore, California.
-121.78685 W, 37.63507 N

Project Location – City: Livermore

Project Location – County: Alameda

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) needs to replace a fiber optic communication cable (fiber optic cable or FOC) in DWR's South Bay Aqueduct (SBA) region of the State Water Project (SWP) via horizontal directional drilling. This FOC is vital to convey essential information on the SBA. The current FOC is exposed and easily seen, and within reach of bystanders and the public, as well as to the elements. DWR is concerned that if the FOC is left exposed there is a high potential for damage by vandals or weather, such as sun exposure and high-water years putting strain on the line and potentially affecting its function. If the FOC is damaged, it would result in a major lack of communication to the SBA, which could lead to damage or harm to life or property. This project's beneficiaries include multiple SBA customers, such as the Santa Clara Valley Water District which serves well over a million people, Livermore Area Recreation and Parks, and the Department of Water Resources.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Water Resources

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));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1: 15301(b); Existing facilities
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The State Water Project provides significant and important services to many Californians. This project is exempt because it involves maintenance activities on existing facilities. This project will not result in impacts to special status species or habitat. This activity can be implemented without any significant environmental impacts to biological or cultural resources. Therefore, categorical exemption class 1 exempts the Arroyo del Valle Fiber Optic Replacement Project from CEQA.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Sara Paiva-Lowry Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 902-7709

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: Sara Paiva-Lowry Date: 10/27/2024 Title: Environmental Program Manager

- Signed by Lead Agency Date received for filing at OPR: _____
- Signed by Applicant

Revised 2005