

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

FROM: Central Valley Flood Protection Board
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Project Title: Minor Alteration No. WA2023081- Geotechnical Exploration for the Del Paso Siding Project

Project Applicant: San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission

Project Location: The proposed project is located at the waterside of Unit 1 Arcade Creek left (south) bank levee at approximate Levee Mile 0.024, about ¼-mile south of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) bridge over Arcade Creek, at the junction of Arcade Creek with Steelhead Creek in the City of Sacramento at the following GPS coordinates: 38.61962°N, 121.46740°W.

Project Description: To drill two (2) 100-foot-deep geotechnical borings along each bank of Arcade Creek and to advance one seismic cone penetration test (sCPT) to a depth of 100 feet, or to refusal. The purpose of explorations is to collect soil information for use in the support of the SJRRC Del Paso Siding project that includes the construction of a new second railroad track that is currently being designed. The exploration activities consist of using a truck-mounted, hollow-stem auger utilizing mud rotary drilling to conduct two geotechnical exploration borings drilled to 100 feet below existing ground, or to refusal, collecting soil samples every five (5) feet using standard penetration tests (SPT), and backfilling the boreholes with cement-bentonite grout to top of hole the same day of drilling. Drill cuttings and liquids will be placed in 55-gallon containers and disposed off-site.

Public Agency Approving Project: Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board)

Agency Carrying Out Project: ENGEO Incorporated

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3))
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Sections 15306 and 15304
- Statutory Exemption. State code number: _____

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The Board has determined that the project is exempt from CEQA under the Class 6, Information Collection categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15306), because the activity consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. The project is exempt from CEQA under the Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15304), because the activity consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. Further, none of the exceptions to the exemption in CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15300.2 apply.

Lead Agency, Contact, Phone Number: ENGEO Incorporated; Mark Gilbert; (916) 786-8883

Chris Lief

11/7/2024

Signature Chris Lief, Executive Officer Date

- Signed by Public Agency Signed by Responsible Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.