



Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
Submitted online

From: ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY
100 North Canyons Parkway
Livermore, CA 94551
925-454-5000

To: County Clerk, County of Alameda
1106 Madison Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Date: 11/26/2024

Project Title: Vineyard Pipeline Emergency Repair

Project Location – Specific: Arroyo Valle (waterbody) near intersection of Nevada St and Bernal Ave., Pleasanton

Project Location – County: Alameda County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Zone 7's field inspectors discovered that a segment of Zone 7's Vineyard Pipeline where it crosses Arroyo Valle (at Bernal Avenue in Pleasanton; see map and photos below) has eroded by streamflow and has lost original structural support. This pipeline segment was constructed to be embedded below the channel bed and covered with a concrete cap. At present, this segment of pipeline cap is partially exposed under water within Arroyo Valle, with no soil cover above; the downstream side of the cap and pipeline have been eroded and exposed. The current condition of the pipeline is unstable and extremely vulnerable to winter streamflow forces as well as instream debris coming down from the upper reaches of the watershed (branches, trash, etc.). Action to stabilize and protect the pipeline is urgently required before creek flows increase, which would prevent later action to protect the pipeline, leaving it vulnerable to heavy winter storm flows.

The emergency repair is anticipated to include two repair steps over approximately 7 work days:

- 1) Minor repairs to access road / Staging. To accommodate the emergency repair, portions of the 500-ft. long maintenance access road require some limited improvements (e.g., filling gaps and potholes) to accommodate safe ingress and egress for equipment, which will be staged nearby, outside of the wetted channel.
- 2) Placement of rock to protect pipeline/cap. Within the work area, crews will clear the channel bed of organic debris and soft soil to promote a close contact of rock to underlying channel sediment. Rock will be placed upstream and downstream of the exposed pipeline cap and above the cap within the low flow channel for a total of approximately 80 linear feet. This includes 6" of drain rock overlain by 36" of 1/4 ton riprap.

No coffer dam or dewatering is proposed. Staging and general site preparations planned for November 26-27. In wetted channel work planned for December 2-6. Work is weather permitting; current forecast calls for no rain for this period.

Name of Public Agency Approving and Carrying Out Project: Zone 7 Water Agency

Project Manager: Edward Reyes

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (15269(b))
- Categorical Exemption. CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 Existing Facilities; 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Rule
- Statutory Exemptions

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

15269 (b). EMERGENCY PROJECTS. Emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare.

The Vineyard Pipeline is a critical transmission pipeline essential to deliver treated water to the City of Pleasanton and other areas of Zone 7 Water Agency's service area. The adverse consequences of pipeline failure here will be significant; in short, however, it would lead to direct impacts on important water delivery service. Furthermore, a rupture of this pipeline segment would result in high-volume releases of chlorinated water to Arroyo Valle.

Lead Agency CEQA Contact: Elke Rank **Area Code/Telephone/Ext:** 925-454-5005

Signature:	<i>Elke Rank</i>
Title	Senior Water Resources Planner Zone 7 Water Agency