

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001
R1LSARedding@wildlife.ca.gov



Project Title: Pioneer Exploration LLC (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-TEH-50095-R1)

Project Location (Shasta): The projects are located at Burch Creek and Sour Grass Creek tributaries to the Sacramento River in the County of Tehama, State of California section 18, Township 23N, Range 02W, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map Kirkwood quadrangle, Mount Diablo base and meridian.

Project Description: The project is limited to the reburial of existing exposed natural gas pipelines at three locations; work will include the trenching and backfilling of the bank and bed of Burch Creek and Sour Grass Creek. A trench digger, excavator, and front-end loader will be used to dig trenches 30-50 feet deep within the channel prism into which the exposed pipelines will be placed. A combination of excavated soil and local soils will be used to re-cover the pipelines. Approximately 375 cubic feet of earth will be disturbed and replaced over the course of project activities. Transmission of natural gas will be shut off prior to project activities commencing in order to prevent a catastrophic leak.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Pioneer Exploration LLC

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption.

Categorical Exemption. Type – **Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301(b) and (d)**

(b) Existing facilities of both investor and publicly owned utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services.

(d) Restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety, unless it is determined that the damage was substantial and resulted from an environmental hazard such as earthquake, landslide, or flood.

Reasons why project is exempt: The project does not propose any expansion or new development, and the project-related activities include the repair of existing infrastructure. The underground pipeline is currently exposed due to erosion during high flow events in the stream creating potential for damage to the gas pipes and could become a greater hazard.

Notice of Exemption

CDFW Contact Person: Dyana Judnick (Environmental Scientist),
R1LSARedding@wildlife.ca.gov



DocuSigned by:
Adam McKannay
Signature: _____ Date: 3/24/2025
BE359DC694B14AE...

Adam McKannay, Inland Habitat Conservation Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____