

# Notice of Exemption

# Appendix E

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

County Clerk  
County of: Kern  
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\_\_\_\_\_

From: (Public Agency): Department of Water Resources  
715 P Street  
Sacramento CA 95814

(Address)

Project Title: California Aqueduct Subsidence Program (CASP) Pool 24 Liner Raise - Geotechnical Exploration

Project Applicant: Department of Water Resources

Project Location - Specific:

CAAQ: L&R MP 197.05-199.71;200.01-202.9,L MP 205.40-206.10,R MP 205.3-206.1

Project Location - City: Lost Hills Project Location - County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

DWR proposes to conduct hand auger exploration along the liner raise footprint. Hand augers will be collected about one location per mile at 18 locations total. At each location the hand auger hole will be approximately 3 inches in diameter that will extend to depths between 7 and 10 feet. Soil samples will be collected for geotechnical lab analysis. Each hole will be backfilled with embankment cuttings and tamped down to prevent ingress.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: 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 6, Information Collection, Section No. 15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_


Reasons why project is exempt:

Based on review of the CEQA guidelines and project-specific information it was determined that proposed geotechnical exploration is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA exemption Class 6, Information Collection. The Class 6 CEQA exemption consists of basic data collection which does not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The scope of the proposed geotechnical exploration under this effort is for information gathering purposes, specifically to inform potential modifications to the Project.

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: James Lopes Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 634-9506

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:  Date: 4/16/2025 Title: Supervising Engineer

■ Signed by Lead Agency      Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: 04/16/2025