



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region, Redding Office
364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002

Date: 1 May 2025

Project Title:

Batch 28 Pole Replacement Project (Project)

Project Location - Specific:

Latitude: 41.4947° and Longitude: -120.9824°

Project Location - County:

Modoc County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of the project is to perform maintenance on the utility transmission line by replacing rapidly deteriorating power poles at three discrete locations. Pole replacement activities will consist of minor excavation adjacent to old power pole locations using an auger to replace the aging poles. Once new power pole holes are excavated, the old utility poles will be removed, and new poles will be installed. Each excavated utility pole hole will be backfilled and returned to pre-project contours. Only one pole (Pole 7/071) is located in a water of the state, and thus subject to State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ, Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredged or Fill Discharges to Waters Deemed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to be Outside of Federal Jurisdiction General Order. The other two poles are located in upland areas, east and west of Pole 7/071.

Name of Public Agencies Approving Project:

State Agency approval for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification:
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Redding Office.
WDID No. 5A25CR00068.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Emily Newell
Pacific Power
825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 1700
Portland, OR 97232

Exempt Status:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region has determined that the Project is categorically exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061. Specifically, the issuance of this Order and the activities described herein meet the exemption criteria under California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

Reasons why Project is Exempt:

This project is categorically exempt under CEQA section 15302 because the project involves the replacement of an existing structure with a new structure that will be located in the same footprint and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

State Lead Agency Contact Person:

Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist
Chief Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Redding Branch Office
(530) 224-2437

Lynn Coster
Senior Environmental Scientist
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Redding

cc via email: Hillary Regnart, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
Bill Hall, SWCA Environmental Consultants, Portland, OR