

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019056001

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

**From:** Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
6201 S Street, MS H201  
Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

County of Sacramento Clerk/  
Recorder  
P.O. Box 839  
Sacramento, CA 95812 -0839

**Lead Agency:** Sacramento Municipal Utility District

**Project Title:** Cordova Keifer Line Mitigation Project

**Project Applicant:** Sacramento Municipal Utility District, 6201 S Street, MS H201, Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

**Project Location:** Sacramento County - The Project is located along Sunrise Boulevard, heading south to Jackson Highway (Jackson Road/CA-16) and then east to Kiefer Road in a rural agricultural/ranching area near Sloughhouse, California.

**Project Description:** To improve and ensure safe and reliable electric service in Sacramento County, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) will be lowering the distribution cross arms on 52 existing poles for approximately 6.4 miles along Sunrise Boulevard, heading south to Jackson Highway and then east towards Kiefer Road and then north for approximately 1,500 feet on Keifer Road. The project includes replacing eight 55-foot-tall wood poles with new, 65-foot-tall galvanized steel poles. Of the eight replaced poles, five are along Sunrise Boulevard and three are along Jackson Highway. The holes created during removal of the existing poles will be backfilled with clean, crushed gravel and/or soil from the nearby new holes. If there is excess soil it will be taken off-site and disposed of appropriately. New poles will be placed within proximity of approximately 40 feet in alignment to the existing poles, and within the existing easement. The new holes will be excavated using a truck mounted auger and the space around the new pole will be backfilled with compacted rock. The trucks will be positioned within 20 feet of each pole removal and new pole location. One of the existing poles is located within a wetland on the floodplain of the Deer Creek Overflow channel. The replacement pole will be located east of the old pole in uplands outside of the overflow channel flood area. The necessary permits will be obtained prior to removal of the existing pole. Given the location of this pole minimization and avoidance measures will be implemented to protect sensitive biological resources and all workers will be given environmental awareness training prior to construction. No trees are proposed for removal. All the poles are within 100 feet of road right-of-way (ROW). Traffic control plans will be implemented to ensure public and worker safety. Construction is scheduled to take approximately 2 to 3 weeks and will occur in the September-October timeframe.

**Name of Public Agency Approving the Project:** Sacramento Municipal Utility District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project:** Sacramento Municipal Utility District

**Exempt Status (Check One)**

- Ministerial (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268)
- Declared Emergency (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a))
- Emergency Project (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(9), 21084; CEQA Guidelines §15302 Replacement or Reconstruction, §15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures)
- Statutory Exemptions

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

Under CEQA Guidelines § 15062, a lead agency must identify the rationale for making the determination that a project is exempt under CEQA. SMUD has determined that the Cordova Keifer Line Mitigation Project is exempt under CEQA Guidelines § 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction, which reads, "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, including but not limited to (c) Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity." And § 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, which reads, "Class 3 consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures..." and "(d) Water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions, including street improvements, of reasonable length to serve such construction." The Cordova Keifer Line Mitigation Project involves construction of limited new small facilities, and therefore is considered exempt in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15303.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:**

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Signature

May 22, 2019

Date

Rob Ferrera

Printed Name

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Lead Agency

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Lead Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

MAY 23 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE