

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

From: Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street, MS B209
Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

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

Lead Agency: Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)

Project Title: SMUD Gas Pipeline Operations Inline Inspection Verification Dig: MLCB-33560-1

Project Applicant: Sacramento Municipal Utility District, 6201 S Street, MS B209, Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

Project Location: Sacramento County at the northeast corner of the intersection of Clay Station Road and Twin Cities Road.

Project Description: The project consists of a single-point inspection of girth welds around SMUD's high pressure natural gas pipeline. The inspection activities include excavating an approximately 10-foot-by-10-foot inspection ditch at a depth of 10 feet to allow full exposure of a portion of the pipeline for visual inspection. Upon inspection completion, the ditch will be backfilled with cement slurry sand 18-inches above the pipeline followed by native excavated soil to preexisting conditions.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project: SMUD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: SMUD

Exempt Status (Check One)

Ministerial (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268)

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Declared Emergency (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a))

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Emergency Project (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b)(c))

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Categorical Exemption (CEQA PRC §21080(b)(9), 21084; CEQA Guidelines §15301: Existing Facilities, 15302: Replacement or Reconstruction, 15306: Information Collection, and 15309: Inspections)

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Statutory Exemptions

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Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 states that "Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use." This project may involve the repair or maintenance of a public utility natural gas pipeline involving no expansion. Section 15302 states that "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..." This project may involve replacing an existing section in the same location along SMUD's gas pipeline and will not increase the capacity of the pipeline. Section 15306 states that "Class 6 consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource." This project involves due diligence to further inspect and collect information following a recent inline inspection of SMUD's natural gas pipeline. Section 15309 states that "Class 9 consists of activities limited entirely to inspections, to check for performance of an operation, or quality, health, or safety of a project, including related activities such as inspection for possible mislabeling, misrepresentation, or adulteration of products." This project involves the inspection of SMUD's natural gas pipeline to verify proper and safe operation of the facility.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

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Signature

October 9, 2019
Date

Jerry Park
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: OCT 09 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE