

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Dept. of Water Resources
San Luis Field Division, 31770 Gonzago Rd.
Gustine, CA 95322

Project Title: Westlands Water District California Aqueduct MP 164.93R Pipeline Repair

Project Location City and County: Kings County

Project Location, Specific: The work site is on the right bank (R) of the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct) at mile post (MP) 164.93, approximately 0.53 miles southeast of the intersection of Avenal Cutoff Road and the Aqueduct.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Westlands Water District (WWD) requested permission to encroach in the Department of Water resources (DWR) right-of-way (ROW) to excavate a 30 foot wide by 30 foot long by 9 feet deep area (about 300 cubic yards of soil) to uncover a 21 inch diameter pipe that was damaged during drilling work. If the damaged area is small enough, the pipe will be repaired by covering the area with a stainless steel clamp. If the damaged area is large, the damaged section will be cut out and replaced with a new section of pipe. Once the repair is complete, the area will be backfilled and compacted. If needed, additional backfill will be obtained from a fallow field approximately 70 feet north of the work site. Vehicles and equipment will be staged inside the WWD turnout at MP 164.79R. WWD and its Contractors will benefit.

Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources, as Responsible Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Westlands Water District


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));
- X Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15305(b) Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number(s):

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

WWD will encroach on DWR's ROW to repair an existing pipeline. Work will occur in areas with an average slope of 20 percent or less, there will be no changes to land use density. DWR, as a Responsible Agency, will issue an encroachment permit to WWD for this work, Categorical Exemption 15305(b) (Minor Alteration in Land Use Limitation-Issuance of Minor Encroachment Permits) applies. WWD is responsible for any other CEQA documentation needed.

Responsible Agency Contact:

Signature:  Date: 12/30/19

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Printed Name: Frank RuizTitle: UC Supervisor

DEC 31 2019

Phone: 209-827-5134

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE