

## Notice of Exemption

2020020432

**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

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**Project Title:** San Luis Water District Pipeline Repair

**Project Location City and County:** Merced County

**Project Location, Specific:** Work will occur on the left side (L) of the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct) at milepost (MP) 91.92, approximately 1.75 miles northwest of the intersection of West Nees Avenue and the Aqueduct.

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** San Luis Water District (SLWD) has requested permission to encroach in the Department of Water Resources (DWR) right-of-way (ROW) to repair a siphon pipe at MP 91.92L. A 12-inch diameter steel pipe connected to the siphon was identified as having a hole in need of repair; the hole is preventing water from irrigating the orchard. Work involves excavating an approximate 10-foot wide, by 10-foot long, by 5-foot deep area to expose the 12-inch diameter steel pipe. The pipe goes through a concrete block that is buried about 3 feet below ground. Portions of the concrete block will be removed until all the compromised areas of pipe are exposed. About 19 cubic yards total of soil and concrete will be excavated. Repairs to the pipe involve removing all compromised pipe segments and replacing them with new 12-inch diameter steel pipe. After the pipe is repaired, concrete will be poured to restore the block to its original dimensions and the excavated area will be backfilled, compacted, and recontoured. All excavated concrete will be removed offsite and disposed of appropriately.

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

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** San Luis 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));

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15305 Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations

Statutory Exemptions. State code number(s):

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

SLWD requests encroachment permission to repair an existing siphon pipe in DWR's right-of-way. DWR is the Responsible Agency issuing an encroachment permit to SLWD. Work consists of minor alterations to land with an average slope of less than 20 percent. Categorical Exemption 15305(b) (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations-- Issuance of Minor Encroachment Permits) applies. SLWD, as the Lead Agency, is responsible for any additional CEQA and will obtain any necessary permits.

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**Responsible Agency Contact:**

Signature:  Date: 2/20/20

Printed Name: Frank Ruiz Title: UC Supervisor

Phone: 209-827-5134

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**FEB 21 2020**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**