

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: California Aqueduct MP 159.99L Westlands Water District CIP Conversion

Project Location City and County: Fresno County

Project Location, Specific: The work will be on the left side (L) of the California Aqueduct (Aqueduct) at milepost (MP) 159.99, approximately 4.2 miles southeast of the City of Huron.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Westlands Water District requested permission to encroach on the Department of Water Resource (DWR) right-of-way (ROW) to convert its existing temporary CIP (canal integration program pump-in facility) into a permanent facility. The CIP is used to discharge non-State Water Project water into the Aqueduct when certain hydrological conditions are met. The work consists of placement of pipe and supports in the Aqueduct, saw-cutting the asphalt road, digging a trench across the Aqueduct road, laying a new pipe in the trench and encasing it in concrete, backfilling, compacting and re-asphalting the road surface. Trenching and laying pipe in the adjacent dirt roads will occur as necessary; pipe may also be placed above ground. All trenches created on dirt roads will be backfilled and compacted. Westlands Water District Contractors will benefit.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

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(b) Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number(s):

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: Westlands Water District requests encroachment permission to convert an existing temporary CIP in DWR's ROW to a permanent one. DWR is the Responsible Agency issuing an encroachment permit to WWD. 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. WWD, as the Lead Agency, is responsible for any additional California Environmental Quality Act documentation.

Responsible Agency Contact:

Signature:  Date: 7/3/20

Printed Name: Frank Ruiz Title: UC Supervisor

Phone: 209-827-5134

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE