## **Notice of Exemption**

To:

Office of Planning and Research CEQA Submit

## From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife South Coast Region 3030 Old Ranch Parkway, Suite 400 Seal Beach, CA 90740 Frederic.Rieman@wildlife.ca.gov

**Project Title:** Ensch Road (Doberman Rescue) (Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration, No. EPIMS-VEN-24592-R5).

**Project Location (Ventura County):** The Project is located at Boulder Creek, in the County of Ventura, State of California; Latitude 34.413162°, Longitude -118.965314°; Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 041-0-150-030.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement EPIMS Notification No. EPIMS-VEN-24592-R5, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Southern California Edison (SCE) as represented by Hazem Gabr.

The Project involves the maintenance of vegetation to maintain set clearance distances between SCE power lines. The Project will take place along a portion of SCE's 220kV Santa Clara-Vincent, 220kV Pardee-Santa Clara, 66kV Idle Santa Clara-P.S. 11, and 66kV Santa Clara-Wakefield No. 2 circuits. Prior to any Project activities, field surveys will be conducted to collect location, quantity, and species data on any trees or other vegetation that enter the clearance distances. Vegetation will be trimmed until the set clearance distance is achieved. Crews will utilize either the crown reduction method to reduce canopy cover of vegetation while leaving the understory intact, or the brushing method which completely removes the scrub vegetation leaving only the stump and roots intact. All trimmed material will be hauled out of the Project area to a chipper for processing. Project activities will impact a total of no more than 1.08 acres. The crew will access the site by foot, or from a bucket truck staged on the existing road. Work will be conducted using hand-operated equipment and may include hand pruners, pruning saws, chainsaws, and weed whackers.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON

Exemp	ot Status:
	☐ Statutory Exemption.
	□ Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 1; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 and     □
	Type – Class 4; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304

**Reasons why Project is exempt:** The Project consists of the maintenance of vegetation to maintain set clearance distances with Southern California Edison's power lines. No expansion of use is proposed. The Project is exempt because it involves the maintenance of existing structures and/or facilities and involves fuel management activities within 30 feet of structures to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation.

**CDFW Contact Person:** Frederic (Fritz) Rieman, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), (562) 619-0605, Frederic.Rieman@wildlife.ca.gov

Signature:  B6E58CFE24724F5	4/19/2023 Date:	
Erinn Wilson-Olgin, Environmental Program Manager		

Date received for filing at OPR: