

Notice of Exemption

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To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710



State Clearinghouse Number: 2022110521

Project Title: California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Amended Incidental Take Permit (ITP) No. 2081-2022-064-04 (Major Amendment No. 5) for the Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) eTS 58713.01 Line 85 Milepost 75.85 Remediation Digs Project (Project).

Project Location: The Project is located in the southern San Joaquin Valley approximately 6 miles east of the City of Taft in Kern County, California. The Project is specifically located at six distinct Work Areas adjacent to and on both sides of the California Aqueduct near Lake Station Road within the United States Geological Survey 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map Buena Vista Lake Bed. Work Areas 1 - 4 are within California Department of Water Resources-owned land in Section 12 of Township 32 South, Range 24 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDB&M). Work Area 5 is within privately-owned land in Section 7 of Township 32 South, Range 25 East, MDB&M. Work Area 6 is within California Department of Water Resources owned land in Section 12 of Township 32 South, Range 24 East, MDB&M. Work Areas are located at approximately 35.158518°, -119.349025°; 35.157883°, -119.346292°; 35.158184°, -119.345164°; 35.164648°, -119.349428°; 35.155344°, -119.335747°; and 35.158649°, -119.349604°.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has issued a CESA (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.) ITP, Major Amendment No. 1, Major Amendment No. 2, Amended ITP (Major Amendment No. 3), Amended ITP (Minor Amendment No. 4), and this Amended ITP (Major Amendment No. 5) to authorize SoCalGas (Permittee) to incidentally take Tipton kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratooides nitratooides*) which is as an endangered species under CESA, San Joaquin antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*) which is designated as a threatened species under CESA, and San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*) which is list which is designated as a threatened species under CESA (Fish & G. Code § 2050 et seq.; see Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 670.5, subd. (a)(6)(D), (b)(6)(B), and (b)(6)(E), respectively).

The Project includes activities necessary to inspect and repair five segments of the 26-inch natural gas pipeline (Line) 85 near MP 75.85 where anomalies were identified and to install cathodic protection for integrity and safety of the pipeline. This Amended ITP (Major Amendment No. 5) extends the expiration date for an additional 6 months, updates the Contact Person, adds a new work area (Work Area 6) to the Project Location, updates the Project Description, adds Figure 6, and adds the removal and replacement of the Thermal Electric Generator and installation of new concrete pads within Work Area 6 to the Project Description and Covered Activities sections. The resulting impacts of the Project to the Covered Species remain the same.

Public Agency Approving Project: **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

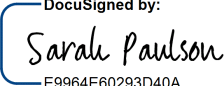
Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Southern California Gas Company, Chloe Phan, Project Manager, 1919 S State College Blvd, ANAG2Z, Anaheim, California 92806

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption. California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15269, subdivision (b); Public Resources Code, section 21080, subdivision (b)(4)

Reasons why project is exempt: See Attachment

CDFW Contact Person: Sarah Bahm (Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)), sarah.bahm@wildlife.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:

Signature: _____
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Date: 7/25/2025

for Julie A. Vance
Regional Manager, Central Region

Date received for filing at OPR: _____