



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

From: Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street, MS B209
Sacramento, CA 95817

County of Sacramento Clerk/ Recorder
3636 American River Drive, Suite 110
Sacramento, CA 95864

Lead Agency: Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)

Project Title: Downtown Sacramento Tie-In Project

Project Applicant: SMUD, 6201 S Street, MS B209, Sacramento, CA 95817

Project Location: The project site is bounded by J Street to the north, P Street to the south, 14th Street to the east, and 4th Street to the west.

Project Description: The Downtown Sacramento Tie-In Project (Project) consists of modifications and upgrades to the underground transmission line infrastructure in five locations in downtown Sacramento. The infrastructure improvements include the installation of new underground conduits, two new switch vaults, and one new manhole. A description of the improvements for the five locations are described below:

1. **4th Street Tie-In** – Install approximately 270 lineal feet of new underground conduit along the east side of the 4th Street pedestrian walkway located between the Golden 1 parking garage and former Macy's retail building. The termination points are 1) an existing vault located proximately 215 feet north of the L Street/4th Street intersection and 2) an existing manhole located on the south side of the L Street /4h Street intersection. In addition, a 9' X 15' underground switch vault is proposed to be installed on 4th Street approximately 55 feet south from the L Street/4th Street intersection.
2. **P Street Tie-In** – Install approximately 1,140 lineal feet of new underground conduit along the north side of P Street between 4th Street and 6th Street. The termination points are two existing manholes that are located 1) on the west side of 4th Street situated 170 feet north of the P Street/4th Street intersection and 2) on the south side on P Street at the P Street/6th Street intersection. In addition, a new manhole will be installed on the north side of P Street at approximately 85 feet west of the P Street/5th Street intersection.
3. **12th Street Tie-In** – Install a new switch vault at the southeast corner of the J Street/12th Street intersection. In addition, two new 40-foot underground conduit sections from the switch vault would be extended to connect with the existing underground conduit lines located near the center of J Street.
4. **13th Street Tie-In** - Install approximately 180 lineal feet of new underground conduit along the east side of 13th Street between J Street and Jazz Alley. The termination points are 1) an existing manhole located at the J Street/13th Street intersection and 2) an existing manhole located at the 13th Street/Jazz Alley intersection.
5. **13th Street/ L Street/14th Street Tie-In** - Install approximately 580 lineal feet of new underground conduit along the street frontages of 13th Street, L Street, and 14th Street that borders the south half of the SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center building. The termination points are two existing manholes that are located 1) on the east side of 13th Street situated approximately 78 feet south of the L Street/13th Street intersection and 2) on the west side of 14th Street situated approximately 160 feet south of the L Street/13th Street intersection.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project: SMUD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: SMUD

Exempt Status (Check One)

- Ministerial (CEQA PRC Section 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines Section 15268)
- Declared Emergency (CEQA PRC Section 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (CEQA PRC Section 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption (CEQA PRC Section 21080(b)(9), 21084; CEQA Guidelines Section 15303(d), New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures)
- Common Sense Exemption (CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3))
- Statutory Exemptions


Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

SMUD has reviewed the proposed Project and has identified that it qualifies for an exemption from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense Exemption) of the State CEQA Guidelines (Chapter 3 of Division 6 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations). The activity is covered by the Common Sense Exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. When it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. No special circumstances exist that the proposed Project would create a significant adverse effect on the environment (i.e. no sensitive species or habitats, no hazardous sites, no scenic highways, no historic resources, etc.).

Additionally, SMUD determined that the proposed project qualifies for an exemption from CEQA pursuant to Section 15303(d), New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures. SMUD considers the Project as a utility extension. Therefore, the proposed project qualifies for the exemption under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15303(d), thus no further environmental review is required.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

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Signature 

Date July 9, 2025

Printed Name Jerry Park

Lead Agency Sacramento Municipal Utility District

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Lead Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____