



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Land Use and Climate
Innovation
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Sacramento Municipal Utility
District
6201 S Street, MS B209
Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

Yolo County Clerk/Recorder
625 Court Street, Room B01
Woodland, CA 95695

Lead Agency: Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)

Project Title: SMUD Gas Pipeline Anomaly Inspection and Repair Project

Project Applicant: SMUD

Project Location: The project site is located generally south of Highway 80 and west of Prospect Slough within the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, Yolo County

Project Description: Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) is proposing to perform gas pipeline inspections at three separate locations within the Line 700A Gas Pipeline right-of-way (ROW). All three of the proposed excavation sites fall within the section of ROW encompassed by the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. The work proposed includes excavations to expose the pipeline, inspect for anomalies, and make necessary repairs. Two of the work areas would include 8-by-10-foot excavation sites, soil stockpiles, equipment parking, and staging. Additionally, one location will include work to safely remove a section of idle pipeline which has been inactive since 2000. This site will require four, 12-by-16-foot excavations and one, narrow, 15-by-2-foot excavation to exhume, cap off, and remove the idle facilities. Wetland protective matting would be utilized within the work areas to minimize ground disturbance.

SMUD would access the pipeline ROW using existing roads. The excavations will be performed using a combination of mechanical excavation, hydro-excavation, and soft-dig methods, and will include shoring, air monitoring, and compliance with all applicable codes and industry standards. Equipment anticipated for this work includes pickup trucks, backhoe or excavator, equipment trailers, hydro-vac truck, haul truck, and water truck. Upon completion of the necessary maintenance work, the excavations would be backfilled with sand and native soils and revegetated at the surface. Activities would be performed during daytime hours. Work is expected to take approximately 14 days at each location. Construction is expected to be completed by August 2026 or soon thereafter.

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 Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities), 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction) and 15306 (Information Collection), and 15309 (Inspections)) ☒

Common Sense Exemption (CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3)) ☐

Statutory Exemptions ☐

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 states that "Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use." This project may involve the repair or maintenance of a consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced..." This project may involve replacing an existing section in the same location along SMUD's gas pipeline and will not increase the capacity of the pipeline. Section 15306 states that "Class 6 consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource." This project involves due diligence to further inspect and collect information following a recent inline inspection of SMUD's natural gas pipeline. Section 15309 states that "Class 9 consists of activities limited entirely to inspections, to check for performance of an operation, or quality, health, or safety of a project, including related activities such as inspection for possible mislabeling, misrepresentation, or adulteration of products." This project involves excavations to expose the pipeline, inspect for anomalies, and make necessary repairs of SMUD's natural gas pipeline to verify proper and safe operation of the facility. Therefore, no further environmental review is required.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Ammon Rice
Supervisor, Environmental Services
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street, Mail Stop B209, Sacramento, CA 95817
P.O. Box 15830, Sacramento, CA 95852-0830
Phone: 916-732-7466
email: ammon.rice@smud.org



Signature

December 17, 2025

Date

Ammon Rice

Printed Name

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Lead Agency

Signed by Lead Agency ☒

Signed by Lead Applicant ☐

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

**2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT**

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER:
57-01062026-001

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY

SMUD

LEAD AGENCY EMAIL

ammon.rice@smud.org

DATE

01/06/2026

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING

YOLO

DOCUMENT NUMBER

PROJECT TITLE

SMUD GAS PIPELINE ANOMALY INSPECTION AND REPAIR PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME

SMUD

PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL

ammon.rice@smud.org

PHONE NUMBER

(916) 732-7466

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS

6201 S STREET, MS B209

CITY

SACRAMENTO

STATE

CA

ZIP CODE

95817

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)☐ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☒ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$4,227.50	\$ _____
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$3,043.75	\$ _____
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,437.25	\$ _____

☒ Exempt from fee☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$ _____
☒ County documentary handling fee		\$ _____ \$50.00
☐ Other		\$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☒ Check ☐ Other**TOTAL RECEIVED** \$ _____ \$50.00

SIGNATURE

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

Josie Ramirez, Deputy County Clerk-Recorder

Return to:

SMUD - Environmental Services

6201 S Street MS R209

Sacramento CA 95814

Filed in County Clerk's Office

Jesse Salinas
Yolo County - Clerk-Recorder

57-01062026-001

01/06/2026

FISH

Pages: 3

Fee: \$ 50.00

By jramirez, Deputy



Notice of Exemption

Posting Number of Days: 40

Project Title: SMUD Gas Pipeline Inspection and Repair Project

E-mail address: ammor.rice@smud.org

POSTED 1/6/26 TO