

Notice of Exemption**Appendix E**

TO: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
 State Clearinghouse
 P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

FROM: Central Valley Flood Protection Board
 3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 170
 Sacramento, CA 95821
 Jennifer Calles, (916) 837-3683
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Project Title: Minor Alteration No. WA2026009 – DSIS 19933 Drainage Pipe Removal Project

Project Applicant: Lower San Joaquin Levee District

Project Location: The proposed project is located along Unit No. 22A East Side Canal at Levee mile 0.1 in Merced County, California (37.207039, -120.696255).

Project Description: To remove and dispose of an existing 24-inch corrugated metal gravity flow drainage pipe (DSID 19933) at levee mile 0.1 in Merced County, California. The proposed work also includes backfill and compaction with suitable levee fill material. This facility is part of the State Plan of Flood Control, shown in the Supplement to Standard Operation and Maintenance Manual of “Lower San Joaquin River Flood Control Project, Operations and Maintenance Manual for Levees, Irrigation and Drainage Structures, Channels and Miscellaneous Facilities, Part 1”.

Public Agency Approving Project: Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board)

Lead Agency, Contact, Phone Number: Lower San Joaquin Levee District; Shane Swartz, Project Manager; 11704 West Henry Miller Avenue, Dos Palos, CA, 93620; 559-400-2077; info@LSJLD.org

Exempt Status:

- Categorical Exemption: Sections 15301 and 15304
 Statutory Exemption: Section 15282(k)

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The project is statutorily exempt under the provisions of CEQA. The Board’s approval involves approving a minor alteration request for pipe removal, which is exempt under CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15282(k) because the activity involves the installation of new pipeline or maintenance, repair, restoration, removal, or demolition of an existing pipeline as set forth in Section 21080.21 of the Public Resources Code, as long as the project does not exceed one mile in length. The project is exempt from CEQA under the Class 1, Existing Facilities categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301), because the activity 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 use. No expansion of existing or former use will occur. In addition, the project is exempt from CEQA under the Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land categorical exemption (CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15304), because the activity consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. Further, none of the exceptions to the exemption in CEQA California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15300.2 apply.

Chris Lief

2/13/2026

Signature

Chris Lief, Executive Officer

Date

- Signed by Public Agency Signed by Responsible Agency

Date Received for filing at the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation:

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.