

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): Department of Water
Resources, San Joaquin Field
Division
4201 Sabodan Street, Bakersfield, CA 93313

County Clerk

County of: _____

(Address)

Project Title: EDPP Surge Tank Control Line Project Phase 2 Additional Work

Project Applicant: Department of Water Resources, San Joaquin Field Division

Project Location – Specific:

EDPP: 34°56'37.0"N 118°49'27.5"W

Surge Tank: 34°55'45.6"N 118°48'21.2"W

Project Location – City: Bakersfield

Project Location – County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

San Joaquin Field Division plans to remove twenty power poles, install eight power poles, install 1.5 miles of fiber, and replace .25 miles of conductor cable between the Edmonston Pumping Plant and Edmonston surge tank.

Where accessible, a ¾-ton pickup truck, digger derrick, and portable air compressor will be used to excavate holes for new poles. In areas where no existing ground access is available, a helicopter will be used to transport personnel and equipment. New poles will be flown in by helicopter. Once the new poles are installed, workers will climb the poles and move the wires by hand from the old poles to the new poles. Power poles that are slated for removal will be cut below grade level and flown out by helicopter.

Fiber installation will involve no ground disturbance. Crews will be flown to each pole to install mounting hardware and travelers. A rope rig will be placed at Pole VV. Fiber installation will start at Pole 001. Crews will pull rope and fiber by hand. SJFD staff will complete all required splices and final connections.

Damaged #4 conductor cable from poles LL to VV will be replaced with #2 ACSR conductor. This work will also include the reframing of three poles. Conductor will be pulled directly, eliminating the need for rope.

All vehicles and equipment will stay on established roads and within designated areas. All other work areas will be reached by foot or helicopter. The following equipment will be used to complete this work: two ¾-ton pickup trucks, two 55' AWD bucket trucks, two 47' AWD digger derricks, two air compressors, one rope rig, one helicopter, a water buffalo, a flatbed truck, and a telehandler or forklift. All equipment staging will occur within graveled or paved areas.

This work is necessary to continue to deliver water to southern California.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: DWR- Operations & Maintenance

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)); 15301 (b)

☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:

☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project consists of maintenance activities that support the function of the California Aqueduct and water delivery within the State Water Project.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Elizabeth Maldonado Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 661-858-5662

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: *Elizabeth Maldonado* Date: 07/27/26 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____