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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

5 April 2023

Hazem Gabr  
Southern California Edison  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue  
Rosemead, CA 91770

### **NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON, BIG CREEK POWERHOUSE NO. 1 CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT, (WDID# 5B10CR00123), FRESNO COUNTY**

On 1 March 2023, Southern California Edison (Permittee) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 12 October 2021 State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permits (Order No. WQ 2021-0048-DWQ) for the Big Creek Powerhouse No. 1 Culvert Replacement Project (Project). After review of the notification and the supplemental material submitted by the Permittee, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under this General Certification Order. The proposed activity will take place within less than 0.005 acre of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under United States Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit 3a, Maintenance, subject to the conditions and the notification requirements described in the Nationwide Permit ("Special Conditions"). This Notice of Applicability is being issued under the General Certification Order pursuant to Section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

A copy of the [General Certification Order](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf)) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage.

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. The Project is described in the notification form requesting coverage under the General Certification Order, dated 1 March 2023, and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The 0.062-acre Project consists of repair and replacement of the existing culvert so it can convey flows through the drainage channel. The Project is necessary to avoid further erosion and potential damage to the existing road, which provides the sole access to BC Powerhouse No. 1. Two 42-foot-long, 36-inch-diameter culverts will replace the existing single 36-inch CMP and will be placed in a similar alignment as the existing CMP. To support the two replacement culverts, a concrete headwall (30 feet long by 9 feet wide by 6 feet deep) will be installed at the culvert inlet. The new concrete headwall will replace the existing wingwall. A gabion basket wall comprised of riprap (12 feet long by 3 feet wide by 3 feet deep) will be constructed on the outlet side. The proposed gabion basket wall is within the footprint of the existing road prism. A riprap energy dissipator pad (20 feet long by 20 feet wide by 2 feet deep) will be placed at the culvert outlets, and outside the footprint of the existing wingwall and road prism.

The Project will permanently impact 0.001 acre of waters and temporarily impact 0.004 acre of waters of the United States.

**ADDITIONAL CONDITION:**

1. **Annual Reporting:** The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year on the 1st day of the month, one year after the effective date of this Notice of Applicability. Annual reporting shall continue until the Central Valley Water Board issues a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee.

The Annual Report shall include the information specified in Attachment B, Part A of Order No. WQ 2021-0048-DWQ. The Permittee shall submit the report in accordance with the report submittal instructions in Attachment B of Order No. WQ 2021-0048-DWQ and email it to [centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov) with a cc to Brandon Salazar at [brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov). The Reg Measure ID for this Project is 451873.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

The Project is located near Big Creek Powerhouse No.1 in Fresno County.

Latitude: 37.20397 Degrees and Longitude: -119.24170 Degrees

**PROJECT SCHEDULE:**

The approximate timeframe of Project construction is to commence construction as early as May 2023 and have a construction duration of approximately 10 weeks.

**APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:**

An application fee of \$ 2,734.00 was received on 6 February 2023.

The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), and was calculated as category E – Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Brandon Salazar at (559) 445-6287 or at [brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov).

*Original Signed by Scott J. Hatton for:*  
Patrick Pulupa  
Executive Officer

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