Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

29 January 2026

Robert LeMoine
Southern California Edison
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Rosemead, CA 91770

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON, BIG CREEK PROJECT ENV8631 EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIR PROJECT (WDID# 5B10CR00140), FRESNO COUNTY

On 9 January 2026, Southern California Edison (Applicant) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 1 August 2023 State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regional General Permit 8 (General Certification Order) for the Big Creek Project ENV8631 Emergency Road Repair (Project). After review of the notification and the supplemental material submitted by the Applicant, 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 in 0.055 acre of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under United States Army Corps of Engineers Regional General Permit 8, Emergency Repair and Protection Activities, 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/2023/rgp-8-certification-mainbody.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 9 January 2026, and supplementary information (Application Package) received on 28 January 2026. Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The Project consists of repairs to an existing access road damaged by recent storms to maintain electrical towers and facilities and ensure safe access for critical infrastructure and emergency responders. Emergency repairs will use heavy grading equipment to remediate hazardous road conditions at Site ENV8631. Activities include vegetation removal, clearing downed trees and boulders, grading to repair culvert blowout and erosion, recompacting undermined roads, restoring the road to preexisting conditions, and installing a replacement culvert at existing elevations without creating impoundments.

Project elements that directly affect aquatic resources include installation of the replacement culvert and excavation for the footings of the new, replacement culvert.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1 and Table 2. Permanent impacts are categorized as those resulting in a physical loss in area and also those degrading ecological condition. Temporarily impacted areas shall be restored to pre-Project conditions.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.025	13	55
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

Table 2: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.03	490	85
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

PROJECT LOCATION:
The Project is located within the Sierra National Forest near the intersection of Jose Basin Road and Old Railroad Grade Road.

Latitude: 37.128165 Degrees and Longitude: -119.368029 Degrees

PROJECT SCHEDULE:
The approximate timeframe of Project construction is January 2026 through 31 March 2026.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:
An application fee of $4,212.00 was received on 21 January 2026.

The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(4), and was calculated as category F - Emergency Projects authorized by a Water Board General Order (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:

1. **Water Quality Monitoring**

   If surface water is present, continuous visual surface water monitoring shall be conducted during active construction periods to detect accidental discharge of construction related pollutants (e.g., oil and grease, turbidity plume, or uncured concrete). Sampling is not required in a wetland where the entire wetland is being permanently filled, provided there is no outflow connecting the wetland to surface waters. The Applicant shall perform surface water sampling:

   i. When performing any in-water work;

   ii. During the entire duration of temporary surface water diversions;

   iii. In the event that the Project activities result in any materials reaching surface waters; or

   iv. When any activities result in the creation of a visible plume in surface waters.

   Sampling during in-water work or during the entire duration of temporary water diversions shall be conducted in accordance with Table 3 sampling parameters. The sampling requirements in Table 3 shall be conducted upstream out of the influence of the Project, and approximately 300 feet downstream of the work area unless otherwise approved by the Executive Officer.

Table 3: Sample Type and Frequency Requirements

Parameter	Unit of Measurement	Type of Sample	Minimum Frequency
pH	Standard Units	Grab	Every 4 hours
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Every 4 hours
Temperature	Degrees F (or as degrees C)	Grab	Every 4 hours

Parameter	Unit of Measurement	Type of Sample	Minimum Frequency
Visible construction related pollutants[1]	Observations	Visual Inspections	Continuous throughout the construction period

2. **Reporting and Notification Requirements**

The Applicant shall submit all reports in accordance with the report submittal instructions in Attachment B of Order No. WQ 2023-0061-DWQ, and in accordance with conditions specified in this Notice of Applicability and email it to centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov with a cc to Brandon Salazar at brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov. The WDID No. for this Project is 5B10CR00140.

a. Notification for In-Water Work and Diversions

The Applicant should notify the Central Valley Water Board at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to initiating work in flowing or standing water or stream diversions. Notification may be via e-mail, delivered written notice, or other verifiable means.

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.

Digitally signed by Alex S. Mushegan

for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

cc: Via email only:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
R9cwa401@epa.gov

Maya Bickner (SPK-2026-00033)
United States Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento District Headquarters
maya.a.bickner@usace.army.mil

[1] Visible construction-related pollutants include oil, grease, foam, fuel, petroleum products, and construction-related, excavated, organic or earthen materials.

cc: Justin Sloan
United States Fish & Wildlife Service
justin_sloan@fws.gov

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Region 4
R4LSA@wildlife.ca.gov

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Richard Haywood
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