



State Water Resources Control Board

CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR ENROLLMENT UNDER STATE WATER BOARD GENERAL ORDER FOR THE CORPS' REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT 8 (ORDER NO. [WQ] 2023-0095-DWQ)

Program Type: Fill/Excavation

Project Type: Overhead Utility

Federal Lic: Regional General Permit 8

Project: CEMA Monolith Project 1
Emergency Road Repair
Regulatory Measure ID: 457066
WDID: SB24049IN

Applicant: Southern California Edison
Applicant Contact: Kenneth Borngrebe
Director, Environmental Services
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, CA 91770
Phone: (626) 302-6472
Email: Kenneth.Borngrebe@sce.com

State Water Board Staff: Shawn Agarwal
Engineering Geologist
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 323-0886
Email: Shawn.Agarwal@waterboards.ca.gov

State Water Board Contact Person:

For further assistance, please contact the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Staff listed above or call (916) 322-7781 and ask to speak with the Wetlands Permitting and Enforcement II Unit Supervisor.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I. Summary

This document serves as a Notice of Applicability for enrollment under the State Water Board General Order for the Regional General Permit (Order No. [WQ] 2023-0061-DWQ; SWRCB ID SB23037GN; hereafter referred to as the General Order) at the request of Southern California Edison (Applicant). The General Order can be accessed at [the Clean Water Act Section 401 - Certification and Wetlands Program, General Orders webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr_2023) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr_2023). On May 17, 2024, the State Water Board received a complete Notice of Intent requesting authorization for the Applicant's CEMA Monolith Project 1 Emergency Road Repair (Project). After reviewing the Notice of Intent, the State Water Board has determined that the Project meets General Order requirements for Regional General Permit 8: Emergency Repair and Protection Activities.

II. Project Description

As described in the Project Notice of Intent and supplemental information (hereafter referred to as the application), which is incorporated herein by reference, the purpose of the Project is to repair approximately 28 miles of existing access roads that were severely damaged by recent storms. These access roads are used to maintain and inspect critical electrical infrastructure. The repair work may include re-compacting road surfaces, repairing or replacing culverts, re-establishing berms and water crossings, and repairing blowout areas that have eroded the roadway. The Applicant has identified approximately 57 potential stream/wetland crossings that require work along the 28 miles of roadway. Due to site access limitations, the extent of the storm damage is unknown. Therefore, the scope of work described in the application is an estimation. Specific repair work needed at each crossing location will be determined in the field. Construction started on May 20, 2024 and is expected to continue through September, 2024.

III. Project Location

The Project is located approximately four miles east of Tehachapi in Kern County, California. The northmost extent of the Project work is located at coordinates 34.30644°N, 118.42386°W. The southmost extent of the Project is located at coordinates 35.123214°N, 118.379063°W. The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, Victorville office and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Fresno office.

IV. Conditions

A. Scope of Authorization

The Project may proceed only as described in the Application submitted to the State Water Board by the Applicant and in accordance with the conditions in State Water Board General Order No. [WQ] 2023-0061-DWQ and this Notice of Applicability. This authorization is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

Receiving waters potentially impacted by this Project are listed in Table 1. These waters are regulated in accordance with the applicable water quality control plan (Basin Plan) for the regions and other plans and policies of the California Water Boards, which may be accessed online at [the State Water Boards' Plans and Policies webpage](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/).

Table 1: Receiving Water Information

Impact Site ID	Waterbody Name	Impacted Aquatic Resource Type	Water Board Hydrologic Units	Receiving Waters	Receiving Waters Beneficial Uses	303(d) Listing Pollutants
ENV009613 to ENV00921	Caliente Creek and Indian Creek	Stream Channel	556.10	Tehachapi Creek	AGR, IND, PRO, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD, RARE, GWR	N/A
ENV009622 to ENV009668	Whiterock Creek	Stream Channel and Wetland	625.30	Tehachapi Creek	AGR, GWR, MUN, NAV, REC1, REC2, WARM, WILD	N/A

Only the total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts listed in Tables 2 and 3 below are authorized.

Table 2: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity to Stream Channels

Temporary Impact ¹	Permanent Impact - Physical Loss of Area	Permanent Impact - Degradation of Ecological Condition Only
0.74 acres 1,026 linear feet	0 acres 0 linear feet	0 acres 0 linear feet

Table 3: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity to Wetlands

Temporary Impact	Permanent Impact - Physical Loss of Area	Permanent Impact - Degradation of Ecological Condition Only
0.04 acres 18 linear feet	0 acres 0 linear feet	0 acres 0 linear feet

B. Reporting and Notification Requirements

The Applicant shall submit Report Types 1 through 4, as described in Attachment B, “Report and Notification Requirements,” of the General Order. Monthly, Annual and Notice of Project Completion status reports (Report Types 1, 2 and 4) shall provide the details necessary to quantify impacts to waters of the state (i.e., culvert dimensions, rock slope protection) that result from Project activities between the commencement of construction through the report date. The Applicant must also submit Report Types 5 through 10 if the Project encounters the conditions described in these Report Types. The Applicant must submit all reports and information required under this Certification according to the Report Submittal Instructions found in Attachment B, “Report and Notification Requirements,” of the General Order.

C. Additional Project Specific Conditions

1. Staging construction equipment in wetlands must be avoided to the extent practicable. If equipment must be staged within wetlands, appropriate matting must be used underneath the equipment to prevent damage to underlying soil and vegetation.

¹ Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state. Temporary impacts, by definition, are restored to pre-project conditions and therefore do not include a physical loss of area or degradation of ecological condition.

2. Culverts that are replaced shall be sized and designed to accommodate 100-year storm flood flow (including transport of debris and sediment).
3. Cut or bladed sediment, or other material, shall not be side-cast or otherwise pushed off the roadway and left in a manner that threatens to discharge sediment to a water of the state.
4. All soils temporarily disturbed by the Project's construction activities shall be contained, removed, or stabilized² with effective engineered sediment and erosion control best management practices.
5. Compensatory mitigation may be required for Project activities that result in permanent impacts to waters of the state. Water Board staff shall inform the Applicant in writing whether compensatory mitigation is required once the exact scope of impacts is determined. If compensatory mitigation is required, the Applicant shall submit a compensatory mitigation plan in accordance with General Order section VI.D.1.a.

V. California Environmental Quality Act

The State Water Board has determined that the Project is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14 section 15269 (d) for Emergency Projects.

VI. Certification Fees

A fee payment of \$2,985 was received by the State Water Board on May 22, 2024. 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 F- Emergency Projects authorized by a Water Board General Order (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

Date

Phillip Crader  Digitally signed by Phillip Crader
Date: 2024.06.21 11:50:33 -07'00'

Phillip Crader, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality

² Exposed soils and unstable areas have been treated in such a manner that there is low risk of such soils discharging to a water of the state via runoff, slumping, or wind erosion. Appropriate treatment can include: cover with mulch (e.g., weed-free straw, slash, woodchips); relocation of excess material to an area that is stable, well drained, isolated from waters of the state, and where wind exposure is limited; sloping back excess material to a stable angle; hydroseeding, seeding and/or planting; and/or temporary construction erosion control measures (e.g., fiber rolls, silt fences, erosion control blankets, tarps).