



**Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board**

February 13, 2015

Mr. Hazem Gabr  
Water Quality Section Manager  
Corporate Environmental Health and Safety  
Southern California Edison  
1218 South 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Monrovia, California 91016

Hazem.Gabr@sce.com

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA) FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD GENERAL 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER NO. SB12002GN FOR US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 2012 CERTIFIED NATIONWIDE PERMITS.**

**FILE : SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON, SAN JACINTO DETERIORATED POLE 2178000E REPLACEMENT PROJECT (SARWQCB PROJECT NO. 332015-01, CIWQS #: 812577)**

Dear Mr. Gabr:

On January 15, 2015, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received a 2012 Certified Nationwide Permit Notification Form, Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the terms of, and obtain coverage under, the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits (General 401 Order) for the Southern California Edison, San Jacinto Deteriorated Pole 2178000E Replacement Project (Project).

The proposed project site is located adjacent to the San Jacinto Reservoir, east of Sanderson Avenue in the city of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California. The proposed project site is within Section 29 of Township 4 South, Range 1 West, as mapped on the Lakeview, California U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series topographic map. Approximate coordinates of the Project location are latitude 33.797789° N, and longitude -117.002083° W.

Santa Ana Regional Water Board staff has determined that the Project, as described in the NOI, is categorically exempt from CEQA review (section 15301 (b)– Existing facilities of both investor and publicly-owned utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services). Also applicable to the proposed

project is Section 15301 (d), restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety, unless it is determined that the damage was substantial and resulted from an environmental hazard such as earthquake, landslide, or flood. Regional Board Staff have also determined that the proposed project meets the eligibility requirements for coverage under the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for 2012 Certified Nationwide Permits.

**Project Purpose and Description:**

The proposed project consists of the replacement of a deteriorated wooden utility pole. The replacement pole would be located directly adjacent to the existing pole. Once installed, the overhead line would be transferred to the replacement pole and the deteriorated pole would be removed in sections. The butt of the pole would be pulled out of the ground by winch, and the remaining hole would be backfilled by materials excavated for the new pole.

Project totals of temporarily impacted area approximate 0.02 acres of stream channel, waters of the US. The Project shall be constructed and maintained using methods and avoidance and minimization measures described within application materials.

Receiving Water:	San Jacinto River San Jacinto River, HUC 18070202
Filled Excavated Area:	Permanent Area Impacted: None Temporary Area Impacted: 0.02 acres stream channel
Total Linear Impacts:	Length Permanently Impacted: None Length Temporarily Impacted: 20 linear feet
Fill Volume:	None
Latitude/Longitude:	33.797789° N / -117.002083° W

Regional Water Board staff has determined that the proposed activities may proceed under the General 401 Order, if all relevant conditions identified in General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits are followed during the proposed activities. The following conditions from General 401 Order are applicable to your project:

- 1) All activities shall comply with all requirements of California's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, §13000, et seq.) and applicable State or Regional Water Quality Control Plans. (SB12002GN Condition #4).

- 2) Water may not be diverted for project activities. (SB12002GN Condition #6).
- 3) The proposed project shall not result in the taking of any species listed as threatened or endangered or as a candidate for threatened or endangered listing under either the federal or California Endangered Species Act. (SB12002GN Condition #8).
- 4) Project activities may not take place in a Hazardous Waste site listed in section 65962.5 of the Government Code (i.e., Cortese List"). (SB12002GN Condition #10).
- 5) Total area of ground disturbance is limited to a maximum of five acres and utility line length is limited to a maximum of five miles. (SB12002GN Condition #14b).
- 6) Temporary impacts to waters of the state are limited to one-half acre and 400 linear feet. (SB12002GN Condition #14c).
- 7) Temporary impacts permitted by the General Certification shall be as short as practicable, and in no case more than 90 days from the beginning of construction. Site restoration for temporary impacts to waters of the state shall be completed as soon as possible after completion of construction. These restoration activities will be completed no more than 30 days after end of construction. (SB12002GN Condition #14c).
- 8) Placement of work areas, including pull sites, laydown yards and staging areas, in waters of the state is prohibited (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 9) After construction, hydrologic functions of the site will be restored. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 10) Trenching across streams with flowing water is prohibited. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 11) No drilling compounds, fluids, or "muds" may be discharged to waters of the State of California or United States. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 12) Only minor trimming of existing vegetation is allowed. No removal or substantial alteration of riparian vegetation is allowed. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 13) No new or expanded hardscape channel lining or bank armor is authorized. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 14) For any excavation, including utility line trenches, during construction, the top 6 to 12 inches of topsoil shall be removed and stockpiled separately. Following construction, the topsoil shall be replaced and seeded with native vegetation. (SB12002GN Condition #14f).
- 15) New road construction is prohibited. Maintenance of utility line access roads under this NWP shall be confined to the previously existing road prism. Grading of throughcut roads, including any road having a running surface lower than the surrounding terrain on both sides of the road, is prohibited. (SB12002GN Condition #14f).
- 16) Any waiver of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conditions or regional conditions shall disqualify this project from enrollment under the General Certification. (SB12002GN Condition #16).

Mr. Hazem Gabr  
Southern California Edison  
RWQCB #: 3320145-01 CIWQS #: 812577

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February 13, 2015

Should there be any questions, please contact Jason Bill at (951) 782-3295 or Marc Brown at (951) 321-4584.

Sincerely,

*for* 

Kurt V. Berchtold  
Executive Officer  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

cc (via electronic mail):

Southern California Edison. - Jason Lambert – Jason.Lambert@sce.com  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District - James Mace  
State Water Resources Control Board, OCC- David Rice  
State Water Resources Control Board, DWQ -Water Quality Certification Unit  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Kim Freeburn-Marquez  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Supervisor of the Wetlands Regulatory  
Office – Tim Vendlinski WTR- 8

Weblink: The State Water Resources Control Board the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits can be found here:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nwp\\_401.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nwp_401.pdf)