



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ  
SECRETARY FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Mr. Hazem Gabr  
Southern California Edison  
1218 South 5th Avenue  
Monrovia, CA 91016

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
No. 7011 2970 0000 0645 5001

**TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED TEMPORARY FIRE WATER PUMPING PLAN AT USC WRIGLEY INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROJECT (Corps' Project No. 2014-00493-SPL), PACIFIC OCEAN, TWO HARBORS, SANTA CATALINA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY (File No. 14-134)**

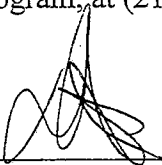
Dear Mr. Gabr:

Board staff has reviewed your request on behalf of Southern California Edison (Applicant) for a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the above-referenced project. Your application was deemed complete on October 10, 2014.

I hereby issue an order certifying that any discharge from the referenced project will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act, and with other applicable requirements of State law. This discharge is also regulated under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2003 - 0017 - DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges that have received State Water Quality Certification" which requires compliance with all conditions of this Water Quality Certification.

**Please read this entire document carefully.** The Applicant shall be liable civilly for any violations of this Certification in accordance with the California Water Code. This Certification does not eliminate the Applicant's responsibility to comply with any other applicable laws, requirements and/or permits.

Should you have questions concerning this Certification action, please contact LB Nye, Section 401 Program, at (213) 576-6785.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Samuel Unger, P.E. *for*  
Executive Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date 1-27-15

## DISTRIBUTION LIST

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Diane Noda  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
2493 Portola Road, Suite B  
Ventura, CA 93003

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Project Information**  
**File No. 14-134**

1. Applicant: Mr. Hazem Gabr  
Southern California Edison  
1218 South 5th Avenue  
Monrovia, CA 91016  
  
Phone: (626) 462-8715 Fax: (626) 462-2583
2. Applicant's Agent: Jason Lambert  
Southern California Edison  
1218 South 5th Avenue  
Monrovia, CA 91016  
  
Phone: (626) 462-8735 Fax: (626) 462-2583
3. Project Name: Temporary Fire Water Pumping Plan at USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies
4. Project Location: Two Harbors, Santa Catalina

Latitude	Longitude
33.444584	-118.483935
33.4445778	-118.484075

5. Project Purpose: To provide temporary fire suppression capabilities to the USC campus while the existing, permanent fire suppression system is taken off-line for maintenance by installing a temporary seawater pump.
6. Project Description: SCE operates and maintains a one-million gallon water tank (MGT), located on a ridgeline approximately 0.25 miles to the southeast of the USC campus. The MGT is the primary source of drinking water and fire suppression for the USC campus on the island.
- While the temporary fire suppression (pump) system must be installed and operational prior to draining the MGT, the system is intended for emergency use only and will only be used in the event

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of a major fire on campus. Small, temporary water tanks will be installed at the MGT site and connected to the existing line. These temporary tanks will provide the campus potable drinking water and would also be used for suppression in the event of a small, localized fire.

The proposed Project includes the temporary installation of a self-contained 375-hp diesel 2,800 gallon per minute (GPM) diesel saltwater pump, and a second, auxiliary 2,800 GPM pump, at the USC campus. The pumps will be positioned, within a spill containment system, at the upper end of the existing concrete boat ramp, above the mean high water line elevation.

The intake pipe, a 12-inch diameter stainless steel pipe, will extend approximately 175 feet from the pump, down the boat ramp and into the ocean. The pipe will be held in place by four 3' x 3' precast concrete pipe supports that are strapped to the intake pipe and a precast (6'x2'x2') concrete block support with pipe support clamps anchored to the block. The seaward end of the pipe will be fitted with a stainless steel intake strainer that is 18 inches in diameter and 36 inches long with ¼ inch screen openings. The intake strainer will be a minimum of three feet below the mean low tide elevation.

The outlet pipe(s), 8-inch aluminum pipe, will be laid on the ground and will connect to existing fire department connections (hydrants) at multiple points throughout the Marine Laboratory facility, and will provide multiple threaded fire hose connections. The entire length of the pipe and pump system will be approximately 930 linear feet. The temporary pump and pipe structure will be in place for approximately six months while the MGT is drained, subject to maintenance and cleaning, and finally refilled. Once the MGT is refilled, the pump and pipe system will be dismantled and removed.

The portion of the temporary system that will be located within waters consists of a portion of the 12-inch diameter stainless steel intake pipe, the associated support structures and the intake strainer. The actual pump, including the fuel spill containment system, will be located above the high water line elevation. The intake pipe is expected to extend approximately 25 to 30 feet into the water beyond the mean low tide elevation.

- Project will commence following SCE obtaining all necessary

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- permit authorizations.
- Installation and setup of the pump/piping assembly is anticipated to take three days to one week.
  - The MGT is anticipated to take approximately 45 days to be fully drained.
  - Maintenance work on the MGT is anticipated to take approximately two to three months.
  - Refilling the MGT following the completion of maintenance work, is anticipated to take approximately 45 days to complete.
  - Dismantling/removing temporary pump set up is anticipated to take three days to one week.
7. Federal Agency/Permit: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
NWP No. 33 (Permit No. 2014-00493-SPL)
8. Other Required Regulatory Approvals: Coastal Development Permit
9. California Environmental Quality Act Compliance: The proposed project is Categorical Exempt from CEQA pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 Existing Facilities.
10. Receiving Water: Pacific Ocean, Los Angeles County, nearshore
11. Designated Beneficial Uses: IND, NAV, COMM, MAR, WILD, BIOL, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, SHELL, REC-1, REC-2
12. Impacted Waters of the United States: Ocean/Estuary/Bay: 0.0006 temporary acres (130 linear feet)
13. Dredge Volume: None
14. Related Projects Implemented/to be Implemented by the Applicant: The Applicant has not identified any related projects carried out in the last 5 years or planned for implementation in the next 5 years.
15. Avoidance/Minimization Activities: The Applicant has proposed to implement several Best Management Practices, including, but not limited to, the following:

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- No fuels, lubricants, construction fill or other materials will be stock-piled within jurisdictional boundaries.
- Equipment will be staged outside of the jurisdictional limits and disturbance would be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
- If needed, straw wattles or other sediment control devices will be used to prevent migration of sediment from the work area.
- The pumps and equipment necessary for the installation of the pumps will be fueled a minimum of 200' from the shoreline.
- The pumps will be set in-place within a 12' x 16' x 1' containment "spill guards" a commercially available and approved containment system.
- A spill prevention kit will be in place with the pumps at all times.
- A qualified equipment operator will conduct daily visual inspections throughout the life of the project.

16. Proposed  
Compensatory  
Mitigation:

The Applicant has not proposed any compensatory mitigation due to the temporary nature of impacts associated with the project.

17. Required  
Compensatory  
Mitigation:

Since the project impacts are minimal and temporary in nature, the Regional Board will not require any compensatory mitigation.

See *Attachment B, Conditions of Certifications, Additional Conditions* for modifications and additions to the above proposed compensatory mitigation.

## ATTACHMENT B

### Conditions of Certification

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#### STANDARD CONDITIONS

Pursuant to §3860 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (23 CCR), the following three standard conditions shall apply to this project:

1. This Certification action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to §13330 of the California Water Code and Article 6 (commencing with 23 CCR §3867).
2. This Certification action is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent Certification application was filed pursuant to 23 CCR Subsection 3855(b) and the application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.
3. Certification is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required pursuant to 23 CCR Chapter 28 and owed by the Applicant.

#### ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

Pursuant to 23 CCR §3859(a), the Applicant shall comply with the following additional conditions:

1. The Applicant shall submit to this Regional Board copies of any other final permits and agreements required for this project, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (ACOE) Section 404 Permit. **These documents shall be submitted prior to any discharge to waters of the State.**
2. The Applicant shall adhere to the most stringent conditions indicated with either this Certification, or the ACOE Section 404 Permit.
3. The Applicant shall comply with all water quality objectives, prohibitions, and policies set forth in the *Water Quality Control Plan, Los Angeles Region (1994)*, as amended.
4. The Avoidance/Minimization activities proposed by the Applicant as described in Attachment A, No. 15, are incorporated as additional conditions herein.
5. The Applicant and all contractors employed by the Applicant shall have copies of this Certification, and all other regulatory approvals for this project on site at all times and shall be familiar with all conditions set forth.

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6. Fueling, lubrication, maintenance, operation, and storage of vehicles and equipment shall not result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State. At no time shall the Applicant use any vehicle or equipment which leaks any substance that may impact water quality. Staging and storage areas for vehicles and equipment shall be located outside of waters of the State.
7. All excavation, construction, or maintenance activities shall follow best management practices to minimize impacts to water quality and beneficial uses. Dust control activities shall be conducted in such a manner that will not produce downstream runoff.
8. No construction material, spoils, debris, or any other substances associated with this project that may adversely impact water quality standards, shall be located in a manner which may result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State. Designated spoil and waste areas shall be visually marked prior to any excavation and/or construction activity, and storage of the materials shall be confined to these areas.
9. All waste or dredged material removed shall be relocated to a legal point of disposal if applicable. A legal point of disposal is defined as one for which Waste Discharge Requirements have been established by a California Regional Water Quality Control Board, and is in full compliance therewith.
10. The Applicant shall implement all necessary control measures to prevent the degradation of water quality from the proposed project in order to maintain compliance with the Basin Plan. The discharge shall meet all effluent limitations and toxic and effluent standards established to comply with the applicable water quality standards and other appropriate requirements, including the provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act. This Certification does not authorize the discharge by the applicant for any other activity than specifically described in the 404 Permit.
11. The discharge shall not: a) degrade surface water communities and populations including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species; b) promote the breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests; c) alter the color, create visual contrast with the natural appearance, nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters; d) cause formation of sludge deposits; or e) adversely affect any designated beneficial uses.
12. The Applicant shall allow the Regional Board and its authorized representative entry to the premises, including all mitigation sites, to inspect and undertake any activity to determine compliance with this Certification, or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code.
13. The Applicant shall not conduct any construction activities within waters of the State during a rainfall event. The Applicant shall maintain a five-day (5-day) clear weather forecast before conducting any operations within waters of the State.



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14. If rain is predicted after operations have begun, grading activities must cease immediately and the site must be stabilized to prevent impacts to water quality, and minimize erosion and runoff from the site.
15. No activities shall involve wet excavations (i.e., no excavations shall occur below the seasonal high water table). A minimum **5-foot** buffer zone shall be maintained above the existing groundwater level. If construction or groundwater dewatering is proposed or anticipated, the Applicant shall file a **Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD)** to this Regional Board and obtain any necessary NPDES permits/Waste Discharge Requirements prior to discharging waste.

Sufficient time should be allowed to obtain any such permits (generally 180 days). If groundwater is encountered without the benefit of appropriate permits, the Applicant shall cease all activities in the areas where groundwater is present, file a Report of Waste Discharge to this Regional Board, and obtain any necessary permits prior to discharging waste.

16. All project activities not included in this Certification, and which may require a permit, must be reported to the Regional Board for appropriate permitting. Bank stabilization and grading, as well as any other ground disturbances, are subject to restoration and revegetation requirements, and may require additional Certification action.
17. The Applicant shall restore **all acres** of TEMPORARY IMPACTS to waters of the United States and all other areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State.
18. The Applicant shall submit to this Regional Board a **Final Monitoring Report** (Final Reports) by **January 1<sup>st</sup>** of the year following project completion. The Final Report shall describe in detail all of the project activities performed during the previous year and all restoration efforts. At a minimum the Final Report shall include the following documentation:
  - (a) Color photo documentation of the pre- and post-project site conditions;
  - (b) Geographical Positioning System (GPS) coordinates in decimal-degrees format outlining the boundary of the project areas;
  - (c) Copies of all permits revised as required in Additional Condition 1;
  - (d) A certified Statement of “no net loss” of wetlands associated with this project;
  - (e) Discussion of any monitoring activities and exotic plant control efforts; and

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- (f) A certified Statement from the permittee or his/her representative that all conditions of this Certification have been met.
19. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Regional Board shall be signed:
- (a) For corporations, by a principal executive officer at least of the level of vice president or his duly authorized representative, if such representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which discharge originates.
  - (b) For a partnership, by a general partner.
  - (c) For a sole proprietorship, by the proprietor.
  - (d) For a municipal, State, or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or other duly authorized employee.
20. Each and any report submitted in accordance with this Certification shall contain the following completed declaration:

"I declare under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who managed the system or those directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Executed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)  
(Title)"

- 21. All communications regarding this project and submitted to this Regional Board shall identify the Project File Number **14-134**. Submittals shall be sent to the attention of the 401 Certification Unit.
- 22. Any modifications of the proposed project may require submittal of a new Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification application and appropriate filing fee.
- 23. The project shall comply with all requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for storm water discharges associated with construction activity, Order No. 2012-0011-DWQ.

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24. Coverage under this Certification may be transferred to the extent the underlying federal permit may legally be transferred and further provided that the Applicant notifies the Executive Officer at least 30 days before the proposed transfer date, and the notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new Applicants containing a specific date of coverage, responsibility for compliance with this Certification, and liability between them.
25. The Applicant or their agents shall report any noncompliance. Any such information shall be provided verbally to the Executive Officer within 24 hours from the time the Applicant becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the Applicant becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected; the anticipated time it is expected to continue and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. The Executive Officer, or an authorized representative, may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.
26. *Enforcement:*
  - (a) In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this Certification, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process or sanctions as provided for under State law. For purposes of section 401(d) of the Clean Water Act, the applicability of any State law authorizing remedies, penalties, process or sanctions for the violation or threatened violation constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this Certification.
  - (b) In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this Certification, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) or Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) may require the holder of any permit or license subject to this Certification to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the SWRCB deems appropriate, provided that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall be a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.
  - (c) In response to any violation of the conditions of this Certification, the SWRCB or RWQCB may add to or modify the conditions of this Certification as appropriate to ensure compliance.
27. This Certification shall expire **five (5) years** from date of this Certification. The Applicant shall submit a complete application at least 90 days prior to termination of this Certification if renewal is requested.

