

State Water Resources Control Board

WATER QUALITY ORDER WQ 2025-0045-DWQ WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

Effective Date: Upon Deputy Director's Signature

Project: TIMP Line 235 and Line 3000 El Dorado-Lugo-Mohave
Alternating Current Pipeline Mitigation Project (Project)

Project Type: Oil and Gas

Program Type: Fill/Excavation

Identifiers:
WDID No: SB25030IN
Place ID: 901114
Reg. Meas. ID: 460908

Applicant: Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas)

Applicant Contact: Dave Seeley
Program Manager - Construction
SoCalGas
555 West 5th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Phone: (323) 712-1924
Email: DSeeley@socalgas.com

Applicant's Agent: Chris Sowell
SoCalGas
25620 Jefferson Avenue
Murrieta, CA 92562
Phone: (909) 970-0322
Email: CSowell@socalgas.com

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

Water Board Contact Person: If you have any questions, please contact State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) Staff listed above, call (916) 341-5900, or email SB-401Application@waterboards.ca.gov.

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

Table of Contents

I. Summary	3
II. Findings	3
III. Project Purpose and Description	4
IV. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information	4
V. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State	5
VI. Description of Indirect Impacts to Waters of the State	5
VII. Avoidance and Minimization	5
VIII. Conditions	6
IX. Public Notice	16
X. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)	16
XI. Conclusion	16

Attachment A: Project Maps

Attachment B: Receiving Waters, Impacts, and Mitigation Information

Attachment C: CEQA Findings of Facts

Attachment D: Report and Notification Requirements

Attachment E: Signatory Requirements

Attachment F: Deviation Procedures

I. Summary

These waste discharge requirements (WDR) are issued at the request of SoCalGas (hereinafter Permittee) for the Project. The initial application was received on April 11, 2025. A complete application was submitted on May 16, 2025 as verified by Water Board staff.

II. Findings

- A. In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this WDR, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process, or sanctions as provided for under state and federal law, including the Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.
- B. In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this WDR, the Water Board may require the holder of this WDR to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the Water Boards deem appropriate, provided that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.
- C. This WDR does not provide coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order WQ 2022-0057-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002) (Construction General Permit).
- D. This WDR does not authorize any act which results in the take of a threatened, endangered or candidate species, which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & G. Code, §§ 2050-2097) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. sections 1531-1544). If a “take” will result from any act authorized under this WDR held by the Permittee, the Permittee must obtain authorization for the take prior to any construction or operation of the portion of the Project that may result in a take. The Permittee is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable endangered species act for the Project authorized under this WDR.
- E. The Water Board has considered the factors in Water Code section 13241 in establishing the requirements in this WDR.
- F. This WDR includes monitoring and reporting requirements pursuant to Water Code sections 13267. The burden of preparing these reports, including costs, are reasonable to the need and benefits of obtaining the reports. The reports confirm that the best management practices required under this WDR are sufficient to protect beneficial uses and water quality objectives. The reports of accidental discharges also ensure that corrective actions, if any, that are necessary to minimize the impact or clean up such discharges can be taken as soon as possible. The anticipated costs are minimal as the reporting obligations require only visual monitoring and notification reporting.

III. Project Purpose and Description

Project Purpose: The purpose of the Project is to install an alternating current mitigation system that will maintain the integrity and safety of SoCalGas' high-pressure natural gas transmission pipelines, L235 and L3000. The Project is necessitated by the Southern California Edison (SCE) Eldorado-Lugo-Mohave 500 kilovolt (kV) Series Capacitor project. The Project is required to maintain the integrity and safety of SoCalGas' existing infrastructure following construction and operation of the Eldorado-Lugo-Mohave Series Capacitor project.

Project Description: The Project includes the installation of approximately 101,500 feet of 2/0 copper grounding cable on one and occasionally both sides of the pipelines wholly within SoCalGas' existing easement. In addition to the copper cable installation, the Project includes 90 Solid State Decoupler device installations, and 11 coupon test station installations that are required for the proper functioning of the cathodic protection system.

A. Project Location

Address: Located along and north of Interstate 40 in unincorporated San Bernardino County between the cities of Barstow and Needles

County: San Bernardino

Assessor's Parcel Numbers: Multiple

Nearest City: Newberry Springs

Start: Latitude: 34.77747° and Longitude: -116.41258°

End: Latitude: 34.88541° and Longitude: -114.96433°

Maps showing the Project location are found in Attachment A of this WDR.

IV. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board (collectively Regional Water Boards). Receiving waters potentially impacted by this Project are protected in accordance with the applicable water quality control plans (Basin Plan). The Basin Plans for the region and other plans and policies may be accessed at the [State Water Resources Control Board's Plans and Policies Web page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/). The Basin Plan includes water quality standards, which consist of existing and potential beneficial uses of waters of the state, water quality objectives to protect those uses, and the state and federal antidegradation policies.

It is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. This WDR promotes that policy by requiring discharges to meet maximum contaminant levels designed to protect human health and ensure that water is safe for domestic use.

Project impact and receiving waters information is in Attachment B. Table 1 of Attachment B lists the receiving waters and beneficial uses of waters of the state impacted by the Project. Individual impact locations and quantities are in Table 2 of Attachment B.

V. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State

The Project includes impacts to 244 drainage features. Impacts to channels within cathodic protection section workspaces involve removal of vegetation to clear a path for travel and trenching and backfilling with V-Ditch tractor. Impacts to channels will occur at 12 copper grounding cable installation work areas, one Coupon Test Station (CTS) location, and 16 access road maintenance locations along L3000, and 21 copper grounding cable installation work areas, five CTS locations, and 176 access road maintenance locations along L235.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts¹

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	8.77	40,375

VI. Description of Indirect Impacts to Waters of the State

The Water Board recognizes the potential for indirect impacts to waters of the state associated with the Project, including siltation of receiving waters during construction and introduction of pollutants to receiving waters during construction.

The conditions set forth in section VIII will avoid and minimize the indirect impacts to waters of the state.

VII. Avoidance and Minimization

Project activities will be conducted using applicable Best Management Practices (BMPs) specified in the SoCalGas Best Management Practices Manual for Water Quality and Storm Water Management. Specific techniques that will be used to control erosion during construction include the following:

- Stockpiled soils will be stabilized and protected to avoid associated erosion and sedimentation;

¹ Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include area 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.

- Regular inspection and maintenance of all specified BMPs will be conducted through the duration of construction;
- Proper containment and disposal of all materials and construction debris;
- Conformance with all local dust control requirements, including measures such as regular application of water; and
- Permanent stabilization of disturbed soils is to be provided by returning grade to preconstruction contours and soil compaction.

The Project is a tier level 2 Project and the Project is the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State, section IV.A.1.h).

VIII. Conditions

A. Impacts to Waters of the State

Impacts to waters of the state shall not exceed quantities shown in Table 1.

B. Reporting and Notification Requirements

The following section details the reporting and notification types and timing of submittals. Requirements for the content of these reporting and notification types are detailed in Attachment C, including specifications for photo and map documentation during the Project. Written reports and notifications must be submitted using the Reporting and Notification Cover Sheet located in Attachment C, which must be signed by the Permittee or an authorized representative.

1. Project Reporting

- a. **Annual Reporting:** The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year on the anniversary of the effective date. Annual reporting shall continue until the Water Board issues a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee.

2. Project Status Notifications

- a. **Commencement of Construction:** The Permittee shall submit a Commencement of Construction Report at least 7 days prior to start of initial ground disturbance activities and, if applicable, corresponding Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID#) issued under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order WQ 2022-0057-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002).
- b. **Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter:** The Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter when construction and/or any post-construction monitoring is complete, and no further Project activities will occur. This request shall be submitted to

Water Board staff within 30 days following completion of all Project activities. Upon approval of the request, the Water Board staff shall issue a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee which will end the post discharge monitoring period and associated annual fees. Completion of post-construction monitoring shall be determined by Water Board staff and shall be contingent on successful attainment of restoration and mitigation performance criteria.

3. Conditional Notifications and Reports:

The following notifications and reports are required as appropriate.

a. Accidental Discharges of Hazardous Materials²:

Following an accidental discharge of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material, sewage, or an unknown material, the following applies (Wat. Code, § 13271):

- i. As soon as (A) Permittee has knowledge of the discharge or noncompliance, (B) notification is possible, and (C) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures then:
 - a. First call – 911 (to notify local response agency)
 - b. Then call – Office of Emergency Services (OES) State Warning Center at: (800) 852-7550 or (916) 845-8911
 - c. Lastly, follow the required OES procedures as set forth in the [Office of Emergency Services' Accidental Discharge Notification Web Page](https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/response-operations/fire-rescue/hazardous-materials/spill-release-reporting/) (https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/response-operations/fire-rescue/hazardous-materials/spill-release-reporting/)
- ii. Following notification to OES, the Permittee shall notify the Water Board, as soon as practicable (ideally within 24 hours). Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.

² "Hazardous material" means any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. "Hazardous materials" include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances, hazardous waste, and any material that a handler or the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing that it would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or harmful to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. (Health & Saf. Code, § 25501.)

- iii. Within 5 business days of notification to the Water Board, the Permittee must submit an Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report.

b. Violation of Water Quality Standards

- i. The Permittee shall notify the Water Board if its Project activities causes a violation of water quality standards. Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.
- ii. This notification must be followed within 3 business days by submission of a Violation of Water Quality Standards Report.

c. In-Water Work and Diversions

- i. The Permittee shall notify the Water Board at least 48 hours prior to initiating work in water or stream diversions. Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.
- ii. Within 3 business days following completion of work in water or stream diversions, an In-Water Work/Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report must be submitted to Water Board staff.

d. Modifications to Project

Project modifications may require an amendment of this WDR. The Permittee shall give advance notice to Water Board staff if Project implementation as described in the application materials is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state, or federal regulatory authority by submitting a Modifications to Project Report. The Permittee shall inform Water Board staff of any Project modifications that will interfere with the Permittee's compliance with this WDR. Notification may be made in accordance with conditions in the Deviation section of this WDR.

e. Transfer of Property Ownership

This WDR is not transferable in its entirety or in part to any person or organization except after notice to the Water Board in accordance with the following terms:

- i. The Permittee must notify the Water Board of any change in ownership or interest in ownership of the Project area by submitting a Transfer of Property Ownership Report. The Permittee and purchaser must sign and date the notification and provide such notification to the Water Board at least 10 days prior to the transfer of ownership. The purchaser must also submit a written request to the Water Board to be named as the permittee in a revised permit.
- ii. Until such time as this WDR has been modified to name the purchaser as the permittee, the Permittee shall continue to be responsible for all requirements set forth in this WDR.

f. Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance

If maintenance responsibility for post-construction BMPs is legally transferred, the Permittee must submit to the Water Board a copy of such documentation and must provide the transferee with a copy of a long-term BMP maintenance plan that complies with manufacturer or designer specifications. The Permittee must provide such notification to the Water Board with a Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report at least 10 days prior to the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.

C. Water Quality Monitoring

1. General

If surface water is present, continuous visual monitoring shall be conducted during active construction to detect accidental discharge of construction related pollutants (e.g., oil and grease, turbidity plume, uncured concrete).

2. Accidental Discharges/Noncompliance

Upon occurrence of an accidental discharge, the Permittee shall determine whether the discharge includes hazardous materials or will cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives, and if so, notify the Water Board in accordance with the Conditional Notifications and Reports section VIII.B.3. Water Board staff may require additional water quality monitoring based on the discharge constituents and/or related water quality objectives and beneficial uses.

D. Fees

1. This WDR is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required under title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

The total fee amount required by the California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), Category A, is \$329,261. An application fee of \$4,212 and Category A Project fee of \$325,049 was received on April 14, 2025.

2. **Annual Fees:** This WDR is subject to annual billing based on the fee schedule in effect at the time of billing. Annual billing will continue until the Project, including monitoring, is complete and the Water Board receives an acceptable request for a Notice of Project Complete Letter (see Attachment D). Invoices are usually sent out at the end of each calendar year.³

To stop annual billing, the Permittee must request a Notice of Project Complete Letter from the Water Board. Water Board staff will verify if the

³ Annual invoices for fill and excavation projects are issued for projects active for any amount of time in the current fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Annual invoices for dredging projects are based on the quantity of dredged material in the previous fiscal year.

conditions of the WDR are met and may conduct a site visit to confirm compliance.

For more information on fees, visit the State Water Board's [Water Quality Fees website](#),⁴ under Water Quality Certification (WQC) Program Fees.

E. General Compliance

1. Permitted actions must not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standards, including impairment of designated beneficial uses for receiving waters as adopted in the Basin Plans by any applicable Regional Water Board or any applicable Water Board water quality control plan or policy. The source of any such discharge must be eliminated as soon as practicable.
2. The Project must conform to the engineering plans, specifications, and technical reports submitted with the application materials. Water Code section 13264 prohibits any discharge that is not specifically authorized in this WDR.
3. The Permittee shall adhere to all requirements in the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) (Mitigation Monitoring Program, November 2019) which is incorporated herein by reference and any additional measures as outlined in Attachment C, CEQA Findings of Fact.

F. Administrative

1. Signatory requirements for all document submittals required by this WDR are presented in Attachment E of this WDR.
2. **Site Access:** The Permittee shall grant Water Board staff, Regional Water Board staff or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a Water Board representative), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, permission to:
 - a. Enter upon the Project or compensatory mitigation site(s) premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept.
 - b. Have access to and copy any records that are kept and are relevant to the Project or the requirements of this WDR.
 - c. Inspect any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this WDR.
 - d. Sample or monitor for the purposes of assuring WDR compliance.
3. The Permittee shall be responsible for work conducted by its consultants, contractors, and any subcontractors. A copy of this WDR shall be provided to

⁴ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/water_quality/

any consultants, contractors, and subcontractors working on this Project. Copies shall remain at the Project site for the duration of this WDR. All personnel performing work on the Project shall be familiar with the contents of this WDR and how to access a copy from the Project site.

G. Construction Conditions

1. All materials and supplies necessary for implementing these construction conditions must be on-site and ready for use at the start of the construction activity and must remain in supply and ready for implementation throughout the construction process. All non-structural best management practice (BMP) materials (e.g., training documents, compliance tracking procedures) must be ready for use at the start of construction.
2. Construction material, debris, rubbish, spoils, soil, silt, sawdust, steel, welding slag, welding rods, waste material, waste containers, other organic or earthen material, or any other substances which could be detrimental to water quality or hazardous to aquatic life that is discharged as a result of Project related activities shall be prevented from entering waters of the state. Spoils from excavations shall not be stored in waters of the state.
3. Environmentally sensitive areas and environmentally restricted areas, including any avoided waters of the state, must be clearly identified in the field for exclusion prior to the start of construction. Such identification must be properly maintained until construction is completed and the soils are stabilized. Equipment, materials, or any other substances or activities that may impact waters of the state outside of the limits of Project disturbance are prohibited.
4. The number of access routes, number and size of staging areas, and the total area of the activity must be limited to the minimum necessary to achieve the Project goal. Routes and work area boundaries must be clearly demarcated.
5. Bridges, culverts, dip crossings, or other structures must be installed so that water and in-stream sediment flow is not impeded. Appropriate design criteria, practices and materials must be used in areas where access roads intersect waters of the state.
6. Temporary materials placed in any water of the state must be removed as soon as construction is completed at that location, and all temporary roads must be removed or re-contoured and restored according to approved re-vegetation and restoration plans.
7. A method of containment must be used below any temporary bridge, trestle, boardwalk, and/or other stream crossing structure to prevent any debris or spills from falling into the waters of the state. Containment must be maintained and kept clean for the life of the temporary crossing structure.
8. Unless authorized for restoration, material excavated to prepare a site for placement of the permitted fill material must be properly disposed of in an upland area. The disposal site must be located at a sufficient distance away

from flowing or standing water such that the excavated material does not erode or move in any way into any water of the state.

9. **Topsoil:** For any excavation, including utility line trenches, the top six to 12 inches of topsoil shall be removed and stockpiled separately during construction. Following installation, the topsoil shall be replaced and seeded with native vegetation.
10. **Dust Abatement:** Dust abatement chemicals added to water can be hazardous to wildlife and, if allowed to enter streams, detrimental to water quality. Therefore, dust abatement activities shall be conducted so that sediment or dust abatement chemicals are not discharged into waters of the state. Dust abatement products or additives that are known to be detrimental to water quality or wildlife shall not be used, unless specific management needs are documented, and product-specific application plans are approved by Water Board staff.
11. **Use of Mechanized Equipment:** Activities permitted under this WDR shall be conducted in a manner that minimizes ground disturbance, soil compaction, rutting and other mechanical impacts. Equipment shall be operated and maintained in a manner that reduces the risk of spills or the accidental exposure of fuels or hazardous materials to water bodies or wetlands. Appropriate Project specific BMPs shall be specified by the Permittee and shall be approved by Water Board staff prior to Project discharges.
12. **Toxic and Hazardous Materials**
 - a. Activities permitted under this WDR shall not discharge toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
 - b. Discharge of unset cement, concrete, grout, damaged concrete spoils, or water that has contacted uncured concrete or cement, or related washout to surface waters, ground waters, or land is prohibited. If concrete washout is necessary at the site, washout containment shall be used to prevent any discharge. Wastewater may only be disposed by delivery to a sanitary wastewater collection system/facility (with authorization from the facility's owner or operator) or a properly licensed disposal or reuse facility.
 - c. Appropriate BMPs must be implemented throughout Project activities to prevent and control potential leaks/spills/drainage of potentially hazardous materials such as: non-petroleum hydraulic fluid; epoxies; paints and other protective coating materials; cement concrete or asphalt concrete; and washings and cuttings thereof.
 - d. Activities permitted under this WDR shall not discharge waste classified as "hazardous" as defined in California Code of Regulations title 22, section 66261 and Water Code section 13173. Appropriate BMPs for hazardous substances shall be specified by the Permittee and shall be approved by

Water Board staff prior to Project discharges. These BMPs shall include, at a minimum:

- i. All personnel handling fuels and other hazardous materials shall be properly trained.
- ii. Adequate spill prevention and cleanup equipment and materials shall be present on site at all times during Project implementation.
- iii. All mechanized equipment shall be maintained in good operating order and inspected on a regular basis.
- iv. All on-site fuel trucks or fuel containers shall be stored in an area where risk of contamination of water bodies by leaks or spills is minimized.
- v. All equipment shall be fueled, maintained, and/or parked overnight in an upland area at least 100 feet from any waters of the state.
- vi. Hazardous materials, including chemicals, fuels, and lubricating oils, shall not be stored within 100 feet of any waters of the state, and shall be stored in appropriate containers with appropriate secondary containment.
- vii. Pumps or other stationary equipment operating within 100 feet of waters of the state shall utilize appropriate secondary containment systems to prevent spills.
- viii. Any spills or leaks of hazardous materials, chemicals, fuels, lubricants, or any other potential pollutants shall be promptly and completely treated using appropriate materials and equipment.
- ix. Spill containment supplies shall be on site in all work areas in sufficient quantities to allow immediate remediation of fuel, oil, hydraulic fluid or similar leaks and spills.
- x. A staging area for equipment and vehicle fueling and storage shall be designated at least 100 feet away from waters of the state, in a location where fluids or accidental discharges cannot flow into waters of the state.

13. Invasive Species and Soil Borne Pathogens

- a. The Permittee is responsible for ensuring that all Project personnel follow proper weed control practices, and that appropriate weed prevention measures are included in Project plans.
- b. Any straw, hay or other unprocessed plant material used for any purpose must be certified or documented as being weed free.
- c. Soil borne pathogens are any nematodes, or any bacterial, protozoan, viral or fungal pathogens that can cause disease or death to native plants, agricultural crops, or ornamental plants (e.g., *Phytophthora ramorum*, the cause of sudden oak syndrome, and *Phytophthora lateralis*, the cause of

Port Orford cedar root disease). Any equipment entering or leaving the Project area from an area of known soil borne pathogen infestation shall be thoroughly cleaned using methods appropriate for the known pathogen before entering or leaving the Project area. The fungus that causes Valley Fever, *Coccidioides spp.*, is not considered a soil borne pathogen in this certification.

14. Work in Delineated Waters of the State

- a. Work in waters of the state must not cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in the receiving waters. Work in delineated waters commences at the onset of the regulated activity and continues until the activity is finished and all restoration of the affected work area is complete. The term “work” including all activities in delineated waters of the state that are permitted under this WDR, regardless of the presence or absence of flowing or standing water.
- b. Temporary diversions or impoundments of water, cofferdams, or similar structures installed for the purpose of temporary dewatering work areas shall be performed according to the dewatering plan provided by the Permittee, including appropriate monitoring for water quality upstream and downstream of diversion structures as required in the Monitoring Section of this WDR.
- c. All surface waters, including ponded waters, shall be diverted away from areas undergoing grading, construction, excavation, vegetation removal, and/or any other activity which may result in a discharge to waters of the state.
- d. Except for the following conditions, equipment must not be operated in standing or flowing waters without site specific approval from Water Board staff:
 - i. All construction activities must be effectively isolated from water flows to the greatest extent possible. This may be accomplished by working in the dry season or dewatering the work area in the wet season. When work in standing or flowing water is required, structures for isolating the in-water work area and/or diverting the water flow must not be contaminated by construction activities. All open flow temporary diversion channels must be lined with filter fabric or other appropriate liner material to prevent erosion. Structures used to isolate the in-water work area and/or diverting the water (e.g., coffer dam, geotextile silt curtain) must not be removed until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
 - ii. Cofferdams and water barrier construction must be adequate to prevent seepage into or from the work area to the greatest extent feasible.
 - iii. Flow diversions must be conducted in a manner that prevents pollution and/or siltation and in a manner that restores pre-project flows (except for variation in flows due to seasonality, upstream diversions, etc.)

upon completion of the activity. Diverted flows must be of sufficient quality and quantity, and of appropriate temperature, to support existing fish and other aquatic life both above and below the diversion. Diversions must be designed, installed, and maintained to reduce erosion. Pre-project flows must be restored to the affected surface water body upon completion of work at that location.

- e. If groundwater dewatering is required for the Project, the Permittee shall consult with the Water Board to determine if additional permits are required. If additional Water Board permits relating to dewatering are required, the designated Water Board staff contact must be notified and copied on pertinent correspondence pertaining to those other required permits.
- f. All temporary dewatering methods shall be designed to have the minimum necessary impacts to waters of the state. All dewatering methods shall be installed such that natural flow is maintained upstream and downstream of the diversion area. Any temporary dams or diversions shall be installed such that the diversion does not cause sedimentation, siltation, or erosion upstream or downstream of the diversion area. All dewatering methods shall be removed immediately upon completion of activities for which diversions are needed.
- g. All temporary dewatering activities are subject to the work-in-water reporting and monitoring conditions presented in the Monitoring Section of this WDR.

H. Temporary Impact Restoration

- 1. The Permittee shall restore all areas of temporary impacts to waters of the state and all Project site upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state in accordance with the Restoration Plan dated May 2025, approved through the issuance of this WDR and incorporated herein by reference. If the Restoration Plan cannot be implemented as proposed, compensatory mitigation for temporary impacts that result in a temporal loss of function may be required.

I. Deviations

- 1. Minor modifications of Project locations or predicted impacts may be necessary as a result of unforeseen field conditions, necessary engineering re-design, construction concerns, or similar reasons. Some of these prospective Project modifications may have impacts on water quality. Some modifications of Project locations or predicted impacts may qualify as Deviations as set forth in Attachment F. For purposes of this WDR, a "Deviation" is a Project locational or impact modification that does not require an immediate amendment of the WDR, because the Water Board has determined that any potential water quality impacts that may result from the change are sufficiently addressed by the conditions and the CEQA Findings.

This WDR will be amended to reflect all authorized Deviations and any resulting adjustments to the amount of water resource impacts and required compensatory mitigation amounts.

2. A Project modification shall not be granted a Deviation if it would require changes to the WDR conditions or the CEQA environmental document such that the Project impacts are not addressed in the Project's environmental document or the conditions of this WDR. In this case a supplemental environmental review and different WDR will be required.

IX. Public Notice

The State Water Board complied with its applicable public notice requirements. The State Water Board provided public notice of the draft WDR pursuant to Water Code section 13167.5 from June 9, 2025 to July 9, 2025. The State Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

X. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

On May 2, 2020, the California Public Utilities Commission as lead agency, adopted an initial study/mitigated negative declaration (IS/MND) (State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2019089033) for the Project and filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) at the SCH on August 31, 2020. Pursuant to CEQA, the Water Board has made Findings of Facts (Findings) which support the issuance of this WDR and are included in Attachment C.

The Water Board will file a NOD at the SCH within 5 business days of the issuance of this WDR.

XI. Conclusion

I hereby issue this WDR for the TIMP Line 235 and Line 3000 El Dorado-Lugo-Mohave Alternating Current Pipeline Mitigation Project SB25030IN.

Authorization is contingent on: (a) compliance with the conditions of this WDR and the attachments to this WDR; and (b) compliance with all applicable requirements of Statewide Water Quality Control Plans and Policies, and the Regional Water Boards' Water Quality Control Plans.

Date

Phillip Crader Digitally signed by Phillip Crader
Date: 2025.07.16 13:20:30 -07'00'
Water Boards

Phillip Crader, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality