

## State Water Resources Control Board

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### NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR NATIONWIDE PERMIT 12: UTILITY LINE ACTIVITIES

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**Effective Date:** June 10, 2019

**Program Type:** Fill/Excavation

**Project Type:** Overhead Utility

**Project:** SAP801668879 Digital 395 Bridgeport – Carrier Solutions  
Regulatory Measure ID: 429470  
WDID: SB19004IN

**Applicant:** Southern California Edison  
**Applicant Contact:** Hazem Gabr  
Water Quality Section Manager  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue GO-1, Quad 2C, Environmental  
Services  
Rosemead, CA 91770  
Phone: (626) 302-7608  
Email: Hazem.Gabr@sce.com

**State Water Board Staff:** Brendan Reed  
Environmental Scientist  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 341-5462  
Email: Brendan.Reed@waterboards.ca.gov

**State Water Board Contact Person:**

For further assistance, please call State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Staff listed above or (916) 341-5478 and ask to speak with the Wetlands Permitting and Enforcement Unit Supervisor.

## **I. Action**

This document serves as a Notice of Applicability (NOA) for enrollment under the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Certification of the 2017 Nationwide Permits (SWRCB ID SB17001GN; 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) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html)). On February 25, 2019, the State Water Board received a complete Notice of Intent (NOI) requesting authorization for the Applicant's SAP801668879 Digital 395 Bridgeport - Carrier Solutions (Project). After reviewing the NOI, the State Water Board has determined that the Project meets General Order requirements for Nationwide Permit 12: Utility Line Activities.

## **II. Project Purpose**

As described in the Project NOI and supplemental information (hereafter referred to as the Application), which is incorporated herein by reference, the purpose of the Project is to upgrade existing distribution facilities along Highway 395 at Bridgeport Substation via trenching, boring under U.S. Highway 395, and installation of overhead cable.

## **III. Project Location**

The Project is located along U.S. Highway 395, approximately 2.5 miles south of the State Route 182/U.S. Highway 395 intersection, near the town of Bridgeport in Mono County, California. The Project coordinates are 38.219436°, -119.229294°.

## **IV. Receiving Waters Information**

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, South Lake Tahoe Office (Lahontan Water Board). Receiving waters and groundwater 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 region 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/](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 Pollutant
SAP801668879	<i>Unnamed Wetland</i>	Wetland	630.30 - East Walker River (Bridgeport Hydrologic Area)	Bridgeport Valley Wetlands	MUN, AGR, GWR, REC-1, REC-2, COLD, WILD, WQE, FLD	Pathogens

**V. Direct Impacts to Waters of the State**

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 2.

**Table 2: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity to Wetlands**

Temporary Impact <sup>1</sup>	Permanent Impact - Physical Loss of Area	Permanent Impact - Degradation of Ecological Condition Only
0.014 acres 15.05 linear feet	0 acres 0 linear feet	0 acres 0 linear feet

**VI. Description of Indirect Impacts to Waters of the State**

The State Water Board recognizes the potential for indirect impacts to waters of the state associated with the Project. Potential indirect adverse effects include but are not limited to: increased sediment loading to streams from riparian and/or upland areas used for access or staging areas, possibility of introducing invasive species into the Project areas, and changing timing of runoff delivery to streams in the Project area. The Project, as designed, will not have significant indirect impacts to waters of the state.

**VII. Water Quality Control Plan Waste Discharge Prohibitions**

The Basin Plan contains waste discharge prohibitions for certain hydrologic units (HUs) within its regional boundaries. The Project has the potential to discharge soil and construction waste to surface waters of the East Walker HU, and thus violate the discharge prohibitions as specified in Basin Plan Chapter 4.1, Waste Discharge Prohibitions. The Lahontan Water Board may grant exemptions to the discharge

<sup>1</sup> 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.

prohibition for the Walker River HUs, provided that the Lahontan Water Board finds that the exemption criteria specified in Chapter 4.1 of the Basin Plan are satisfied.

As stated above, discharges from the Project are prohibited under this General Order unless the Applicant requests and obtains an exemption to the applicable prohibitions from the Lahontan Water Board for the Project. Coverage under this General Order is not valid unless accompanied by an exemption to discharge prohibitions in writing from the Lahontan Water Board.

To apply for an exemption from the Lahontan Water Board, please call (530) 542-5400 and ask to speak to the contact for the North Basin Regulatory Unit. You may also apply for an exemption through email at [Lahontan@WaterBoards.ca.gov](mailto:Lahontan@WaterBoards.ca.gov).

### **Information Needed for Required Exemption**

Lahontan Water Board Resolution No. R6T-2015-0038 delegates to the Lahontan Water Board Executive Officer the discretionary authority to grant an exemption to Basin Plan waste discharge prohibitions when the Basin Plan exemption conditions are met. The Applicant must demonstrate to the Lahontan Water Board Executive Officer that the Project meets the conditions in the Basin Plan for granting an exemption. If an exemption is proposed to be granted, a public notice will be posted on the Lahontan Water Board website and distributed through an interested-persons mailing list, allowing at least 10 days for comments to be submitted. At the conclusion of the public comment period, the Lahontan Water Board Executive Officer will make a written determination whether to grant an exemption to the above-cited waste discharge prohibition(s).

## **VIII. Avoidance and Minimization**

In order to avoid and minimize impacts to waters of the state and their designated beneficial uses, the Applicant will follow the avoidance and minimization measures as proposed in their Application.

### **IX. Mitigation for Temporary Impacts**

All temporarily affected areas will be restored to pre-construction contours and conditions upon completion of construction activities in compliance with the General Order and according to the restoration plan submitted by the Applicant in the Application.

### **X. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

The State Water Board has determined that the Project is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301. Additionally, the State Water Board finds that no exceptions to the exemptions apply to the activities approved by this NOA.

#### **XI.      Certification Fees**

A fee payment of \$1638 was received by the State Water Board on January 17, 2019. 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 E - Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87).

#### **XII.      Authorization**

To comply with State law, this Project must proceed as described in the Application submitted to the State Water Board by the Applicant and in accordance with the conditions in the General Order. Coverage under the General Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified. The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA and the General Order.

The Applicant should become familiar with the contents of the General Order. A copy of the General Order and its attachments can be found on [the State Water Resources Control Board's website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nw_p_go.pdf) ([http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nw\\_p\\_go.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nw_p_go.pdf)).

#### **XIII.      Reporting and Notification Requirements**

The Applicant shall submit an Annual Report each year on January 15 until a Notice of Project Complete is issued to the Applicant. Notices and reporting shall be provided to the State Water Board according to section XIII.A, "Notification Requirements," of the General Order.

Electronic Document Submittal: The Applicant must submit all reports and information required under this Certification according to the Report Submittal Instructions found in Attachment B, "Reporting and Notification Requirements," of the General Order. Each electronic document must be submitted as a single file, in Portable Document Format (PDF), and converted to text searchable format using Optical Character Recognition (OCR). Documents over 50 megabytes (MB) will not be accepted via email and must be placed on a disc and delivered to the addresses listed above.

#### **XIV.      Water Quality Certification**

I hereby issue this Notice of Applicability for the SAP801668879 Bridgeport – Carrier Solutions Project, certifying that as long as all of the conditions listed in the General Order are met, any discharge from the referenced Project will comply with the applicable provisions of Clean Water Act 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).

The State Water Board will file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) at the State Clearinghouse within five (5) working days of issuance of this NOA. This discharge is also regulated pursuant to State Water Board Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ which authorizes Water Quality Certifications to serve as Waste Discharge Requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq.).

Except insofar as may be modified by any preceding conditions, all NOA actions are contingent on: (a) the discharge being limited and all proposed mitigation being completed in strict compliance with the conditions of the General Order and the attachments to the General Order; and, (b) compliance with all applicable requirements of Statewide Water Quality Control Plans and Policies, and the Regional Water Boards' Water Quality Control Plans and Policies.

  
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Karen Mogus, Deputy Director  
Division of Water Quality

  
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Date