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JARED BLUMENFELD
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

September 25, 2019

Certified Mail: 7004 1160 0002 0466 6050

Mr. Hazem Gabr
Water Quality Section Manager, Environmental Services
Southern California Edison
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue
GO-1, Quad 2C, Environmental Services
Rosemead, CA 91770
Hazem.Gabr@sce.com

**Subject: NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY OF STATE WATER BOARD
CERTIFICATION OF THE 2017 NATIONWIDE PERMITS –
NATIONWIDE PERMIT 12: UTILITY LINE ACTIVITIES – TD1455859
BISHOP/MAMMOTH DETERIORATED POLE REPLACEMENT
PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Gabr,

Enclosed please find a Notice of Applicability (NOA) authorized by State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Deputy Director for the Division of Water Quality, Karen Mogus. This NOA is issued to Southern California Edison for the TD1455859 Bishop/Mammoth Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project (Project). The State Water Board Certification of the 2017 Nationwide Permits (General Order) is included as part of this NOA and is available for download at [the State Water Board's Certification General Orders web page](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr_2017) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr_2017). Attachment B of the General Order includes the General Order's Reporting and Monitoring Requirements.

This NOA is issued in response to an application submitted by Southern California Edison for proposed Project discharge to waters of the state, to ensure that the water quality standards are met for all waters of the state impacted by the Project. The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board), South Lake Tahoe Office, and is subject to certain waste discharge prohibitions in the Lahontan region. Coverage under this General Order is not valid unless accompanied by an approved exemption of waste discharge prohibition in the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan). Additional information is provided in Section VII, Water Quality Control Plan Waste

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Discharge Prohibitions, of the NOA. You may proceed with your Project according to the terms and conditions of the enclosed NOA and General Order once Southern California Edison has been granted a Basin Plan prohibition exemption by the Lahontan Regional Board.

To apply for a prohibition 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.

If you require further assistance from the State Water Board, please contact me by phone at (916) 327-8117 or by email at Alexander.Lopez@waterboards.ca.gov. You may also contact Beth Payne, Chief of the Wetlands Permitting and Planning Unit, by phone at (916) 341-5579, or by email at Elizabeth.Payne@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex Lopez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alex Lopez, Environmental Scientist
Division of Water Quality

Enclosures (1): NOA for the TD1455859 Bishop/Mammoth Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project (Project)

cc: [Via email only] (w/ enclosure):

Richard Haywood, Senior Wetlands Specialist
Environmental Services
Southern California Edison
Richard.Haywood@sce.com

Sam Ziegler, Chief
Wetlands Regulatory Office (WTR-8)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Ziegler.Sam@epa.gov

Dave Castanon, Chief
Regulatory Branch, Los Angeles District (Ventura Field Office)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
David.J.Castanon@usace.army.mil

Jeff Brandt
Regional Manager
California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Inland Deserts Region
Jeff.Brandt@wildlife.ca.gov

Ali Aghili
Regional Manager
California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Inland Deserts Region
Ali.Aghili@wildlife.ca.gov

Karen Mogus, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
Karen.Mogus@waterboards.ca.gov

CWA Section 401 WQC Program
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
Stateboard401@waterboards.ca.gov

Robert Tucker
Program Manager
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, South Lake Tahoe Office
Robert.Tucker@waterboards.ca.gov

Liz Van Diepen
North Basin Regulatory Unit
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, South Lake Tahoe Office
Elizabeth.VanDiepen@waterboards.ca.gov

State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR NATIONWIDE PERMIT 12: UTILITY LINE ACTIVITIES

Effective Date: September 25, 2019

Program Type: Fill/Excavation

Project Type: Overhead Utility

Project: TD1455859 Bishop/Mammoth Deteriorated Pole
Replacement Project
Regulatory Measure ID: 433402
WDID: SB19023IN

Applicant: Southern California Edison
Applicant Contact: Hazem Gabr
Water Quality Section Manager, Environmental Services
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: Alex Lopez
Environmental Scientist
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 327-8117
Email: Alexander.Lopez@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 Planning 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). On September 11, 2019, the State Water Board received a complete Notice of Intent (NOI) requesting authorization for the Applicant's TD1455859 Bishop/Mammoth Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project (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 remove and replace a deteriorated wood electricity pole with a new wood pole.

III. Project Location

The Project is located 0.35 miles southeast of the intersection of U.S. Highway 395 and Green Creek Road, in Bridgeport, Mono County, California. The Project coordinates are 38°11'45.0" N, 119°13'30.7" W.

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/).

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
Pole 1875390E	<i>Unnamed Wetland</i>	Wetland	630.30	East Walker River	MUN, AGR, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC-1, REC-2, COMM, COLD, WILD, RARE, SPWN	Fecal Coliform

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 ¹	Permanent Impact - Physical Loss of Area	Permanent Impact - Degradation of Ecological Condition Only
0.007 acres	0 acres	0 acres

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 River HU, and thus violate the discharge prohibitions for the East Walker River HU, as specified in Basin Plan Chapter 4.1, Waste Discharge Prohibitions. The Lahontan Water Board may grant exemptions to the discharge prohibition for the East Walker River HU, provided that the Lahontan

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.

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.

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 August 5, 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).

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

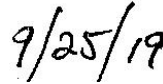
I hereby issue this Notice of Applicability for the TD1455859 Bishop/Mammoth Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project, certifying that as long as all of the conditions listed in the General Order are met, any discharge from the referenced Project will comply with the applicable provisions of Clean Water 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.



Karen Mogus, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality



Date