



State Water Resources Control Board

Public Notice of Water Quality Certification and Waste Discharge Requirements for the Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 Transmission Line Project

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Water Quality Certification Program

Date Posted: May 24, 2023

Comment Period: May 24, 2023 - June 22, 2023, at 5 p.m.

Affected Counties: Los Angeles, Kern

Project Location:

Start: Latitude: 35°14'7.71"N and Longitude: 118°3'23.15"W

End: Latitude: 34°31'7.29"N and Longitude: 118°30'57.48"W

Project Name: Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 Transmission Line Project

(Reg. Meas. ID: 449778 and SWRCB ID: SB22078IN)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that written comments will be accepted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on the proposed Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Waste Discharge Requirements for Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 Transmission Line Project.

The State Water Board is proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC § 1341) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

The State Water Board will consider all comments submitted in writing and received during a 30-day comment period that begins on the date of issuance of this notice (May 24, 2023) and ends at 5:00 p.m. on June 22, 2023. Submit comments to the State Water Board staff person listed below. Electronic submittals are strongly encouraged.

State Water Resources Control Board Contact:

Alex Lopez, Environmental Scientist
Wetland Permitting and Enforcement Unit II, Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 15th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: Alexander.Lopez@waterboards.ca.gov

Any questions about the project or the State Water Board's proposed action should be referred to Alex Lopez at the e-mail above, or by telephone: (916) 327-5620.

Project Description: The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) proposes to modify the previously approved Barren Ridge Renewable Transmission Project along 51 miles of the existing Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 (BARHSK L1) 230 kV transmission line. LADWP proposes to replace the current "Merrimack" conductor wire with "Thrasher" conductor wire, which has approximately 47 percent greater rating capacity (i.e., the line would be able to transmit more electricity). This Project is needed to ensure that LADWP can safely transmit projected increases in renewable electricity mandated by California Senate Bills SB 350 and SB 100.

Because the "Thrasher" conductor wire is heavier than the current wire, the project also needs to replace a total of 243 existing BAR-HSK L1 Lattice Steel Towers (LSTs) transmission structures with stronger LSTs; three of these LSTs will also be slightly relocated from their previous location. Work would occur within the existing BAR-HSK L1 transmission right-of-way. The new LSTs would have a footprint of approximately 40 feet by 40 feet. The foundations for the new LSTs would vary in depth from 18 to 35 feet and have a diameter of three to six feet.

Project activities include the following: surveying and staking at work sites; identifying and utilizing existing spur roads for access; clearing portions of the right of way, clearing work areas around the towers, and pulling/tensioning, and sleeving sites; installing guard structures; installing tower foundations; assembling and erecting the towers; and installing the ground wire and conductors (stringing may include use of a helicopter). In addition, the Permittee will install the counterpoise and switching station tie-in; conduct cleanup and site reclamation; and other post construction activities.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Temporary and Permanent Impacts to Waters of the State

Aquatic Resource type	Stream Channel
Acres of temporary impact	17.31
Linear feet of temporary impact	94,506
Acres of permanent impact	0.06
Linear feet of permanent impact	1,057

Document Availability: In accordance with Water Code section 13167.5, the proposed Order and draft attachments are available on the [State Water Board's 401 Water Quality Certification and Wetlands website](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/notices/) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/notices/). You may request a paper copy of the proposed Order and draft attachments by contacting Alex Lopez at (916) 327-5620 or via email at Alexander.Lopez@waterboards.ca.gov

Applicant: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Applicant Contact: Katherine Rubin
Email: Katherine.Rubin@ladwp.com

Background: Pursuant to the Clean Water Act an applicant for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the United States must seek Water Quality Certification from the state or Indian tribe with jurisdiction. A water quality certification may be issued if the certifying authority has reasonable assurance that the discharge will meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) issue or deny certification for discharges within their geographical jurisdiction. The State Water Board has this responsibility for projects affecting waters within multiple Regional Water Board jurisdictions.

KEEP INFORMED OF PROJECT MILESTONES

To be informed of milestones in the development of this proposed Water Quality Certification, enroll in the State Water Board's 401 Program e-mail notification service.

Enter your email address and click the Submit button at the California Water Boards' [Email Subscription Updates webpage](#).

By subscribing to this list, you will receive notices for all 401 applications submitted to the State Water Board, including the Project announced in this notice. You will need a valid e-mail address to use this service. If you do not have internet access or do not wish to participate in the subscription program, contact the Water Board staff person named in the notice to express your interest in receiving notices by other means. You can update your subscription(s), modify your email address, or unsubscribe at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#).

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