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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

20 March 2024

Sylvia Bauer  
California Department of Transportation  
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**ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 TECHNICALLY  
CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION, SAN JOAQUIN BRIDGE MAINTENANCE PROJECT  
(WDID#5B39CR00315A1), SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**

This Order responds to the 15 February 2024 request for an amendment of the San Joaquin Bridge Maintenance Project (Project) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WDID#5B39CR00315). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 30 September 2019. The requested amendment is hereby approved. The original Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification.

**AMENDMENT:**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is requesting an amendment to modify the Project description, increase temporary impacts to stream channel habitat, and to reflect enrollment under Nationwide Permit 3. The original Certification authorizes the installation of a high-density polyethylene (HDPE) cable, which has since come loose and is floating in the dredging channel. The amendment will allow Caltrans to complete maintenance activities associated with reburying the cable.

The Project description is revised to include an additional paragraph describing the necessary activities to rebury the cable. Table 2 is revised to reflect an 0.01 acre increase in temporary impacts to stream channel from 0.01 acre to 0.02 acre. The Certification is amended to include the following scope additions:

Water-jetting will be used to reinstall the 2-inch HDPE cable at the Old River Bridge along State Route 4 at the boundary of San Joaquin and Contra Costa counties. The water jetting method uses pressurized water (taken from existing waterbodies) from water pump systems onboard the cable vessel to fluidize sediment. The water jetting device is typically fitted with hydraulic pressure nozzles located down the length of "swords" that

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MARK BRADFORD, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

are inserted into the sediment on either side of the cable and which create a direct downward and backward swept flow force inside the trench. This provides a down and back flow of re-suspended sediments within the trench, thereby fluidizing the in-situ sediment column as the equipment progresses along the cable route. A skid/pontoon mounted water jet water device will be mounted on the cable laying vessel (barge). The HDPE cable will be reburied in a 30 foot long, 2 foot wide, 9-foot-deep trench; approximately 0.01 acres of temporary impact shall occur to water-jet the HDPE cable into place.

The Project as previously certified is enrolled under Nationwide Permit 14. The Certification is amended to reflect the Project enrollment under Nationwide Permit 3 for the in-water work associated with reburying the cable.

Additionally, the Certification is amended to extend the expiration date to 14 March 2026 to complete maintenance work.

**APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:**

An amendment fee of \$2,985.00 was received on 12 March 2024. Total fees of \$1,638.00 for the original Certification were received on 14 May 2019. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3383(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), as was calculated as category E- Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

**CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CONTACT:**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

The Central Valley Water Board provided public notice of the application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 from 23 February 2024 to 15 March 2024. The Central Valley Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification for the San Joaquin Bridge Maintenance Project (WDID#5B39CR00315A1). All other conditions and provisions of the original Water Quality Certification and any previously approved amendments remain in full force and effect, except as modified based on the conditions of this Order. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the original Water Quality Certification, previously approved amendments, or of this Order may result in suspension or revocation of the Water Quality Certification.

*Original Signed by Anne Walters for:*  
Patrick Pulupa  
Executive Officer

cc: [Via email only]

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