



**Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board**

March 4, 2015

Mr. Robert Greene  
Planning Associate  
Southern California Gas Company  
1981 W Lugonia Ave., SC8069  
Redlands, California 92374

RGreene@seprautilities.com

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA) FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD GENERAL 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER NO. SB12002GN FOR US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 2012 CERTIFIED NATIONWIDE PERMITS.**

**FILE : SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY SL41-05, TIPPECANOE AVE, 10-INCH MAIN ALTERATION PROJECT (SARWQCB PROJECT NO. 362014-33, CIWQS #: 813599)**

Dear Mr. Greene:

On September 23, 2014, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received a 2012 Certified Nationwide Permit Notification Form, Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the terms of, and obtain coverage under, the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits (General 401 Order) for the Southern California Gas Company SL41-05, Tippecanoe Ave, 10-inch Main Alteration Project (Project).

The proposed project site is located at the Tippecanoe Avenue crossing of City Creek near the city of San Bernardino, in San Bernardino County, California. The proposed project site is mapped on the San Bernardino South, California U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series topographic map, within an un-sectioned area of the Rancho San Bernardino Land Grant. Approximate coordinates of the Project location are latitude 34° 6' 17.91" N, and longitude -117° 15' 36.67" W.

Santa Ana Regional Water Board staff has determined that the Project, as described in the NOI, is categorically exempt from CEQA review (section 15301 (b)– Existing facilities of both investor and publicly-owned utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services). Also applicable to the proposed project is Section 15304 Class 4, which provides an exemption for projects that consist

of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land. Regional Board Staff have also determined that the proposed project meets the eligibility requirements for coverage under the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for 2012 Certified Nationwide Permits.

**Project Purpose and Description:**

The construction activities proposed include replacing 30 linear feet of a 10-inch natural gas pipeline that has been exposed within the bed of City Creek. The section of the pipeline in jurisdictional waters in City Creek will be excavated, cut and capped, and then removed from the creek. The disturbed area will be returned to pre-construction contours. Then, a new section of 10-inch pipe will be installed under the existing box culvert that conveys City Creek under Tippecanoe Avenue, using a jack-and-bore method.

Project totals of temporarily impacted area approximate 0.013 acres of stream channel, waters of the US. The Project shall be constructed and maintained using methods and avoidance and minimization measures described within application materials.

Receiving Water:	City Creek and Santa Ana River Reach 5
Filled Excavated Area:	Permanent Area Impacted: None Temporary Area Impacted: 0.013 acres stream channel
Total Linear Impacts:	Length Permanently Impacted: None Length Temporarily Impacted: 20 linear feet
Fill Volume:	None
Latitude/Longitude:	34° 6' 17.91" N / -117° 15' 36.67" W

Regional Water Board staff has determined that the proposed activities may proceed under the General 401 Order, if all relevant conditions identified in General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits are followed during the proposed activities. The following conditions from General 401 Order are applicable to your project:

- 1) All activities shall comply with all requirements of California's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code, §13000, et seq.) and applicable State or Regional Water Quality Control Plans. (SB12002GN Condition #4).
- 2) Water may not diverted for project activities. (SB12002GN Condition #6).

- 3) The proposed project shall not result in the taking of any species listed as threatened or endangered or as a candidate for threatened or endangered listing under either the federal or California Endangered Species Act. (SB12002GN Condition #8).
- 4) Project activities may not take place in a Hazardous Waste site listed in section 65962.5 of the Government Code (i.e., "Cortese List"). (SB12002GN Condition #10).
- 5) Total area of ground disturbance is limited to a maximum of five acres and utility line length is limited to a maximum of five miles. (SB12002GN Condition #14b).
- 6) Temporary impacts to waters of the state are limited to one-half acre and 400 linear feet. (SB12002GN Condition #14c).
- 7) Temporary impacts permitted by the General Certification shall be as short as practicable, and in no case more than 90 days from the beginning of construction. Site restoration for temporary impacts to waters of the state shall be completed as soon as possible after completion of construction. These restoration activities will be completed no more than 30 days after end of construction. (SB12002GN Condition #14c).
- 8) Placement of work areas, including pull sites, laydown yards and staging areas, in waters of the state is prohibited (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 9) After construction, hydrologic functions of the site will be restored. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 10) Trenching across streams with flowing water is prohibited. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 11) No drilling compounds, fluids, or "muds" may be discharged to waters of the State of California or United States. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 12) Only minor trimming of existing vegetation is allowed. No removal or substantial alteration of riparian vegetation is allowed. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 13) No new or expanded hardscape channel lining or bank armor is authorized. (SB12002GN Condition #14e).
- 14) For any excavation, including utility line trenches, during construction, the top 6 to 12 inches of topsoil shall be removed and stockpiled separately. Following construction, the topsoil shall be replaced and seeded with native vegetation. (SB12002GN Condition #14f).
- 15) New road construction is prohibited. Maintenance of utility line access roads under this NWP shall be confined to the previously existing road prism. Grading of throughcut roads, including any road having a running surface lower than the surrounding terrain on both sides of the road, is prohibited. (SB12002GN Condition #14f).
- 16) Any waiver of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conditions or regional conditions shall disqualify this project from enrollment under the General Certification. (SB12002GN Condition #16).

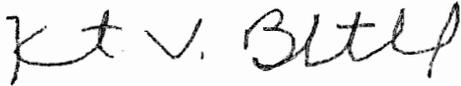
Mr. Robert Greene  
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RWQCB #: 362014-33 CIWQS #: 813599

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Should there be any questions, please contact Jason Bill at (951) 782-3295 or  
jason.bill@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Kurt V. Berchtold  
Executive Officer  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

cc (via electronic mail):

Southern California Gas Company - Justin Meyer – [jmeyer2@semprautilities.com](mailto:jmeyer2@semprautilities.com)  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District - James Mace  
State Water Resources Control Board, OCC- David Rice  
State Water Resources Control Board, DWQ -Water Quality Certification Unit  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Kim Freeburn-Marquez  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Supervisor of the Wetlands Regulatory  
Office – Jason Brush WTR-2-4

Weblink: The State Water Resources Control Board the General 401 Water Quality  
Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits can be  
found here:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/  
generalorders/nwp\\_401.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nwp_401.pdf)