

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
San Bernardino County
222 West Hospitality Lane
San Bernardino, CA 92415

From (Public Agency):
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Attention: Garrett Long
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812

Project Title: San Gorgonio Flowline Line No. 1 Repair Project (Project)

Project Applicant: Southern California Edison Company (SCE)

Project Location – Specific: The Project is located on Whitewater River and Black Wheel Creek in San Bernardino National Forest, 10 miles north of the City of Banning.

Project Location – Nearest City: Banning

Project Location – County: San Bernardino

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: SCE is proposing to: replace Flowline Line No. 1; install concrete aprons, gabion structures, or other stabilization measures along the flowline; and repair diversion structures in the East and South Forks of the South Fork Whitewater River and Black Wheel Creek. The Project is needed to address significant damage to Flowline Line No. 1 and diversion structures resulting from the 2020 Apple Fire. Flowline Line No. 1 and the diversion structures are part of the San Gorgonio 1 and 2 Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 344. SCE proposes to transfer some of the San Gorgonio 1 and 2 Hydroelectric Project water conveyance system to the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, Banning Heights Mutual Water Company, and the City of Banning, which will support their water resilience. The repairs will not increase the flowline’s hydraulic capacity.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Banning

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: SCE

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction, section 15302.
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project will repair damage done to Flowline Line No. 1 and associated diversion structures and will not result in an increased hydraulic capacity. Installing concrete aprons serves to reduce future impacts from expected hillside erosion above and below the flowline due to damage from the Apple Fire. The State Water Board has determined that the Project is categorically exempt from CEQA under Class 2, replacement or reconstruction (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 15302).

Responsible Agency: State Water Resources Control Board

Contact Person: Garrett Long

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 327-8555

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Parker Thaler Title: Environmental Program Manager I Date: 6/13/2023

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.