

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk
County of Shasta
P.O. Box 990880
Redding, CA 96099-0880

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

Project Title: Bowman Low Level Outlet Phase 2 Repair Project (Project)

Project Applicant: Nevada Irrigation District (NID)

Project Location - Specific: The Project is located in Nevada County on Canyon Creek, approximately 10.7 miles upstream of the confluence with the South Yuba River. Access to the Project area is provided via Bowman Lake Road, approximately 13 miles north of Highway 20.

Project Location - City: Unincorporated

Project Location - County: Nevada

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: On January 26, 2013, a surge event in the low level outlet at the Bowman North Dam caused a significant leak in the 1920s era outlet piping and valves. In 2013, NID performed the Phase 1 repairs on the low level outlet, which included removing and replacing the off stream portions of the piping and valves. Phase 2 repairs include the installation of a new 66-inch butterfly valve and a new 48-inch Howell-Bunger Valve, with associated piping. The valve structure will be approximately 50 feet by 20 feet and will be installed on the bank of Canyon Creek adjacent to where the old outlet valves were removed in Phase 1. Phase 2 is proposed to be constructed in June 2015, during an outage period of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's associated Drum Spaulding Hydroelectric Project. Performance of the work during the outage period will eliminate water leakage through the existing powerhouse and allow Phase 2 to be constructed with minimal flows in Canyon Creek. The new concrete foundation, which will support the valves and piping, will be poured within an area isolated from Canyon Creek, minimizing any potential impacts to water quality.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: State Water Resources Control Board

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: NID

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 1 (§15301) and Class 2 (§15302)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: The Class 1 Categorical Exemption (Existing Facilities) and Class 2 Categorical Exemption (Replacement or Reconstruction) apply to the Project. The Bowman North Dam and its low level outlet structure is an existing facility used for electrical production with no change in use proposed, and the Project consists solely of the reconstruction and replacement of aged infrastructure in the existing facility.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jeffrey Parks

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 341-5319

Signature: *Jeffrey Parks* Date: 5/19/15 Title: Executive Director

