AMENDED WATER QUALITY ORDER NO. 2023-0050-DWQ WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS AND CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Amended Date:
Effective Date: June 23, 2023
Project: Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 Transmission Line Project (Project)
Project Type: Overhead Utility

Program Type: Fill/Excavation
Identifiers:
- **WDID No:** SB22078IN
- **USACE No:** SPL-2022-00333-GLH
- **Place ID:** 884088
- **Reg. Meas. ID:** 449778

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All changes to the Clean Water Act section 401 certification and waste discharge requirements (Order) issued on June 23, 2023, are shown as additions in bold underline and deletions in ~~bold strikethrough~~. Only Section VIII.H and Receiving Waters, Impacts, and Mitigation Information (Attachment B) contain changes.

This amendment responds to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power request for amendment of the Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 Transmission Line Project. The amendment certifies additional temporary impacts, which were unknown at the time of original Order issuance. The increased impact quantities result from the same activities described in the original Order, and all temporarily impacted waters will be restored to pre-project condition in accordance with this Order.

I. Summary

This Clean Water Act (CWA) section 401 certification and waste discharge requirements (Order) is issued at the request of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (hereinafter Permittee) for the Project. The application was received on October 28, 2022. The application was deemed complete on June 22, 2023. Prior to receiving a complete application, Water Board staff issued a notice of incomplete application on November 23, 2022, and May 15, 2023, and the Permittee responded to the request for application information on February 10, 2023, and June 21, 2023.

The Applicant submitted a certification request as defined by 40 CFR section 121.5 concurrently to the Water Board and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) on October 28, 2022. In response to the certification request, the Corps provided an initial reasonable period of time as defined by 40 CFR section 121.6 for the Water Board to act on the request by June 10, 2023. On April 24, 2023, and on May 18, 2023, the State Water Board requested an extension of the reasonable period of time, which was extended to June 24, 2023.

II. Findings

A. This Order is adopted pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code § 13000, et seq.). Notwithstanding any determinations made by the U.S. Army Corps or other federal agency, dischargers must comply with the entirety of this Order because the Order also serves as waste discharge requirements in accordance with State Water Board Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ. Discharges to waters of the state are prohibited except when in accordance with Water Code section 13264.

B. In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this Order, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process, or sanctions as provided for under state and federal law, including the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the Clean Water Act.

C. In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this Order, the Water Board may require the holder of this Order to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the Water Boards deem appropriate, provided

that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.

D. This Order and all conditions contained herein continue to have full force and effect regardless of the expiration or revocation of any federal license or permit issued for the Project.

E. This Order does not provide coverage under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ or 2022-0057-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002) (Construction General Permit).

F. This Order does not authorize any act which results in the take of a threatened, endangered or candidate species, which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & Wildlife Code, §§ 2050-2097) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531-1544). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this Order held by the Permittee, the Permittee must obtain authorization for the take prior to any construction or operation of the portion of the Project that may result in a take. The Permittee is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable endangered species act for the Project authorized under this Order.

G. This Order includes monitoring and reporting requirements pursuant to Water Code sections 13383 and 13267. The burden of preparing these reports, including costs, is reasonable to the need and benefits of obtaining the reports. The reports confirm that the best management practices required under this Order are sufficient to protect beneficial uses and water quality objectives. The reports related to accidental discharges also ensure that corrective actions, if any, that are necessary to minimize the impact or clean up such discharges can be taken as soon as possible. The anticipated costs are minimal as the reporting obligations require only visual monitoring and notification reporting.

III. Project Purpose and Description

Project Purpose: The purpose of this Project is to upgrade transmission capacity of the Barren Ridge-Haskell Transmission Line (BAR-HSK L1) as part of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Barren Ridge Renewable Transmission Project (BRRTP).

Project Description: The Permittee is modifying the Barren Ridge Renewable Transmission Project (BRRTP) along 51 miles of the existing Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 (BARHSK L1) 230 kV transmission line. The Permittee is replacing "Merrimack" with "Thrasher" conductor wire because "Thrasher" wire has approximately 47 percent greater rating capacity (i.e., the line will be able to transmit more electricity). The Project is needed to ensure that the Permittee safely transmits projected increases in renewable electricity mandated by California Senate Bills SB 350 and SB 100.

Because "Thrasher" conductor is heavier than "Merrimack" conductor, it is necessary 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. All 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.

A. Project Location

Approximate northern terminus: Pine Tree Canyon Road, approximately 0.57 miles west of Highway 14, unincorporated Kern County, California.

Approximate southern terminus: City Highline Motorway Fire Road, approximately 0.3 miles northeast of its intersection with Forest Route 5N28, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, California.

Nearest City: Mojave, Kern County, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County

Barren Ridge Switching Station: Section 18, Township 31 South, Range 37 East, MDB&M.

Haskell Canyon Switching Station: Section 25, Township 5 North, Range 16 West, MDB&M.

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

Maps showing the Project location are found in Attachment A of this Order.

IV. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Victorville Office) and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Receiving waters and groundwater potentially impacted by this Project are protected in accordance with the applicable water quality control plans (Basin Plan). The plan for the region and other plans and policies may be accessed at the State Water Resources Control Board's Plans and Policies Web page (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/). The Basin Plan includes water quality standards, which consist of existing and potential beneficial uses of waters of the state, water quality objectives to protect those uses, and the state and federal antidegradation policies.

It is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. This Order promotes that policy by requiring discharges to meet maximum contaminant levels designed to protect human health and ensure that water is safe for domestic use.

Project impact and receiving waters information can be found in Attachment B. Table 1 of Attachment B shows the receiving waters and beneficial uses of waters of the state impacted by the Project. Direct impact locations and quantities are shown in Table 2 of Attachment B.

V. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State[1]

Direct impacts to waters from the Project activities described in Order section III will result in temporary and permanent impacts to waters of the state.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts[2]

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/Bay/Estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	~~17.31~~ 18.00		~~94,506~~ 96,871
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

Table 2: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/Bay/Estuary			
Riparian Zone			

[1] Impact totals based on the Preliminary Jurisdictional Waters/Wetlands Delineation Report for the Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 Project, dated May 2023.

[2] Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include area of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state. Temporary impacts, by definition, are restored to pre-project conditions and therefore do not include a physical loss of area or degradation of ecological condition.

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	0.06		1,057
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

VI. Description of Indirect Impacts to Waters of the State

The Water Board recognizes the potential for indirect impacts to waters of the state associated with the Project. During construction disturbed soil could accelerate erosion and increase the potential for sediment laden stormwater entering receiving waters. This could result in increased turbidity and sedimentation. Fuel, oil, and other fluids used in construction vehicles and heavy equipment could also enter streams or drainages from leaking equipment or spills. Project-related ground disturbance could potentially alter drainage patterns within the work areas and result in soil erosion or an increase in the rate or amount of surface water runoff. Grading activities could also potentially create additional sources of runoff. Implementation of the conditions set forth in Order, section IX as well as implementation of the Construction General Permit Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ (as amended by Order Nos. 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ) or 2022-0057-DWQ, if required, will minimize the indirect impacts to waters of the state from this project.

VII. Avoidance and Mitigation

The Permittee avoids direct impacts to waters of the state by selecting the environmentally preferred alternative as discussed in the Project's Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/S). This alternative has the shortest distance of all alternatives analyzed in the FEIR/S and results in fewer stream crossings. It also crosses fewer miles of steep slopes, which reduces the risk of erosion-related impacts. The Permittee minimizes impacts by incorporating General Practices into the Project design. Examples of General Practices include using existing paved and unpaved highways and roads where possible; leaving all existing roads in a condition equal to or better than their condition prior to the construction of the transmission line; crushing vegetation instead of clearing and clearing only when necessary; revegetating; keeping all construction sites, material storage yards, and access roads in orderly condition; cleaning trash daily; and containerizing petroleum products. Also, the Permittee incorporated mitigation measures (HYD-1 through HYD-7) specific to water resource impacts. More information concerning these and other mitigation measures are in Attachment C, CEQA Findings of Facts.

The Project qualified as a tier 2 project and the Project is the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State, section IV.A.1.h)

VIII. Compensatory Mitigation

The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation for the direct, permanent impacts described in section V. Compensatory mitigation requirements are set forth in Order section IX.I.

Conditions

The Water Board has independently reviewed the record of the Project to analyze impacts to water quality and designated beneficial uses within the watersheds of the Project. This Order provides reasonable assurance that the Project authorized under this Order will comply with state and federally approved water quality requirements, provided that the following conditions are adhered to:

A. Impacts to Waters of the State

Impacts to waters of the state shall not exceed quantities shown in Tables 1 and 2.

B. Reporting and Notification Requirements

The following section details the reporting and notification types and timing of submittals. Requirements for the content of these reporting and notification types are detailed in Attachment D, including specifications for photo and map documentation during the Project. Written reports and notifications must be submitted using the Reporting and Notification Cover Sheet located in Attachment D, which must be signed by the Permittee or an authorized representative.

1. Project Reporting

a. **Annual Reporting:** The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year on July 1. Annual reporting shall continue until the Water Board issues a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee.

2. Project Status Notifications

a. **Commencement of Construction:** The Permittee shall submit a Commencement of Construction Report at least seven (7) days prior to start of initial ground disturbance activities and, if applicable, corresponding Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID#) issued under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities
(Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ or 2022-0057-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002).

b. **Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter:** The Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter when construction and/or any post-construction monitoring is complete, and no further Project activities will occur. This request shall be submitted to Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project activities. Upon approval of the request, the Water Board staff shall issue a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee which will end the post discharge monitoring period and associated annual fees. Completion

of post-construction monitoring shall be determined by Water Board staff and shall be contingent on successful attainment of restoration and mitigation performance criteria.

3. Conditional Notifications and Reports:

The following notifications and reports are required as appropriate.

a. Accidental Discharges of Hazardous Materials[3]:

Following an accidental discharge of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material, sewage, or an unknown material, the following applies (Water Code, Section 13271):

i. As soon as (A) Permittee has knowledge of the discharge or noncompliance, (B) notification is possible, and (C) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures then:

a. First call – 911 (to notify local response agency)

b. Then call – Office of Emergency Services (OES) State Warning Center at: (800) 852-7550 or (916) 845-8911

c. Lastly, follow the required OES procedures as set forth in the Office of Emergency Services' Accidental Discharge Notification Web Page (https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/response-operations/fire-rescue/hazardous-materials/spill-release-reporting/)

ii. Following notification to OES, the Permittee shall notify the Water Board, as soon as practicable (ideally within 24 hours). Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.

iii. Within five (5) working days of notification to the Water Board, the Permittee must submit an Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report.

[3] "Hazardous material" means any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. "Hazardous materials" include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances, hazardous waste, and any material that a handler or the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing that it would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or harmful to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. (Health & Saf. Code, § 25501.)

b. Violation of Water Quality Standards

i. The Permittee shall notify the Water Board of any event causing a violation of water quality standards. Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.

ii. This notification must be followed within three (3) working days by submission of a Violation of Water Quality Standards Report.

c. In-Water Work and Diversions

i. The Permittee shall notify the Water Board at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to initiating work in water or stream diversions. Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.

ii. Within three (3) working days following completion of work in water or stream diversions, an In-Water Work/Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report must be submitted to Water Board staff.

d. Modifications to Project

Project modifications may require an amendment of this Order. The Permittee shall give advance notice to Water Board staff if Project implementation as described in the application materials is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority by submitting a Modifications to Project Report. The Permittee shall inform Water Board staff of any Project modifications that will interfere with the Permittee's compliance with this Order.

e. Transfer of Property Ownership

This Order is not transferable in its entirety or in part to any person or organization except after notice to the Water Board in accordance with the following terms:

i. The Permittee must notify the Water Board of any change in ownership or interest in ownership of the Project area by submitting a Transfer of Property Ownership Report. The Permittee and purchaser must sign and date the notification and provide such notification to the Water Board at least 10 days prior to the transfer of ownership. The purchaser must also submit a written request to the Water Board to be named as the permittee in a revised order.

ii. Until such time as this Order has been modified to name the purchaser as the permittee, the Permittee shall continue to be responsible for all requirements set forth in this Order.

f. Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance

If maintenance responsibility for post-construction BMPs is legally transferred, the Permittee must submit to the Water Board a copy of such documentation and must provide the transferee with a copy of a long-term

BMP maintenance plan that complies with manufacturer or designer specifications. The Permittee must provide such notification to the Water Board with a Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report at least 10 days prior to the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.

C. Water Quality Monitoring

1. General

If surface water is present, continuous visual monitoring shall be conducted during active construction to detect accidental discharge of construction related pollutants (e.g., oil and grease, turbidity plume, or uncured concrete).

2. Accidental Discharges/Noncompliance

Upon occurrence of an accidental discharge, the Permittee shall determine whether the discharge includes hazardous materials or will cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives, and if so, notify the Water Board in accordance with XIV.B.3. Water Board staff may require additional water quality monitoring based on the discharge constituents and/or related water quality objectives and beneficial uses.

3. Post-Construction

Visually inspect the Project site between October 30 and April 15 following each rain event that results in 0.5 inch of rainfall or more in 48 hours for two years or until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued for the Project, whichever is soonest, to ensure excessive erosion, stream instability, or other water quality pollution is not occurring in or downstream of the Project site. If water quality pollution is occurring, contact the Water Board staff member overseeing the Project within three (3) working days. The Water Board may require the submission of a Violation of Water Quality Standards Report. Additional permits may be required to carry out any necessary site remediation.

D. Standard Conditions

1. This action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to Water Code section 13330, and California Code of Regulations, Title 23, chapter 28, Article 6 commencing with section 3867.

2. This Order is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license, unless the pertinent certification application was filed pursuant to subsection 3855(b) of chapter 28, Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, and that application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.

3. This Order is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required under title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

E. General Compliance

1. Permitted actions must not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standards, including impairment of designated beneficial uses for receiving waters as adopted in the Basin Plans by any applicable Regional Water Board or any applicable Water Board water quality control plan or policy. The source of any such discharge must be eliminated as soon as practicable.
2. The Project must conform to the engineering plans, specifications, and technical reports submitted with the application materials. Water Code section 13264 prohibits any discharge that is not specifically authorized in this Order.
3. The Permittee shall adhere to all requirements in the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) (Barren Ridge Renewable Transmission Project Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report Appendix S: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, June 2011) which is incorporated herein by reference and any additional measures as outlined in Attachment C, CEQA Findings of Fact.

F. Administrative

1. Signatory requirements for all document submittals required by this Order are presented in Attachment E of this Order.
2. **Site Access:** The Permittee shall grant Water Board staff, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Victorville Office) and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board staff or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a Water Board representative), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, permission to:
   a. Enter upon the Project or compensatory mitigation site(s) premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept.
   b. Have access to and copy any records that are kept and are relevant to the Project or the requirements of this Order.
   c. Inspect any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order.
   d. Sample or monitor for the purpose of assuring Order compliance.
3. The Permittee shall be responsible for work conducted by its consultants, contractors, and any subcontractors. A copy of this Order shall be provided to any consultants, contractors, and subcontractors working on this Project. Copies of this Order shall remain at the Project site for the duration of this

Order. All personnel performing work on the Project shall be familiar with the content of this Order and its posted location at the Project site.

4. **Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement:** If issued, the Permittee shall submit a signed copy of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement to the Water Board.

G. Construction Conditions

Good Site Management "Housekeeping"

1. All materials and supplies necessary for implementing these construction conditions must be on-site and ready for use at the start of the construction activity and must remain in supply and ready for implementation throughout the construction process. All non-structural best management practice (BMP) materials (e.g., training documents, compliance tracking procedures) must be ready for use at the start of construction.
2. Measures shall be employed to minimize disturbances along stream channels that will adversely impact the water quality of waters of the state. Disturbance or removal of vegetation shall not exceed the minimum necessary to complete Project implementation.
3. The Permittee shall oversee the work of the contractor during implementation of the Project, to ensure that the work is being done in accordance with the plans.
4. Environmentally sensitive areas and environmentally restricted areas, including any avoided waters of the state, must be clearly identified in the field for exclusion prior to the start of construction. Such identification must be properly maintained until construction is completed and the soils have been stabilized. Equipment, materials, or any other substances or activities that may impact waters of the state outside of the defined Project boundaries.
5. **Topsoil:** For any excavation, including utility line trenches, the top 6 to 12 inches of topsoil shall be removed and stockpiled separately during construction. Following installation, the topsoil shall be replaced and seeded with native vegetation.

Fugitive Dust Control

6. Dust control activities shall be conducted in such a manner that will not produce downstream runoff.
7. Dust abatement chemicals added to water can be hazardous to wildlife and, if allowed to enter streams, detrimental to water quality. Therefore, dust abatement activities shall be conducted so that sediment or dust abatement chemicals are not discharged into waters of the state. Dust abatement products or additives that are known to be detrimental to water quality or wildlife shall not be used.

Construction Materials and Equipment

8. **Use of Mechanized Equipment:** Activities permitted under this Order shall be conducted in a manner that minimizes ground disturbance, soil compaction, rutting and other mechanical impacts. Equipment shall be operated and maintained in a manner that reduces the risk of spills or the accidental exposure of fuels or hazardous materials to water bodies or wetlands. Appropriate Project specific BMPs shall be specified by the Permittee and shall be approved by Water Board staff prior to Project discharges.
9. No equipment shall be operated in areas of flowing or standing water.
10. At no time shall the Permittee use any vehicle or equipment which leaks any substance that may impact water quality.
11. The Permittee shall designate a staging area for equipment and vehicle fueling, maintenance, and storage at least one hundred (100) feet away from waters, in a location where fluids or accidental discharges cannot flow into waters. Any maintenance or refueling of vehicles or equipment occurring on-site shall be done in a designated area with secondary containment including drip pans and/or placement of absorbent material, located away from drainage courses to prevent the runoff of storm water and the runoff of spills.
12. Stationary equipment (motors, pumps, generator, etc.) and vehicles not in use shall be positioned over drip pans or other types of containment.
13. Spill and containment equipment (oil spill booms, sorbent pads, etc.) shall be maintained onsite at all locations where equipment is used or staged. If critical equipment must be refueled within one hundred (100) feet of a water of the state, spill prevention and countermeasures must be implemented to avoid spills and refueling areas shall be provided with secondary containment including drip pans and/or placement of absorbent material.
14. All equipment must be washed prior to transport to the Project site and must be free of sediment, debris, and foreign matter.
15. All imported riprap, rocks, and gravel used for construction shall be pre-washed.

Access Routes and Watercourse Crossings

16. The number of access routes, number and size of staging areas, and the total area of the ground disturbance shall be limited to the minimum necessary to achieve the project goal.
17. New and reconstructed watercourse crossings shall be designed to accommodate 100-year flood flow (including transport of debris and sediment).

18. All existing roads shall be left in a condition equal to or better than their condition before Project activities commence.
19. Cured in Place Pipe is prohibited where it could cause detrimental physiological responses to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life, or cause discharges of waste to waters of the state that do not comply with water quality objectives.
20. Crossings shall be designed to ensure that the stream does not divert in case of a crossing failure.
21. Bridges, culverts, dip crossings, or other structures must be installed so that water and in-stream sediment flow is not impeded.
22. Culvert inlets shall have low plug potential (trash racks, debris barriers, deflectors, mitered inlets, etc. are installed where needed and where they can be maintained).
23. Culverts shall be installed at the base of the fill in line with and at the same grade as the natural channel. Replaced or maintained culverts shall be clear of debris and in upstream and downstream alignment with the stream channel.
24. Culverts (new, replaced and left-in-place) shall be at a gradient and orientation that will not result in erosional scour at the outlet.
25. Culvert replacement projects shall repair any existing scour or headcutting actively discharging sediment. Replaced culverts must also be designed to accommodate 100-year flows.
26. Culverts shall not be located in a meandering bend of the stream channel.
27. Rock ford or rock armored fill crossings should be installed instead of culverts on watercourses in locations where watercourse crossings have a higher risk of failure due to their landscape position (e.g., in areas prone to debris flows or landslides) or in areas that lack seasonal access or remote areas. Rock ford or rock armored fill crossings must also be designed to accommodate 100-year flows.
28. Watercourse crossings proposed for removal or watercourse crossings located on roads to be decommissioned must meet the following conditions:
    a. Permanently decommissioned stream crossings shall be excavated to exhume the original, stable, stream bed and channel side-slopes, and then banks must be stabilized with materials including, but not limited to, mulch, seeding, replanting, and rock armoring.
    b. Fills shall be excavated to form a channel as close as feasible to the natural watercourse grade, that is wider than the natural channel upstream and downstream of the crossing to be removed.

c. Any resulting cut bank shall not exceed a grade of 50% from the outside edge of the channel to prevent slumping and prevent erosion.

Access Route Surface Drainages

29. Access routes shall be constructed to ensure proper stability of cut and fill slopes and ensure drainage and runoff generated from access routes is hydrologically disconnected from receiving waters and does not cause erosion and sediment discharge.

30. Access route surfaces and ditches planned for construction, reconstruction, or maintenance shall be hydrologically disconnected from streams and stream crossings. Access route surface runoff must be designed to sufficiently disperse flows to appropriate vegetated or otherwise protected upland areas to minimize or avoid erosion, rather than concentrating flows and/or discharging sediment to waters of the state.

31. Drainage structures shall still be spaced with enough frequency to prevent concentration of access route related runoff and erosion of access route fill material.

32. Dischargers shall prioritize locating the outflow of the access route surface drainage structures towards well-vegetated, stable areas to ensure road related discharges do not negatively impact waters of the state. Access route surface drainage structure outflow shall not directly discharge to waters of the state or areas that will likely result in erosion and direct discharge to waters of the state.

33. Dischargers shall ensure that access route drainage features are maintained to prevent erosion and sediment discharge.

34. All sediment and other material disturbed during blading and other access route construction activities shall be contained and removed or permanently stabilized with effective engineered sediment and erosion control BMPs. Cut or bladed sediment or other material shall not be side-cast or otherwise pushed off the roadway and left unstabilized such that it is subject to erosion or in a manner that threatens to discharge sediment to a water of the state.

Trash and Other Waste

35. Construction material, debris, rubbish, spoils, soil, silt, sawdust, rubbish, steel, welding slag, welding rods, waste material, waste containers, other organic or earthen material, or any other substances which could be detrimental to water quality or hazardous to aquatic life that is discharged as a result of Project related activities shall be prevented from entering waters of the state. Spoils from excavations shall not be stored in waters of the state.

36. Discharge of unset cement, concrete, grout, damaged concrete spoils, or water that has contacted uncured concrete or cement, or related washout to

surface waters, ground waters, or land is prohibited. If concrete washout is necessary at the site, washout containment shall be used to prevent any discharge. Wastewater may only be disposed by delivery to a sanitary wastewater collection system/facility (with authorization from the facility's owner or operator) or a properly licensed disposal or reuse facility.

37. Hardened concrete or grout shall be disposed at an authorized landfill, in compliance with state and local laws, ordinances, and regulations.

38. All construction debris and trash shall be contained and regularly removed from the work area to the staging area during construction activities.

39. To prevent sediment-laden water from being released back into waters of the state during transport of spoils to disposal or reuse locations, truck beds shall be lined with an impervious material (e.g., plastic), or the tailgate shall be blocked with wattles or other appropriate filtration material.

40. All construction-related equipment, materials, and any temporary BMPs no longer needed, shall be removed and cleaned from the site upon completion of the Project.

41. Unless authorized for restoration, material excavated to prepare a site for placement of the permitted fill material must be properly disposed of in an upland area. The disposal site must be located at a sufficient distance away from flowing or standing water such that the excavated material does not erode or move in any way into any water of the state.

Erosion, Sediment Control and Site Stabilization

42. The Permittee shall implement and maintain erosion control measures and sediment controls (e.g., jute, weed-free straw, coconut fiber erosion control fabric, coir logs, re-vegetation, fiber rolls, erosion control blankets, hydromulching, compost, weed-free straw with tackifiers, temporary basins etc.) at all disturbed areas of the Project site that drain to waters of the state through the entire duration of the Project. These measures shall be constructed and maintained to prevent the discharge of earthen materials to waters of the state, including all ephemeral and intermittent drainages, seasonal swales, storm drain systems, and tributaries to waters of the state, from disturbed areas during all periods of ground clearing, site grading, and construction, as well as after completion of construction.

43. Erosion and sediment control measures shall be on site prior to the start of construction and kept on site at all times so they are immediately available for installation in anticipation of rain events.

44. Erosion and sediment control measures and other construction BMPs shall be implemented and maintained in accordance with all specifications governing their proper design, installation, operation, and maintenance.

45. Where areas of bare soil are exposed during the rainy season, silt control measures shall be used where silt and/or earthen fill threaten waters of the state. Silt control structures shall be monitored for effectiveness and shall be

repaired or replaced as needed. Buildup of soil behind silt fences shall be removed promptly and any breaches or undermined areas repaired at once.

46. After sediment removal, the Permittee shall grade channels so that the transition between the work area and the existing channel, both upstream and downstream, is smooth and continuous, and does not present a “wall” of sediment or other blockage that could erode or cause erosion once flows are restored.

47. Where bank stabilization activities may result in modifications to channel cross-sections and/or profiles, the banks shall be re-contoured to match the adjacent bank slope.

48. All areas that have fourteen or more days of inactivity must be stabilized within fourteen days of the last activity. The Permittee is responsible for implementing and maintaining BMPs to prevent erosion of the rough graded areas.

Toxic and Hazardous Materials

49. Activities permitted under this Order shall not discharge toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.

50. Discharge of unset cement, concrete, grout, damaged concrete spoils, or water that has contacted uncured concrete or cement, or related washout to surface waters, ground waters, or land is prohibited. If concrete washout is necessary at the site, washout containment shall be used to prevent any discharge. Wastewater may only be disposed by delivery to a sanitary wastewater collection system/facility (with authorization from the facility’s owner or operator) or a properly licensed disposal or reuse facility.

51. Appropriate BMPs must be implemented throughout Project activities to prevent and control potential leaks/spills/drainage of potentially hazardous materials such as: non-petroleum hydraulic fluid; epoxies; paints and other protective coating materials; cement concrete or asphalt concrete; and washings and cuttings thereof.

52. Activities permitted under this Order shall not discharge waste classified as “hazardous” as defined in California Code of Regulations title 22, section 66261 and Water Code section 13173. Appropriate BMPs for hazardous substances shall be specified by the Permittee and shall be approved by Water Board staff prior to Project discharges. These BMPs shall include, at a minimum:

- **a.** All personnel handling fuels and other hazardous materials shall be properly trained.
- **b.** Adequate spill prevention and cleanup equipment and materials shall be present on site at all times during Project implementation.

c. All mechanized equipment shall be maintained in good operating order and inspected on a regular basis.

d. All on-site fuel trucks or fuel containers shall be stored in an area where the risk of contamination of water bodies by leaks or spills is minimized.

e. All equipment shall be fueled, maintained, and/or parked overnight in an upland area at least 100 feet from any delineated waters of the state.

f. Hazardous materials, including chemicals, fuels, and lubricating oils, shall not be stored within 100 feet of any delineated waters of the state, and shall be stored in appropriate containers with appropriate secondary containment.

g. Pumps or other stationary equipment operating within 100 feet of a waterbody or wetland shall utilize appropriate secondary containment systems to prevent spills.

h. Any spills or leaks of hazardous materials, chemicals, fuels, lubricants or any other potential pollutants shall be promptly and completely treated using appropriate materials and equipment.

i. Spill containment supplies shall be on site in all work areas in sufficient quantities to allow immediate remediation of fuel, oil, hydraulic fluid or similar leaks and spills.

j. A staging area for equipment and vehicle fueling and storage shall be designated at least one hundred (100) feet away from waters of the state, in a location where fluids or accidental discharges cannot flow into waters of the state.

53. Site-Specific Construction Plans

a. The Permittee plans to replace, repair and/or maintain approximately twenty crossings that impact waters of the state. Crossing impacts are accounted for in Tables 2 and 3 impact totals in Attachment B. Project design details (location, size, flow capacity, etc.) that document compliance with Order, section IX.G.16 through 41 shall be provided to the State Water Board for approval before this work is completed.

H. Temporary Impact Restoration

1. The Permittee shall restore all areas of temporary impacts to waters of the state and all Project site upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state in accordance with the Restoration Plan for Temporary Impacts dated April 10, 2023, approved through the issuance of this Order and incorporated herein by reference.

2. Total required Project restoration information for temporary impacts is summarized in Table 4.

Table 4: Required Project Restoration Quantity for Temporary Impacts

Aquatic Resource Type	Units	Quantity to be Restored
Stream Channel	Acres	~~**17.31**~~ **18.00**
Stream Channel	LF	~~**94,506**~~ **96,871**

I. Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts:

Compensatory mitigation is for permanent physical loss and permanent ecological degradation of a water of the state and may include mitigation for temporary impacts that result in temporal loss of function. Purchase of Mitigation Credits by Permittee for Compensatory Mitigation

4. Compensatory Mitigation Requirements

a. A copy of the fully executed agreement for the purchase of mitigation credits shall be provided to the Water Board within 90 days of authorized impacts.

b. The Permittee shall retain responsibility for providing the compensatory mitigation and long-term management until Water Board staff has received documentation of the credit purchase and the transfer agreement between the Permittee and the seller of credits.

5. Total Required Compensatory Mitigation

a. The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation for the authorized impact to 0.06 acres of Stream Channel by purchasing 0.06 Aquatic Resource Credits in the Petersen Ranch Mitigation BankAquatic Resource Watershed Service Area.

b. Total required Project compensatory mitigation information for permanent physical loss of area is summarized in Table 5. [Establishment (Est.), Re-establishment (Re-est.), Rehabilitation (Reh.), Enhancement (Enh.), Preservation (Pres.), Unknown].

Table 5: Total Required Project Compensatory Mitigation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area

Aquatic Resource Type	Mitigation Type	Units	Est.	Re-est.	Reh.	Enh.	Pres.	Unknown
Stream Channel	Mitigation Bank Credits	Acres		0.06				

IX. Public Notice

The Water Board provided public notice of the application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 from May 24, 2023, to June 22, 2023. The State Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

X. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

On September 12, 2012, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, as lead agency, certified a Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) (State Clearinghouse No. 2008041038) for the Barren Ridge Renewable Transmission Project. LADWP filed a Notice of Determination at the State Clearinghouse on September 26, 2012. In October 2018, LADWP, as lead agency, certified an Addendum to the Final EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2008041038) for the proposed modifications to the BAR-HSK L1 and the BRSS expansion. The Addendum to the Final EIR determined that the modifications to the BAR-HSK L1 and the BRSS expansion proposed by the Project would not result in any new substantial environmental impacts or increase the severity of previously identified environmental impacts. Pursuant to CEQA, the Water Board has made Findings of Facts (Findings) which support the issuance of this Order and are included in Attachment C.

XI. Petitions for Reconsideration

Any person aggrieved by this action may petition the Water Board to reconsider this Order in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3867. A petition for reconsideration must be submitted in writing and received within 30 calendar days of the issuance of this Order.

XII. Fees Received

An application fee of $2,417 was received on November 8, 2022. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, Title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3) and was calculated as Category A - Fill & Excavation Discharges (Fee Code 84) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

An additional fee of $207,300 based on total Project impacts was received on June 2, 2023.

XIII. Water Quality Certification and Waste Discharge Requirements

I hereby issue this water quality certification and waste discharge requirements for the Barren Ridge-Haskell Line 1 Transmission Line Project, SB22078IN, certifying that as long as all of the conditions listed in this Order are met, any discharge from the referenced Project will comply with the applicable provisions of Clean Water Act sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards).

Authorization is contingent on: (a) compliance with the conditions of this Order and the attachments to this Order; and (b) compliance with all applicable requirements of Statewide Water Quality Control Plans and Policies, and the Regional Water Boards' Water Quality Control Plans.

Date

Karen Mogus, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality