
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

28 February 2025

Casey Willis
Gonzaga Ridge Wind, LLC
1805 29th Street, Suite 2050
Boulder, CO 80301

ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; GONZAGA RIDGE WIND, LLC, GONZAGA RIDGE WIND REPOWERING PROJECT (WDID NO. 5B24CR00089A1), MERCED COUNTY

This Order responds to the 30 January 2025 request for an amendment of the Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project (Project) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WDID No. 5B24CR00089). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 26 October 2020. The requested amendment is hereby approved. The original Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification.

This amendment is not valid until and unless an amendment to the Section 404 Permit with equivalent modifications is approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or it is otherwise determined by USACE that an amendment of the 404 Permit is unnecessary.

AMENDMENT:

Gonzaga Ridge Wind, LLC (hereinafter Permittee) is requesting an amendment to the Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Order. The Permittee is requesting to change the name of the company to Gonzaga Ridge Wind, LLC and to change the contact person to Casey Willis.

Additionally, the Permittee is requesting a change to the impact quantities for two water crossings by constructing culverts instead of a drive through crossing. The two modified crossings will result in a 0.013-acre increase in permanent impacts to stream channel, a 0.05-acre decrease in temporary lake impacts, a 0.006-acre increase in temporary stream channel impacts, and a 0.006-acre decrease in temporary wetland impacts. To account for the permanent impact change, the Permittee shall purchase an additional 0.01 Aquatic Resource Credits in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)'s Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program for the San Joaquin River Watershed Service Area. Therefore, the following sections are amended as shown in underline format below: Section VII Tables 1 and 2; Section XIII.J Table 4; Section XIII.K.2.b; Section XIII.K.2 Table 5; and Attachment B Tables 2,3, and 6.

Amendment A1.1

VII. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts¹

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake	<u>0.53</u>	1,839	
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	<u>0.01</u>	5	
Vernal Pool			
Wetland	<u>0.004</u>	3	

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

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake	0.08	387	
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	<u>0.02</u>	14	340
Vernal Pool			
Wetland	0.16	163	

Amendment A1.2

XIII.J Mitigation for Temporary Impacts.

Table 4: Required Project Mitigation Quantity for Temporary Impacts by Method

Aquatic Resource Type	Mitigation Type	Units	Est.	Re-est.	Reh.	Enh.	Pres.	Unknown
Lake	Permittee Responsible	Acres			<u>0.53</u>			
Stream Channel	Permittee Responsible	Acres			<u>0.01</u>			

¹ 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 Resource Type	Mitigation Type	Units	Est.	Re-est.	Reh.	Enh.	Pres.	Unknown
Wetland	Permittee Responsible	Acres			<u>0.004</u>			

Amendment A1.3

XIII.K 2 Total Required Compensatory Mitigation

- a. The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation at a minimum 2:1 ratio for the authorized impact to 0.08 acre of lake by purchasing 0.16 Aquatic Resource Credits in the San Joaquin River Aquatic Resource Watershed Service Area. Required credits shall be purchased from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)'s Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program or an Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District approved mitigation bank within the watershed service area of the project location.
- b. The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation at a minimum 1:1 ratio for the authorized impact to 0.02 acre of stream channel by purchasing 0.02 Aquatic Resource Credits in the San Joaquin River Aquatic Resource Watershed Service Area. Required credits shall be purchased from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)'s Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program or an Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District approved mitigation bank within the watershed service area of the project location.
- c. The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation at a minimum 2:1 ratio for the authorized impact to 0.16 acre of wetland by purchasing 0.32 Aquatic Resource Credits in the San Joaquin River Aquatic Resource Watershed Service Area. Required credits shall be purchased from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)'s Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program or an Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District approved mitigation bank within the watershed service area of the project location.
- d. 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
Lake	In-Lieu Fee Credits or Army Corp Approved Mitigation Bank	Acres						0.16
Stream Channel	In-Lieu Fee Credits or Army Corp Approved Mitigation Bank	Acres						<u>0.02</u>
Wetland	In-Lieu Fee Credits or Army Corp Approved Mitigation Bank	Acres						0.32

Amendment A1.4

Attachment B

Table 2: Individual Temporary Fill/Excavation Impact Information

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation ?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
San Luis Reservoir	37.005874°	-121.108879°	No	<u>0.53</u>	1,839	
ED-A	37.026211°	-121.136239°	No	0.0014		
<u>ED-B (crossing 9)</u>	37.019326°	-121.12996°	No	<u>0.002</u>	<u>3.54</u>	
ED-C	37.015699°	-121.129668°	No	0.0003	0.36	
ED-F	37.005548°	-121.108831°	No	0.0003	0.27	
ED-H	37.010305°	-121.106278°	No	0.0003	0.85	
ED-K	37.036037°	-121.05308°	No	0.0009		
SWS-D	37.023310°	-121.132175°	No	0.004	2.52	
<u>ED-X (crossing 18)</u>	<u>37.003670°</u>	<u>-121.112599°</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>0.001</u>	<u>2.52</u>	

Table 3: Individual Permanent Fill/Excavation Impact Information

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation ?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
San Luis Reservoir	37.005874°	-121.108879°	No	0.08	387.2	
ED-A	37.026211°	-121.136239°	No	0.001	3.57	
<u>ED-B (Crossing 9)</u>	<u>37.019272°</u>	<u>-121.130351°</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>0.01</u>		
ED-K	37.036037°	-121.05308°	No	0.01	10.82	
SW-1	37.035132°	-121.186728°	No	0.006	7.74	
SWS-1	37.060001°	-121.203629°	No	0.064	51.63	
SWS-A	37.033852°	-121.149776°	No	0.004	6.45	
SWS-B	37.029878°	-121.150021°	No	0.08	64.53	
SWS-C	37.030126°	-121.143523°	No	0.01	32.27	
<u>ED-X (crossing 18)</u>	<u>37.003670°</u>	<u>-121.112599°</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>0.003</u>		

Table 6: Mitigation Type Information

Aquatic Resource Credit Type	Acres	Linear Feet.	Number of Credits to Purchase
Lake	0.08		0.16
Stream Channel	<u>0.02</u>		<u>0.02</u>
Wetland	0.16		0.32

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CONTACT:

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WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification for the Gonzaga Ridge Wind Repowering Project (WDID#5B24CR00089A1). 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.

Digitally signed by Alex S. Mushegan, February 28, 2025
for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

cc: [Via email only]

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