

## State Water Resources Control Board

### WATER QUALITY WQ 2025-0031-DWQ WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

**Effective Date:** Upon Deputy Director's Signature  
**Project:** Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan (PSEP) L4000 Phase 2A  
Hydrostatic Test Project (Project)  
**Project Type:** Oil and Gas  
**Program Type:** Fill/Excavation  
**Identifiers:**  
    **WDID No:** SB23075IN  
    **Place ID:** 896368  
    **Reg. Meas. ID:** 458321  
    **Applicant:** Southern California Gas Company  
**Applicant Contact:** Wade Christoffels  
Project Manager I  
Southern California Gas Company  
555 W. 5th Street #GT17E2  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
Phone: (562) 972-4980  
Email: [WChristoffels@socalgas.com](mailto:WChristoffels@socalgas.com)  
**Applicant Contact:** Rebecca Alvidrez  
Southern California Gas Company  
555 W. 5th Street #GT17E2  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
Phone: (626) 416-6305  
Email: [ralvidre@socalgas.com](mailto:ralvidre@socalgas.com)  
**Water Board Staff:** Alex Lopez  
Environmental Scientist  
1001 I Street, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
Phone: (916) 327-5620  
Email: [Alexander.Lopez@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Alexander.Lopez@waterboards.ca.gov)

**Water Board Contact Person:** If you have any questions, please contact State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) Staff listed above, call (916) 341-5900, or email [SB-401Application@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:SB-401Application@waterboards.ca.gov).

## Table of Contents

I. Summary .....	3
II. Findings .....	3
III. Project Purpose and Description .....	4
IV. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information .....	4
V. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State .....	5
VI. Description of Indirect Impacts to Waters of the State .....	6
VII. Avoidance and Minimization .....	6
VIII. Conditions .....	6
IX. Public Notice .....	16
X. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) .....	16
XI. Conclusion .....	16

**Attachment A:** Project Map

**Attachment B:** Receiving Waters, Impacts, and Mitigation Information

**Attachment C:** Report and Notification Requirements

**Attachment D:** Signatory Requirements

**Attachment E:** Deviation Procedures

## **I. Summary**

This waste discharge requirements (WDR) is issued at the request of the Southern California Gas Company (hereinafter Permittee) for the Project. The initial application was received on September 21, 2023. A complete application was submitted on August 15, 2024, as verified by Water Board staff. Supplemental information was submitted to the Water Board on March 29, 2024, and August 15, 2024.

Pursuant to section IV.D., the Project is subject to the requirements set forth in sections IV.A and IV.B of the State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State.

## **II. Findings**

- A.** In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this WDR, 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 Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.
- B.** In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this WDR, the Water Board may require the holder of this WDR 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.
- C.** This WDR does not provide coverage under Order WQ 2017-0029-DWQ Statewide General Order for Discharges from Natural Gas Utility Construction, Operations and Maintenance Activities (General Permit No. CAG670001) or the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (WDR WQ 2022-0057-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002) (Construction General Permit).
- D.** This WDR 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 & G. Code, §§ 2050-2097) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. sections 1531-1544). If a “take” will result from any act authorized under this WDR 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 WDR.
- E.** The Water Board has considered the factors in Water Code section 13241 in establishing the requirements in this WDR.
- F.** This WDR includes monitoring and reporting requirements pursuant to Water Code sections 13267. The burden of preparing these reports, including costs, are

reasonable to the need and benefits of obtaining the reports. The reports confirm that the best management practices required under this WDR are sufficient to protect beneficial uses and water quality objectives. The reports 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:** In 2011, the California Public Utilities Commission ordered all natural gas transmission operators in the State of California to develop an Implementation Plan to achieve the goal of orderly and cost-effectively testing or replacing all natural gas transmission pipelines in their system that have not been pressure-tested. The Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan (PSEP) was established to promote the continued safety and integrity of SoCalGas Company's natural gas transmission pipelines.

This PSEP project includes hydrostatic testing of approximately 19.65 miles of L4000 in unincorporated San Bernardino County between Newberry Springs and Lucerne Valley

**Project Description:** This Project consists of the hydrostatic testing of approximately 19.65 mi. of 36-inch (in.) diameter transmission line pipe along L4000 (Figure 1).

The Project is located in unincorporated San Bernardino County, California, south of the Newberry Springs area and north of Lucerne Valley.

#### **A. Project Location**

Address: N/A

County: San Bernardino

Assessor's Parcel Number(s): 529-071-16; 529-011-01; 528-031-04; 528-011-04; 416-191-09; 416-181-01; 416-181-18; 0464-311-18; 0464-311-08; 0464-311-17; 0464-311-18

Nearest City: Newberry Springs, Lucerne Valley

Start: Latitude: 34°46'49.15"N and Longitude: 116°35'39.71"W

End: Latitude: 34°35'24.54"N and Longitude: 116°51'18.56"W

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

### **IV. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information**

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, Victorville (Lahontan Water Board) and Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board (Colorado River Water Board, collectively Regional Water Boards). 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/) ([http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans\\_policies/](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 WDR 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 is in Attachment B. Table 1 of Attachment B lists the receiving waters and beneficial uses of waters of the state impacted by the Project. Individual impact locations and quantities are in Table 2 of Attachment B.

## **V. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State**

Impacts to channels within test break and metal loss locations would involve removal of vegetation, grading to provide a safe work area, excavation to expose the existing pipeline, and backfill, grading and compaction of soil to bury the pipeline once testing is complete. Impacts within the laydown yard would involve removal of vegetation and grading to provide a safe workspace. Any direct impacts to channels within these workspaces would be temporary and restored to former conditions upon project completion.

Work within access road improvements would involve grading/compaction of native soils and removal of rock on the existing access road. For Kane Wash, temporary mats would be placed to facilitate movement of construction equipment and vehicles across sandy areas. Mats would be removed at project completion. Any impacts to channels outside of existing access roads would be temporary and restored to former conditions upon project completion.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Aquatic Resources Type</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Linear Feet</b>
<b>Stream Channel</b>	2.21	2,049

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

## **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, including siltation of receiving waters during construction and introduction of pollutants to receiving waters during construction.

The conditions set forth in section VIII will avoid and minimize the indirect impacts to waters of the state.

## **VII. Avoidance and Minimization**

The Permittee will lessen or avoid direct and indirect impacts to waters of the state by limiting construction activities to the Project footprint and designated access routes, and clearly delineating Project work areas and environmentally sensitive areas with exclusion fencing.

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. Conditions**

The Water Board has independently reviewed the record of the Project to analyze impacts to the environment and designated beneficial uses within the watersheds of the Project. This WDR provides reasonable assurance that the Project authorized under this WDR 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 Table 1.

### **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 C, 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 C, 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 the anniversary of the effective date. 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 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 (WDR WQ 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 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<sup>2</sup>:**

Following an accidental discharge of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material, sewage, or an unknown material, the following applies (Wat. Code, § 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

---

<sup>2</sup> "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.)

- 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/) (<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 5 business days of notification to the Water Board, the Permittee must submit an Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report.
  - 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 3 business 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 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 3 business 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 WDR. 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 WDR. Notification may be made in accordance with conditions in the deviation section of this WDR.
  - e. **Transfer of Property Ownership**

This WDR 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 WDR.

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

**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, 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 the Conditional Notifications and Reports section VIII.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**

- a. Prior to the start of construction, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) shall be developed by the Permittee and approved by the Water Board to avoid and/or minimize impacts to water quality.
- b. The SWPPP control measures shall address soil stabilization practices, sediment control practices, sediment tracking control practices, wind erosion control practices, non-stormwater management, waste management, and disposal control practices.
- c. If erosion control measures have failed or water quality pollution is occurring, contact the Water Board staff member overseeing the Project within 3 business 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.
2. This WDR 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.

#### **E. Fees**

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

The total fee amount required by the California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), Category A, is \$56,827. An application fee of \$2,734 was received on October 3, 2023. An additional fee of \$54,093 based on total Project impacts was received on October 3, 2023.

2. **Annual Fees:** This WDR is subject to annual billing based on the fee schedule in effect at the time of billing. Annual billing will continue until the Project, including monitoring, is complete and the Water Board receives an acceptable request for a Notice of Project Complete Letter (see Attachment C). Invoices are usually sent out at the end of each calendar year.<sup>3</sup>

To stop annual billing, the Permittee must request a Notice of Project Complete Letter from the Water Board. Water Board staff will verify if the conditions of the WDR are met and may conduct a site visit to confirm compliance.

For more information on fees, visit the State Water Board's [Water Quality Fees website](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/water_quality/) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/water\\_quality/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/water_quality/)),<sup>4</sup> under Water Quality Certification (WQC) Program Fees.

---

<sup>3</sup> Annual invoices for fill and excavation projects are issued for projects active for any amount of time in the current fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Annual invoices for dredging projects are based on the quantity of dredged material in the previous fiscal year.

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/water\\_quality/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/water_quality/)

#### **F. 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 WDR.

#### **G. Administrative**

1. Signatory requirements for all document submittals required by this WDR are presented in Attachment D of this WDR.
2. **Site Access:** The Permittee shall grant Water Board staff, Regional Water Boards 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 WDR.
  - c. Inspect any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this WDR.
  - d. Sample or monitor for the purposes of assuring WDR compliance.
3. The Permittee shall be responsible for work conducted by its consultants, contractors, and any subcontractors. A copy of this WDR shall be provided to any consultants, contractors, and subcontractors working on this Project. Copies of this WDR shall remain at the Project site for the duration of this WDR. All personnel performing work on the Project shall be familiar with the content of this WDR and its posted location at the Project site.

#### **H. Construction Conditions**

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. Construction material, debris, rubbish, spoils, soil, silt, sawdust, 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.
3. 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 are stabilized. Equipment, materials, or any other substances or activities that may impact waters of the state outside of the limits of Project disturbance are prohibited.
4. The number of access routes, number and size of staging areas, and the total area of the activity must be limited to the minimum necessary to achieve the Project goal. Routes and work area boundaries must be clearly demarcated.
5. Bridges, culverts, dip crossings, or other structures must be installed so that water and in-stream sediment flow are not impeded. Appropriate design criteria, practices and materials must be used in areas where access roads intersect waters of the state.
6. Temporary materials placed in any water of the state must be removed as soon as construction is completed at that location, and all temporary roads must be removed or re-contoured and restored according to approved re-vegetation and restoration plans.
7. **Topsoil:** For any excavation, including utility line trenches, the top six 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.
8. **Use of Mechanized Equipment:** Activities permitted under this WDR 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. **Toxic and Hazardous Materials**
  - a. Activities permitted under this WDR shall not discharge toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
  - b. 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.

- c. Activities permitted under this WDR 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:
  - i. All personnel handling fuels and other hazardous materials shall be properly trained.
  - ii. Adequate spill prevention and cleanup equipment and materials shall be present on site at all times during Project implementation.
  - iii. All mechanized equipment shall be maintained in good operating WDR and inspected on a regular basis.
  - iv. All on-site fuel trucks or fuel containers shall be stored in an area where risk of contamination of water bodies by leaks or spills is minimized.
  - v. 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.
  - vi. 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.
  - vii. Pumps or other stationary equipment operating within 100 feet of a waterbody or wetland shall utilize appropriate secondary containment systems to prevent spills.
  - viii. 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.
  - ix. 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.
  - x. A staging area for equipment and vehicle fueling and storage shall be designated at least 100 feet away from waters of the state, in a location where fluids or accidental discharges cannot flow into waters of the state.

## **10. Invasive Species and Soil Borne Pathogens**

- a. The Permittee is responsible for ensuring that all Project personnel follow proper weed control practices, and that appropriate weed prevention measures are included in Project plans.
- b. Any straw, hay or other unprocessed plant material used for any purpose must be certified or documented as being weed free.
- c. Soil borne pathogens are any nematodes, or any bacterial, protozoan, viral or fungal pathogens that can cause disease or death to native plants, agricultural crops, or ornamental plants (e.g., *Phytophthora ramorum*, the cause of sudden oak syndrome, and *Phytophthora lateralis*, the cause of Port Orford cedar root disease). Any equipment entering or leaving the Project area from an area of known soil borne pathogen infestation shall be thoroughly cleaned using methods appropriate for the known pathogen before entering or leaving the Project area. The fungus that causes Valley Fever, *Coccidioides spp.*, is not considered a soil borne pathogen in this WDR.

## 11. Stormwater

If the Project is required to obtain coverage under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (WDR WQ 2022-0057-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002) (Construction General Permit), the Permittee shall comply with the requirements in the Construction General Permit. Generally, coverage under the Construction General Permit is required for construction activity resulting in a land disturbance of one acre or more, or less than one acre but is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that results in a land disturbance of one acre or more. Covered activities are described with additional detail in the Construction General Permit. Compliance with the Construction General Permit constitutes compliance with Erosion and Sediment Control Conditions 18.a.i-ii and Stormwater Management Conditions 18.b.i-ii, below.

### a. Erosion and Sediment Control

- i. No later than 24 hours prior to the start of a likely rain event, the Permittee shall ensure that disturbed areas that drain to waters of the state are protected with correctly installed erosion control measures (e.g., jute, straw, coconut fiber erosion control fabric, coir logs, straw) or revegetated with propagules (seeds, cuttings, divisions) of locally collected native plants. The likely rain event is defined as any weather pattern that is forecast to have a 50 percent or greater probability of producing precipitation in the Project area. The Permittee shall obtain weekly a printed copy of the precipitation forecast information (and keep for record) from the National Weather Service Forecast Office.
- ii. The constructed post-project stormwater BMPs shall not receive site runoff until all effective erosion control measures are implemented to

ensure that the stormwater features are protected from sediment accumulation.

**b. Stormwater Management**

- i. Disturbed areas must be temporarily stabilized to prevent erosion and accidental discharge into waters of the state no later than 24 hours prior to any likely precipitation event. A likely precipitation event is any weather pattern that is forecast to have a 50 percent probability of producing precipitation in the Project area, as predicted by the National Weather Service. If commencement of a precipitation event is predicted to begin less than 24 hours after the forecast is issued, temporary stabilization of the disturbed in-water work areas must begin immediately.
- ii. No individual construction activity that could discharge sediment or other pollutants may be initiated if that activity and its associated erosion control measures cannot be completed prior to the onset of precipitation. After any rain event, the Permittee shall inspect all sites currently under construction and all sites scheduled to begin construction within the next 72 hours for erosion and sedimentation problems and take corrective action as needed. Prior to start-up of any phase of the project that may result in sediment-laden runoff to the project site the Permittee shall consult weather forecasts from the National Weather Service, and construction plans made to meet this condition.

**I. 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 Line 4000 Phase 2 Hydrotest Project Draft Restoration Plan dated September 2023, approved through the issuance of this WDR and incorporated herein by reference.
2. Total required Project restoration information for temporary impacts is summarized in Table 2.

**Table 2: Required Project Restoration Quantity for Temporary Impacts**

<b>Aquatic Resource Type</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Quantity to be Restored</b>
Stream Channel	Acres	2.221
Stream Channel	LF	2,049

**J. Deviation**

1. Minor modifications of Project locations or predicted impacts may be necessary as a result of unforeseen field conditions, necessary engineering

re-design, construction concerns, or similar reasons. Some of these prospective Project modifications may have impacts on the environment. Some modifications of Project locations or predicted impacts may qualify as Deviations as set forth in Attachment E. For purposes of this WDR, a "Deviation" is a Project locational or impact modification that does not require an immediate amendment of the WDR, because the Water Board has determined that any potential environmental impacts that may result from the change are sufficiently addressed by the WDR conditions and the CEQA Findings. After the termination of construction, this WDR will be formally amended to reflect all authorized Deviations and any resulting adjustments to the amount of water resource impacts and required compensatory mitigation amounts.

2. A Project modification shall not be granted a Deviation if it would require changes to the WDR conditions such that the Project no longer qualifies for a categorical exemption. In this case a supplemental environmental review and different WDR will be required.

#### **IX. Public Notice**

The State Water Board provided public notice of the Application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 from March 28, 2025 to April 29, 2025. The State Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period.

#### **X. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

The issuance of this WDR and the activities described herein meet the exemption criteria under California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section(s) 15301 and 15304 (Existing Facilities and Minor Alterations to Land). Additionally, the Water Board concludes that no exceptions to the CEQA exemption apply to the activities approved by this WDR.

The Water Board will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse within 5 business days from the issuance of this WDR. (California Code of Regulations., Title 14, section 15062.)

#### **XI. Conclusion**

I hereby issue the WDR for the Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan (PSEP) L4000 Phase 2A Hydrostatic Test Project, (WDID SB23075IN), certifying that as long as all of the conditions listed in this WDR 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 WDR and the attachments to this WDR; 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

Phillip Crader  Digitally signed by Phillip Crader  
Date: 2025.05.23 12:13:26 -07'00'  
Water Boards

---

Phillip Crader, Deputy Director  
Division of Water Quality