

Categorical Exclusion and Extraordinary Circumstances Review Form

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC 20460

I. General Information

Project Name	WIFIA Id Number
Pipe Realignment and Meter Installation Project	20161CA
Borrower Name	
Sacramento County Water Agency	
Project Description	
The Arden Service Area Distribution System Pipe Realignment and Meter Installation Project of Sacramento County will abandon old pipelines located in backyards, install approximately 30 miles of new distribution pipelines within the street right-of-way of the Arden Service Area, install approximately 2300 new water meters, and replace or install 140 new fire hydrants.	
Project Location Description (<i>street address/city/state/ZIP code; site characteristics</i>)	
The Arden Service Area is located within the Arden Arcade community of unincorporated Sacramento County and encompasses approximately 1,390 acres.	

II. EPA Contact for Environmental Review on this Project (If different from Responsible Official)

Name	Title	Phone Number
Forrest Petrich	Environmental Engineer	(202)-564-6134

III.A. Categorical Exclusion Eligibility (*Check YES or NO*) Complete the following questions in their entirety to determine if the project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) pursuant to 40 CFR § 6.204(a)(1)(ii). Additionally, supporting statements and documentation can be included in Attachment 1.

If yes to any, CATEX applies	<p>Does the project involve actions relating to existing infrastructure systems (e.g., sewer systems; drinking water supply systems; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) and involve:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;">YES</th> <th style="width: 10%;">NO</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Minor upgrading</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Minor expansion of system capacity or rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and its components (such as the sewer collection network and treatment system; the system to collect, treat, store and distribute drinking water; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Construction of new minor ancillary facilities next to or on the same property as existing facilities</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	YES	NO		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Minor upgrading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor expansion of system capacity or rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and its components (such as the sewer collection network and treatment system; the system to collect, treat, store and distribute drinking water; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Construction of new minor ancillary facilities next to or on the same property as existing facilities						
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If yes to any, CATEX does not apply	<p>Will the project include actions that:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;">YES</th> <th style="width: 10%;">NO</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Involve new or relocated discharges to surface or ground water</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Will likely result in the substantial increase in the volume or the loading of pollutant to the receiving water</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Will provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Are not supported by the state, or other regional growth plan or strategy</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Directly or indirectly involve or relate to upgrading or extending infrastructure systems primarily for the purpose of future development</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	YES	NO		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Involve new or relocated discharges to surface or ground water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will likely result in the substantial increase in the volume or the loading of pollutant to the receiving water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Will provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Are not supported by the state, or other regional growth plan or strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Directly or indirectly involve or relate to upgrading or extending infrastructure systems primarily for the purpose of future development
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III.B. Extraordinary Circumstances (Check YES or NO) Complete the following questions in their entirety to determine if the project involves any of the following extraordinary circumstances which would make it ineligible for a CATEX pursuant to 40 CFR § 6.204(b)(1) through (b)(10). Additionally, supporting statements and documentation can be included in Attachment 1.

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1) Is the action known or expected to have potentially significant environmental impacts on the quality of the human environment either individually or cumulatively over time?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2) Is the action known or expected to have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on any community, including minority communities, low-income communities, or federally-recognized Indian tribal communities?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3) Is the action known or expected to significantly affect federally listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4) Is the action known or expected to significantly affect national natural landmarks or any property with naturally significant historic, architectural, prehistoric, archaeological, or cultural value, including but not limited to, property listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5) Is the action known or expected to significantly affect environmentally important natural resource areas such as wetlands, floodplains, significant agricultural lands, aquifer recharge zones, coastal zones, barrier islands, wild and scenic rivers, and significant fish or wildlife habitat?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6) Is the action known or expected to cause significant adverse air quality effects?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7) Is the action known or expected to have a significant effect on the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population, including altering the character of existing residential areas or may not be consistent with state or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe approved land use plans or federal land management plans?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8) Is the action known or expected to significantly cause significant public controversy about potential environmental impacts of the proposed action?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9) Is the action known or expected to be associated with providing financial assistance to a federal agency through an interagency agreement for a project that is known or expected to have potentially significant environmental impacts?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10) Is the action known or expected to conflict with federal, state, or local government, or federally-recognized Indian tribe environmental resource-protection, or land-use laws or regulations?

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III.C. Extraordinary Circumstances Statement (*Check ONLY ONE box*) If the responses to Section III.A indicate the project is CATEX eligible, and if a **NO** response was recorded for each of the questions in Section III.B, then no Extraordinary Circumstances are present pursuant to 40 CFR § 6.204(b) and one of the following statements should be selected.


<input type="checkbox"/>	1) No extraordinary circumstances apply to the proposed action pursuant to 40 CFR §§ 6.204(a)(1) and 6.204(b). This statement is based on either past experience with similar actions at the proposed action site resulting in a CATEX and/or information gathered as part of previous NEPA or environmental due diligence review conducted at the proposed action site . Provide any supporting documentation or references in Attachment I.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2) A statement and supporting documentation is attached explaining why no extraordinary circumstances exist or apply to the proposed action pursuant to 40 CFR §§ 6.204(a)(1) and 6.204(b).

IV. NEPA Review Determination and Responsible Official Signature

Sections I through III must be completed to satisfy EPA's documentation requirements for CATEX eligibility. If completion of this form indicates that a CATEX *does apply*, the Responsible Official must sign below.

Categorical Exclusion Determination The EPA finds that the proposed action is eligible for exclusion from detailed environmental review under 40 CFR § 6.204(a)(1)(ii), and will not involve any of the extraordinary circumstances delineated under 40 CFR § 6.204(b)(1) through (b)(10). Consequently, the EPA will not prepare an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment for the proposed project. The EPA may revoke this categorical exclusion if changes in the proposed action render it ineligible for exclusion or if new evidence emerges which indicates that serious local or environmental issues exist or federal, state, or local laws would be violated.

As the Responsible Official, I have determined that **this action is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion** per the substantive environmental review requirements under EPA regulations at 40 CFR § 6.204. Section III.C of this form has been completed providing the required Extraordinary Circumstances Statement.

ANDREW SAWYERS  <small>Digitally signed by ANDREW SAWYERS Date: 2021.12.07 18:26:15 -05'00'</small>	Director of the Office of Wastewater Management	12/7/21
Signature of Responsible Official	Title	Date

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Attachment 1. CATEX Eligibility and/or Extraordinary Circumstances Statement(s)

The space below may be used for a statement and supporting documentation explaining CATEX eligibility why no extraordinary circumstances exist or apply to the proposed action pursuant to 40 CFR §§ 6.204(a)(1) and 6.204(b). Attach additional pages as needed.

Communities with potential environmental justice concern are present in five block groups, which are located in phase 1B of the project.

The Project is expected to result in an overall benefit to the community by reducing the risk for property damage from potential system failures and creating a more reliable and resilient wastewater system, which will result in fewer disruptions to the community. Temporary impacts associated with project construction activities, such as construction noise, vehicle emissions, construction-related erosion, or traffic impacts, are not anticipated to disproportionately affect potential environmental justice communities with the implementation of standard construction best management practices, such as dust and traffic control measures.

EPA prepared the official endangered species list using IPaC on May 19th, 2021, for the Pipe Realignment and Meter Installation Project, which identified 10 threatened or endangered species with the potential to occur in the project area; no critical habitats were identified within the project area. EPA evaluated each species and determined that the project would have no effect on listed species.

EPA conducted historic properties record search for the project area using the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS). Of the CHRIS identified recorded resources within the searched project area, no sites were determined to be within the area of potential effects. EPA requested a Sacred Land File and Native American Contact List from the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on July 7, 2021. NAHC responded on July 26, 2021, stating that the SLF search did identify Native American cultural resources within the project vicinity; the NAHC provided EPA with tribal contact information. EPA invited each party to participate and provide input in the Section 106 process. This coordination resulted in EPA becoming aware of tribal archaeological sites that overlap with portions of the project area. The United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria (UAIC) recommended requiring tribal monitoring present during excavations in areas identified to potentially contain a subsurface/buried cultural site. A tribal monitor has been coordinated with the borrower and tribe.

On September 24, 2021, EPA initiated consultation with the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and consultation was reinitiated on October 26, 2021, with the additional recommendations provided by the tribe and a determination of no historic properties adversely affected. On November 24, 2021, SHPO provided some comments and requested additional information. The consultation process will not be concluded in time for scheduled loan close on December 8, 2021; therefore, EPA has coordinated with CA SHPO on the use of a condition precedent to disbursement related to NHPA. SHPO did not object and deferred to EPA's interpretation. Based on the records search and tribal coordination conducted to date, the action is not known or expected to significantly affect historic or cultural resources.

Some areas of the project within Phase 1b are within a 100-year floodplain; however, the new water infrastructure will be placed underground thereby not impeding or redirecting flood flows or affecting the existing levee system.

The project will not affect Bald and Golden Eagles, surface waters, marine mammals, wetlands, sole source aquifers, farmlands, coastal zones, coastal barriers, wild and scenic rivers, essential fish habitat, migratory birds, air quality or wilderness areas.