

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

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State of California | Gavin Newsom – Governor | info@bcdc.ca.gov | www.bcdc.ca.gov

REGIONWIDE PERMIT NO. RWP-4

NOIxxxx.xxx.00

(As Amended Through June 4, 2026)

(Reconstruction, replacement, incidental additions, and maintenance of service lines, utilities, utility cables, pipelines, and outfalls in the Bay, certain waterways, managed wetlands, and shoreline band; installation of new pipelines where the majority of work would occur below the ground surface and Bay bottom.)

[Date]

Permittee
Addressee Number One
Street Address, Suite
City, STATE Zip Code

On March 19, 1992, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, by a vote of 17 affirmative, 0 negative, and 0 abstentions, approved the issuance of the original of this Regionwide Permit. On April 18, 1996, the Commission, by a vote of 17 affirmative, 0 negative, and 0 abstentions, approved Amendment No. One of this Regionwide Permit. On December 18, 2008, the Commission by a vote of 18 affirmative, 0 negative, and 0 abstentions, approved Amendment No. Two of this Regionwide Permit. On January 7, 2010, the Commission by a vote of 19 affirmative, 0 negative, and 0 abstentions, approved Amendment No. Three to the permit. And on June 4, 2026, the Commission unanimously approved Amendment No. Four to the permit via its consent calendar, upon which your authorization is based. By virtue of this same approval, the Commission renamed and renumbered this permit from, which had previously been Regionwide Permit RWP-2 to Regionwide Permit RWP-4.

I. Authorization

- A. Subject to the conditions stated below, the permittee(s) is hereby authorized to do the following:

Location:

Description:

- B. This authority is limited to activities undertaken at a site where activities are not already authorized by another BCDC permit and to projects that would not adversely impact:



(1) the Bay; (2) Bay resources such as those that are scarce, easily disturbed or have an abundance and diversity of fish, other aquatic organisms or wildlife (such as tidal marshes or eelgrass beds); and (3) existing or possible future visual or physical public access to and along the Bay from public access areas, public roads and pathways. This authority is generally pursuant to and limited by your application dated _____, including its accompanying exhibits, any subsequent additions or modifications, and all conditions of this Regionwide Permit.

- C. Work authorized herein must commence within two years of the date of the transmittal of this Regionwide Permit by the Executive Director to you or the authorization of your work will lapse and become null and void. Such work must also be diligently pursued to completion and must be completed within two years of commencement, or within three years of the date of transmittal of this Regionwide Permit to you, whichever is earlier, unless an extension of time is granted by the Executive Director.

II. Special Conditions

The authorization made herein shall be subject to the following special conditions, in addition to the standard conditions in Part IV:

A. Limit of Work

Authorized work shall be built in general conformance with the plans entitled _____, prepared by _____ and dated _____, submitted as part of the application.

B. Construction Operations and Debris Removal

All construction operations shall be performed so as to minimize turbidity and the roiling of waters, to prevent construction materials from falling, washing, or blowing into any tidal areas of the Bay or drifting and presenting a navigation or pollution hazard. In the event that any such material is placed or escapes into any area subject to tidal action of the Bay, the permittee(s), its assigns or successors in interest, or the owner of the improvements shall immediately retrieve and remove such material at its expense. All construction debris shall be removed to an authorized location outside the Commission's jurisdiction and the site left in the same condition and grade as existed prior to project implementation. Any material used to backfill excavated holes and trenches shall be free of contaminants and approved for such use by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

C. Habitat Protection

The work authorized by this Regionwide Permit shall be performed so as to prevent any significant adverse impact on any tidal marsh, tidal flat, eelgrass habitat or other sensitive Bay resources. If any unforeseen adverse impacts occur to any such area as a



result of the activities authorized herein, the permittee(s) shall restore the area to or improve the area above its previous condition, which may include returning the disturbed area to its original elevation and soil composition and, if the area does not revegetate to its former condition within one year, seeding all disturbed areas with appropriate vegetation.

D. Creosote Treated Wood

No pilings or other wood structures that have been pressure treated with creosote shall be used in any area subject to tidal action in the Bay or any certain waterway, in any salt pond, or in any managed wetland within the Commission's jurisdiction as part of the project authorized herein.

E. Maintenance and Replacement of Authorized Facilities

Any in-kind repairs and maintenance of an authorized structure or improvement shall only use construction material that is approved by the Commission in consultation with the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for use in San Francisco Bay. Construction shall only occur during those months of the year, as approved by the Commission in consultation with resource agencies such as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Fish and Wildlife and National Marine Fisheries Service, that avoid or minimize potential impacts to fish and wildlife. BCDC staff should be contacted to confirm current restrictions.

F. Water Quality

Prior to undertaking any work authorized herein on any outfall pipe or similar facility, the permittee(s) shall receive all necessary approvals from the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, for any discharge or emission from such structure.

G. Diked Wetlands Protection

No work authorized herein on culverts, outfalls, tide gates, or similar facilities shall significantly alter water management, circulation or drainage patterns or otherwise adversely affect any salt pond or other sensitive diked wetland resources.

H. Abandonment

If, at any time, the Commission determines that the improvements authorized herein have been abandoned for a period of two years or more, or have deteriorated to the point that public health, safety or welfare is adversely affected, the Commission may require that the improvements be removed by the permittee(s), its assigns or successors

in interest, or by the owner of the improvements within 60 days or such other reasonable time as the Commission may direct.

I. Notice to Contractor

The permittee(s) shall provide a copy of this Regionwide Permit to any contractor or person working in concert with the permittee(s) to carry out the activities authorized herein and shall point out the special conditions contained herein.

III. Findings

The Commission hereby finds, declares, and certifies that:

A. Consistency with Commission Regulations

The projects authorized by this Regionwide Permit include installation, reconstruction, replacement and maintenance of, and incidental additions to, existing currently-used outfall pipes, service lines, utility cables, pipelines, and similar facilities that do not involve any substantial enlargement or any substantial extension into the Bay, into certain waterways, managed wetlands or the 100-foot shoreline band and the installation of new pipelines where the majority of work would occur below the ground surface or Bay bottom. Such projects have been authorized by the Commission as qualifying for a Regionwide Permit because they involve repairs to outfall pipes approved by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, utility cables on or under the bottom of the Bay, and similar facilities, as defined in Regulation Sections 10601(a)(4), 10601(a)(5), 10601(a)(6), 10601(b)(1) and 10601(b)(5), or activities similar to those described above, as defined in Regulation Section 10601(e)(3), and thus are equivalent to a “minor repair and improvement” and qualify for authorization under a Regionwide Permit that may be issued by the Commission and approved by the Executive Director, pursuant to Government Code Section 66632(f) and the Commission’s regulations. The activities authorized by this Regionwide Permit will not have a significant impact on areas within the Commission’s jurisdiction.

B. Consistency with McAteer-Petris Act and San Francisco Bay Plan

The project authorized by this permit is consistent with the McAteer-Petris Act and with the *San Francisco Bay Plan* in that it will not adversely affect the Bay nor public access to and enjoyment of the Bay. Special conditions have been included to assure that project construction, materials and the improvements themselves will not adversely affect the Bay’s natural resources, water quality or navigation and that any deteriorated improvements will be removed if they adversely impact the Bay’s natural resources, water quality, or pose a navigation hazard, as required by the *San Francisco Bay Plan*

policies on fish, other aquatic organisms, and wildlife, tidal marshes and tidal flats, water quality, and navigational safety.

C. Consistency with Coastal Zone Management Act

The activities authorized herein are consistent with the Commission's Amended Management Program for San Francisco Bay, as approved by the Department of Commerce under the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended.

D. Consistency with California Environmental Quality Act

California Public Resources Code Section 21084 provides that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines shall include a list of classes of projects that have been determined not to have a substantial adverse impact on the environment and are therefore exempt from the requirements of CEQA. This list of "categorical exemptions" is located at 14 Cal. Admin. Code Sections 15300 through 15329. Section 15301 (Class 1) exempts the operation, repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities that involve negligible or no expansion of previous use. Section 15302 (Class 2) exempts the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures or facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure being replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the replaced structure. Section 15303 (Class 3) exempts the construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, and subsection (e) specifically exempts accessory structures. The Commission's own regulations provide that the Commission need not prepare an environmental assessment before it issues a permit for a project that falls within the list of categorically exempt activities (14 Cal. Admin. Code Section 10910). This Regionwide Permit is therefore categorically exempt because it authorizes only reconstruction and replacement of, and incidental additions to, existing, currently used outfall pipes, service lines, utility cables, pipelines, and similar facilities that do not involve any substantial enlargement or any substantial extension into the Bay.

The fourth amendment of this Regionwide Permit by the Commission is not subject to the requirements of CEQA because it is not a type of activity that can reasonably be expected to have an impact, individually or cumulatively, on the environment. The fourth amendment was a non-substantive, administrative cleanup to harmonize the Regionwide Permit with BCDC's updated regulations pertaining to regionwide permits, effective July 1, 2026.

E. Listing with the Commission

The Commission staff will prepare a description and indicate the location of any project authorized under this Regionwide Permit, along with the name and address of the permittee(s), and attach such information to the listing of administrative permits, marsh development permits, and federal consistency actions that is sent to the Commission, following the Executive Director's approval of the project under this Regionwide Permit.

F. Enforcement Program and Civil Penalties

The Commission has an enforcement program that reviews its permits for compliance. The Commission may issue cease and desist and civil penalty orders if violations are discovered. The McAteer-Petris Act provides for the imposition of administrative civil penalties ranging from \$10 to \$2,000 per day up to a maximum of \$30,000 per violation. The Act also provides for the imposition of court-imposed civil penalties of up to \$30,000 in addition to any other penalties, penalties for negligent violations of between \$50 and \$5,000 per day, knowing and intentional penalties of between \$100 and \$10,000 per day, and exemplary penalties, which are supplemental penalties, in an amount necessary to deter future violations. In addition, anyone who places fill, extracts materials, or makes any substantial change in use of any water, land or structure within the area of the Commission's jurisdiction without securing a permit from the Commission is guilty of a misdemeanor.

IV. Standard Conditions

A. Permit Execution

This Regionwide Permit shall not take effect unless the permittee(s) executes the original of this Regionwide Permit and returns it to the Commission within 14 days after the date of the issuance of the Regionwide Permit. No work shall be done until the acknowledgment is duly executed and returned to the Commission.

B. Permit Assignment

The rights, duties, and obligations contained in this Regionwide Permit are assignable. When the permittee(s) transfers any interest in any property either on which the activity is authorized to occur or which is necessary to achieve full compliance of one or more conditions to this Regionwide Permit, the permittee(s)/ transferor and the transferee shall execute and submit to the Commission a permit assignment form acceptable to the Executive Director. An assignment shall not be effective until the assignee executes and the Executive Director receives an acknowledgment that the assignee has read and understands the Regionwide Permit and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Regionwide Permit, and the assignee is accepted by the

Executive Director as being reasonably capable of complying with the terms and conditions of the Regionwide Permit.

C. Permit Runs with the Land

Unless otherwise provided in this Regionwide Permit, the terms and conditions of this Regionwide Permit shall bind all future owners and future possessors of any legal interest in the land and shall run with the land.

D. Other Government Approvals

All required permissions from governmental bodies must be obtained before the commencement of work; these bodies include, but are not limited to, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the State Lands Commission, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the city or county in which the work is to be performed, whenever any of these may be required. This Regionwide Permit does not relieve the permittee(s) of any obligations imposed by State or Federal law, either statutory or otherwise.

E. Built Project must be Consistent with Application

Work must be performed in the precise manner and at the precise locations indicated in your application, as such may have been modified by the terms of the Regionwide Permit and any plans approved in writing by or on behalf of the Commission.

F. Life of Authorization

Unless otherwise provided in this Regionwide Permit, all the terms and conditions of this Regionwide Permit shall remain effective for so long as the Regionwide Permit remains in effect or for so long as any use or construction authorized by this Regionwide Permit exists, whichever is longer.

G. Commission Jurisdiction

Any area subject to the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission under either the McAteer-Petris Act or the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act at the time the Regionwide Permit is granted or thereafter shall remain subject to that jurisdiction notwithstanding the placement of any fill or the implementation of any substantial change in use authorized by this Regionwide Permit. Any area not subject to the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission that becomes, as a result of any work or project authorized in this Regionwide Permit, subject to tidal action shall become subject to the Commission's "bay" jurisdiction.

H. Changes to the Commission's Jurisdiction as a Result of Natural Processes

This Regionwide Permit reflects the location of the shoreline of San Francisco Bay when the Regionwide Permit was issued. Over time, erosion, avulsion, accretion, subsidence, relative sea level change, and other factors may change the location of the shoreline, which may, in turn, change the extent of the Commission's regulatory jurisdiction. Therefore, the issuance of this Regionwide Permit does not guarantee that the Commission's jurisdiction will not change in the future.

I. Violation of Permit May Lead to Permit Revocation

Except as otherwise noted, violation of any of the terms of this Regionwide Permit shall be grounds for revocation. The Commission may revoke any permit for such violation after a public hearing held on reasonable notice to the permittee(s) or its assignee if the permit has been effectively assigned. If the Regionwide Permit is revoked, the Commission may determine, if it deems appropriate, that all or part of any fill or structure placed pursuant to this Regionwide Permit shall be removed by the permittee(s) or its assignee if the Regionwide Permit has been assigned.

J. Should Permit Conditions Be Found to be Illegal or Unenforceable

Unless the Commission directs otherwise, this Regionwide Permit shall become null and void if any term, standard condition, or special condition of this Regionwide Permit shall be found illegal or unenforceable through the application of statute, administrative ruling, or court determination. If this Regionwide Permit becomes null and void, any fill or structures placed in reliance on this Regionwide Permit shall be subject to removal by the permittee(s) or its assignee if the Regionwide Permit has been assigned to the extent that the Commission determines that such removal is appropriate. Any uses authorized shall be terminated to the extent that the Commission determines that such uses should be terminated.

K. Permission to Conduct Site Visit

The permittee(s) shall grant permission to any member of the Commission's staff to conduct a site visit at the subject property during and after construction to verify that the project is being and has been constructed in compliance with the authorization and conditions contained herein. Site visits may occur during business hours without prior notice and after business hours with 24-hour notice.

Executed at San Francisco, California, on behalf of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission on the date first above written.



LAWRENCE J. GOLDZBAND
Executive Director
San Francisco Bay Conservation and
Development Commission

LJG/xx

cc: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: Regulatory Functions Branch
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board,
Attn: Certification Section
Environmental Protection Agency
City of _____ Planning Department

* * * * *

Receipt acknowledged, contents understood and agreed to:

Executed at _____

Permittee

On _____ By: _____

Print Name

Title

