

2019070556

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: Los Angeles

From: (Public Agency):
California Department of Transportation, District 7
100 S. Main St, MS-16A, Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Address)

Project Title: VEN 33 Geotechnical Borings

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation, District 7

Project Location - Specific:

State Route 33 at post mile 45.67

Project Location - City: Ojai Project Location - County: Ventura

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to conduct two (2) geotechnical borings on route 33 at post mile 45.67 to investigate visible cracks in the pavement.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation, District 7

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation, District 7

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 6 under section 15306
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project consists of basic data collection which will not result in serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Gabrielle Dashiell Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (213)897-1185

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 6/27/2019 Title: Environmental Planner

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPP:
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUL 01 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

07-VEN-33	45.67	1XC90_001	EFIS: 0717000266 CE#: 201906004
Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency)	P.M./P.M.	E.A/Project No.	Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Briefly describe project including need, purpose, location, limits, right-of-way requirements, and activities involved in this box. Use Continuation Sheet, if necessary.)

Caltrans proposes to conduct geotechnical borings in Ventura County on Route 33 at post mile 45.67 to investigate visible cracks in the pavement potentially due to movement of the existing slope. The work will consist of two geotechnical borings within the pavement and shoulder, and all work will take place within Caltrans right-of-way.

CALTRANS CEQA DETERMINATION (Check one)

Not Applicable – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency Not Applicable – Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study or Environmental Impact Report under CEQA

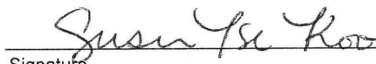
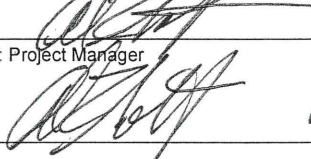
Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the above statements, the project is:

Exempt by Statute. (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
 Categorically Exempt. Class 6 . (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the following statements are true and exceptions do not apply:

- If this project falls within exempt class 3, 4, 5, 6 or 11, it does not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law.
- There will not be a significant cumulative effect by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.
- This project does not damage a scenic resource within an officially designated state scenic highway.
- This project is not located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Govt. Code § 65962.5 ("Cortese List").
- This project does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Common Sense Exemption. [This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)]

<p>Susan Tse Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief  Signature</p>	<p>Ali Lotfi Print Name: Project Manager  Signature</p>
<p>06/27/2019 Date</p>	<p>6/27/19 Date</p>

NEPA COMPLIANCE

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117, and based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that this project:


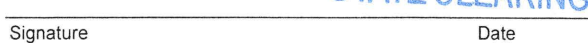
- does not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment as defined by NEPA, and is excluded from the requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and
- has considered unusual circumstances pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(b).

CALTRANS NEPA DETERMINATION (Check one)

23 USC 326: The State has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 31, 2016, executed between the FHWA and the State. The State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(___)
- 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(___)
- Activity ___ listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and the State

23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

<p>Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief  Signature</p>	<p>Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer  Signature</p>
<p>Date</p>	<p>Date</p>

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Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: N/A Date of ECR or equivalent : 6/26/19

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet. Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., CE checklist, additional studies and design conditions).

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM
Continuation Sheet

07-VEN-33	45.67	1XC90_001	EFIS: 0717000266 CE#: 201906004
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Biology:

- The Division of Environmental Planning requests that general Best Management Practices (BMP) to the maximum extent practicable be in place before and during the project construction to avoid any water quality impacts. If at any time, work debris or staging of equipment shall occur inside the channel, drainage, stream, river or creek bed, the Division of Environmental Planning must be notified immediately.
- Nesting Bird surveys must take place at least 72 hours prior to the beginning of drilling activity. Please give the Division of Environmental Planning at least two days' notice prior to surveys. If nesting birds are found, drilling must stop immediately and a buffer of 150 feet for songbirds and 500 feet for raptors must be established. The district biologist must also be notified immediately.
- If any listed species, including species of concern, are observed during drilling activities, all work shall immediately cease, and the district biologist shall be immediately notified. Work shall not resume until clearance is given by the district biologist.
- In order to avoid damage to tree root systems, drilling should not take place within the reach of the canopy of the tree. This precautionary measure should be put in place for all Coast Live Oaks and should include Ash and Pepper trees during bird nesting season.

Cultural:

- If there are any changes to the proposed undertaking, an additional review by the cultural resources unit will be required.
- If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, work shall be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find.

Hazardous Waste:

- If during drilling, odors, discolored soil and/or polluted water is observed, immediately stop work.