

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: _____

From: (Public Agency): _____

(Address)

Project Title: _____

Project Applicant: _____

Project Location - Specific:

Project Location - City: _____ Project Location - County: _____

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: _____

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: _____

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: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Lead Agency

Contact Person: _____ Area Code/Telephone/Extension: _____

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: Emiliano Pro Date: _____ Title: _____

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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

Date Received for filing at OPR: **Jul 02 2020**

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:

- Office of Planning and Research**
US Mail *Street Address*
 PO Box 3044 1400 Tenth St.
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814
- Siskiyou County Clerk**
 510 N. Main St.
 Yreka, CA 96097

FROM:

City of Dunsmuir
5915 Dunsmuir Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA 96025

Project Title: Dunsmuir Water Main Replacement Project

Project Location:

The proposed Project is located within the City of Dunsmuir city limits and in a portion of the unincorporated area of Siskiyou County, in Sections 13, 24, 25, and 36, Township 39N, Range 4W, of the US. Geological Survey's (USGS) Dunsmuir 7.5-minute quadrangle. As shown in **Figure 1**, improvements would occur in four general areas of the City: North Dunsmuir, the River Avenue area, Central Dunsmuir, and South Dunsmuir. Improvements in North Dunsmuir, the River Avenue area, and Central Dunsmuir would occur within the Dunsmuir city limits. Improvements in the South Dunsmuir area would occur in unincorporated areas of Siskiyou County.

City: Dunsmuir

County: Siskiyou

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The City's water distribution system consists of approximately 105,000 feet (19.9 miles) of mainline piping ranging from 1-inch to 18-inch diameter. Many areas in the City's water service boundary are served by undersized pipelines that are 40 to 60 years old and do not have adequate fire flows. In addition, an existing 4-inch steel main that crosses I-5 near the High School predates Interstate 5 (I-5) and is buried approximately 30 feet deep. If a break occurs on this line, the line would have to be capped and abandoned, which would reduce the flow rate to the High School. In addition, in 2013 and 2014, City staff repaired 107 water leaks in its distribution system, and many additional repairs have been completed since that time. In some areas, there is such an extensive leak history that the presence of multiple past leak repair clamps prevents the City from making additional repairs. In these locations, short sections of pipe must be replaced in order to repair the leak.

These conditions pose a serious risk to public health and the environment. The Project addresses these deficiencies by replacing old and undersized water mains, installing new water mains, replacing old water services and meters, installing fire hydrants, installing gate valves, and replacing a pressure-reducing valve (PRV) station. Additional details on the proposed improvements are included in **Attachment A**.

All improvements would be completed in previously disturbed areas in the public road right-of-way (ROW) or in public utility easements. Some of the water services would be installed/replaced outside of paved areas. The majority of the pipeline would be installed using open-cut trenching, with a maximum excavation depth of four feet; trench width would be a maximum of three feet. At locations where open-cut trenching is not feasible (e.g., at the railroad crossing), the new pipe would be installed using a trenchless technique such as horizontal directional drilling (HDD) or bore and jack. At culvert crossings, the pipe would be installed either in the fill overlying the culvert, or by trenching under the culvert. Paved roads that are disturbed during construction would be re-paved following installation of the improvements. Other temporarily disturbed areas would be restored to pre-construction contours.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Dunsmuir

Name of Agency Carrying out the Project: City of Dunsmuir

Local Agency Contact Person: Randy Johnsen, Interim City Manager. 530.235.4822

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption:

California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3 (CEQA Guidelines):

Class 1, §15301 (Existing Facilities)

Class 2, §15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction)

Class 4, §15304 (Minor Alterations to Land)

Reason Why Project Is Exempt:

Class 1 includes the repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public structures, facilities, and mechanical equipment, involving negligible or no expansion of use; Class 2 includes replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity; and Class 4 includes minor alterations in the condition of land that do not involve removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees, including minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.

The Project is consistent with the categorical exemptions noted above because work would consist of repair, maintenance, and minor alterations to existing facilities; negligible expansion of capacity or use would occur; the majority of the pipelines would be placed in previously disturbed areas within the public road ROW and in public utility easements; and the ground surface would be restored following construction.

As documented in **Attachment B**, the proposed Project would not have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances; would not result in damage to scenic resources within a Scenic Highway; is not located on a hazardous waste site pursuant to §65962.5 of the Government Code; would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource; and would not result in cumulative impacts.

Signature:  Date: 7-17-19
Randy Johnsen
Interim City Manager
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for Filing at OPR: JUL 23 2019
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Attachments:

- Figure 1: Project Vicinity and Improvement Locations
- Attachment A: Overview of Proposed Improvements
- Attachment B: Documentation in Support of a Categorical Exemption