



**State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
7360 West Lake Blvd.  
P.O. Box 266, Tahoma, CA 96142

**PROJECT TITLE:** Malakoff Diggins Backbone Communication Site

**LOCATION:** Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park      **COUNTY:** Nevada

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Install one (1) seismic monitoring observatory and one (1) new thermal electric generator at an existing communications site along Backbone Road, at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park to contribute to ongoing research efforts of UC Berkeley Seismology Lab (BSL) Seismic Monitoring Observatory for earthquake early warning. Work will:

Seismic Sensors and Concrete Pad

- Excavate 5' by 5' by 10" deep for concrete pad;
- Use a skid steer mounted auger to drill two (2) 10' deep holes (8" and 6" in diameter respectively);
- Place PVC into the two (2) holes, endcap, and grout in place (below grade) with <1 yd cement;
- Fill the bottom of the excavated cement pad hole with 2" of compacted wet base gravel;
- Construct one (1) rebar enforced concrete pad 4' long by 3' wide by 14" deep;
- Anchor one (1) powder green 3' wide by 2' deep by 2' high aluminum enclosure to the concrete slab;
- Place seismic sensors down casings;

Generator and Pedestal Stand

- Excavate one (1) auger hole 1' in diameter by 7' deep for generator pedestal stand;
- Secure one (1) 10" steel conduit in the hole with concrete then backfill and compact excavated soil;
- Attach one (1) model 5120 thermo electric generator to conduit with pole mounting hardware;

Trenching

- Excavate two (2) trenches: 30" long by 18" deep and 4" wide and 50' long by 24" deep and 4" wide;
- Install conduit in trench, plumb, backfill, and compact;
- Drive one (1) 8' long ground rod cable into the soil;

Communications Vault and Tower Modifications

- Install rack inside the existing communications vault and mount data logger to rack;
- Drill two (2) holes into the existing vault for the conduit to enter the structure;
- Insert four to six (4-6) 12V 100AH batteries on a shelf inside the vault;
- Mount one (1) GPS antenna, 3" in diameter to the exterior of the communications vault; and
- Mount one (1) 5-8 element Yagi antenna to the existing tower and align to CalOES/Banner Mountain.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:** California Department of Parks and Recreation

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Sierra District

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

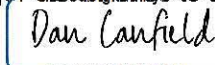
Categorical Exemption

Class: 3, 4 & 6

Section: 15303, 15304 & 6

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** Project consists of the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; a minor public alteration in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees for forestry purposes; and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource and is included as "issuance of easements and permits" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR§ 15300.4 and basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource..

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12/8/2020  
Dan Canfield, District Superintendent      DATE  
Northern / Sierra District