



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 11/2020)**

<b><u>Project Information</u></b>	
<b>Project Name (if applicable):</b> HUM 169 Storm Restoration Geotechnical Drilling	
<b>DIST-CO-RTE:</b> 01-0H021	<b>PM/PM:</b> 29.23 & 42.32
<b>EA:</b> 01-0H021	<b>Federal-Aid Project Number:</b>
<b><u>Project Description</u></b>	
<p>Caltrans proposes drilling six vertical borings from the paved lanes of Highway 169. Caltrans anticipates that the borings will be between 75 and 100 feet in depth. The borings will be constructed as slope inclinometers and/or standpipe monitoring wells to measure the depths to the failure surface and groundwater respectively. The total drilling time (6 borings and piezometer installation) is estimated to take 15 working days. Due to the narrow roadway width and existing powerlines, a highway closure will be necessary to conduct the drilling. The purpose of the geotechnical drilling is to characterize the subsurface soil conditions to determine the design parameters for the retaining walls. This is needed to support the HUM 169 Storm Restoration project in order to restore the roadway to pre 2017 storm damage conditions. All drilling will be within the Caltrans right of way.</p>	

**Caltrans CEQA Determination** (Check one)

- Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency
- Not Applicable** – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, 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.)
  - No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the [SER Chapter 34](#) for exceptions.
- Covered by the 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].)

**Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief**

Dana York		3/3/2021
Print Name	Signature	Date

**Project Manager**

Jaime Matteoli		3/8/21
Print Name	Signature	Date



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

Not Applicable

Caltrans 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). See SER Chapter 30 for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

23 USC 326: Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2019, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(Enter activity number)
23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)
Activity 7 listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans

23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans 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.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Dana York (Print Name), Dana York (Signature), 3/3/2021 (Date)

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Jaime Matteoli (Print Name), Jaime Matteoli (Signature), 3/8/21 (Date)

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 03/03/2021
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 03/01/2021

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet if needed (i.e., not necessary if included on an attached ECR). Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., additional studies and design conditions).



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**Continuation sheet:**

Air, biological, cultural, and hazardous waste reviews have been completed, and there will be no significant impact with the incorporation of the measure identified below.

**The following measures have been included as part of the project:**

- A cultural monitor will be on site for drilling as necessary.