



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): PSPS Signal Visibility

DIST-CO-RTE: 03-VAR/VAR

PM/PM: VAR/VAR

EA: 1J090

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

A Director's Order was issued to address visibility issues during Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). PSPS is implemented by utility companies to reduce the risk of wildfires. PSPS are impacting State Highway System traffic signals. As a result of PSPS, traffic signals at intersections are going dark, which is impacting State Highway System (SHS) traffic signals. This project is needed to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, or essential services.

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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 1. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

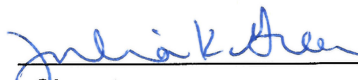
No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the SER Chapter 34 for exceptions.

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

Julia Green

Print Name


Signature

5/28/21

Date

Project Manager

Anthony Thurman

Print Name


Signature

6/1/2021

Date



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

[X] 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)(N/A)

[] 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(N/A)

[] Activity N/A 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

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: N/A

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: N/A



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Continuation sheet:

The project is located in El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Yolo, Glenn, Yuba, and Butte Counties. The routes included on this project are the following: 32, 70, 99, 162, 191, 49, 50, 20, 80, 89, 267, 28, 16, 128, and 65.

The scope of work includes:

- Traffic control
- New backplate replacement:
 - Remove and dispose of existing backplates
 - Install new backplates with retro-reflective sheeting
- If replacement backplates are not available or if backplates cannot be removed, install retro-reflective sheeting
- Install Signal Ahead (W-3) signs along with "SIGNAL AHEAD" pavement markings in advance of traffic signals as needed
- Place "Traffic Signal Ahead"
- Install enhanced conspicuity retro-reflective treatment on all school zone signposts
- Provide replacement reflective backplates (two-hundred 3 head, ten 4 head). These replacements will cover the whole district when there are knockdowns, or the reflective material starts failing.

Staging and work was all within State right-of-way.

No disposal required a borrow site.

No need for consultation or coordination.

No permits required.