

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 1603 ⁴⁰³

FILED
TULARE COUNTY
MAR 14 2022
ASSESSOR/CLERK RECORDER
BY:
Dated filed at Tulare County Clerk's Office

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: hguerra@tularecounty.ca.gov
jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Information & Communications Technology Department
5957 S. Mooney Blvd. Ste 2270
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 802-9800

Project Title: Richgrove Radio Tower at Fire Station # 10
Project Location - Specific: 20890 Grove Drive, Richgrove, CA, 93261 (APN340-020-003)
Project Location- Section, Township, Range: W½ of the NW¼ of Section 31, Township 24S, Range 27E
Project Location - City: Unincorporated community of Richgrove, CA Project Location - County: Tulare

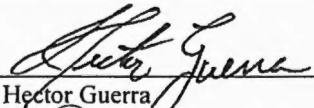
Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: As part of the American Rescue Plan budget, the Tulare County Board of Supervisors have approved the installation of a 120-foot radio tower for at the location of Tulare Fire Station #10. This project involves the actual construction of the radio tower that will sit on an 18'x18' concrete pad along the existing parking lot area in the northeast portion of the property along with an outdoor equipment closet for weather proofed cabinet for the radio equipment that is 62" x 59" x 42". The project scope consists of removing existing lawn and asphalt, installation of the site pad, raising of the tower, adding the equipment closet, and then connecting an electrical conduit between this equipment closet and the tower, to the existing Fire Department structure. The modifications to the site will be set back beyond 200 feet from the Grove Avenue/Avenue 4 entrance to the facility, thereby reducing potential visibility from the street. The limits for the tower project are within the existing confines of the existing Fire Station parking lot, drainage will be confined on-site, and will not impact any areas not currently covered by concrete. The radio tower will enhance the county's existing communications network thereby providing a public benefit by enhancing first responder capabilities.

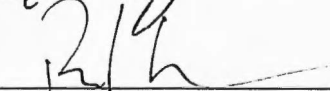
Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Common Sense Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (c) and Class 3 Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures
- Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why project is exempt: This action is consistent with Section 15301 Existing Facilities and Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures as the project will occur on and within the footprint an existing location (Fires Station #10) parking lot. The radio tower (including the cabinet for the radio equipment) will be developed in an area currently constructed as a parking lot; no other changes would occur. Therefore, the use of CEQA Sections 15301 and 15303 are applicable and appropriate for this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
Project Planner/Representative: Norman Fazekas, IT Project Manager II Telephone: (559) 622-7282

Signature:  Date: 03/14/22 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Hector Guerra

Signature:  Date: 3/14/22 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director