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Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: Klamath River Rural Broadband Initiative

Lead Agency: California Public Utilities Commission (state) BIA (federal)

Contact Name: Connie Chen, CPUC

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Project Location: McKinleyville and multiple unincorporated towns, Humboldt County
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The Project is proposed to extend approximately 104 miles through rural Humboldt County crossing portions of McKinleyville and the small towns of Orleans, Weitchpec, Wautec, and Orick. The Project area includes lands under the jurisdiction of various federal, state and private entities, as well as tribal lands. A portion of the Project area is in Redwood National Park, which is managed by the National Parks Service (NPS). It also includes National Forest Land within the Six Rivers National Forest that is under management of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and two areas of land under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), as well as a large area of private land owned and operated as active timber land by the Green Diamond Resource (GDR) Company. The Project would comprise installation of a “middle-mile” fiber optic network as well as “last- mile” wireless broadband networks to provide high-speed internet access to first responder agencies, anchor institutions, households and businesses that are currently unserved or underserved with internet access. The Project consists of above-ground and underground installation of fiber optic cables, a wireless tower in the town of Orick, a signal connection in Orleans, and placement of “last mile" fiber cable

Identify the project’s significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

With implementation of measures proposed by the applicant the majority of impacts identified in the Initial Study would be reduced to less-than-significant levels. Potentially significant effects requiring mitigation measures were identified for biological resources, noise and vibration, cultural resources, and geology, soils, and paleontology. In addition to measures proposed by the applicant, Mitigation Measure NOISE-1 will be implemented to reduce daytime noise impacts during construction. Mitigation for geology consists of the implementation of a paleontological resources monitoring and mitigation plan (Mitigation Measure GEO-1), paleontological resource monitoring (Mitigation Measure BIO-2), and to stop work at the discovery of fossils (Mitigation Measure GEO-3). Mitigation for biological resources includes avoiding impacts on rare plants (Mitigation Measure BIO-1), avoiding impacts on special-status terrestrial species (Mitigation Measure BIO-2), avoiding impacts on special-status bats (Mitigation Measure BIO-3), and avoiding impacts to listed birds (Mitigation Measure BIO-4).With implementation of the applicant proposed measures and mitigation measures, all potentially significant impacts would be reduced to less-than-significant levels.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

None known.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Parks and Recreation, California State Lands Commission (CSLC), California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Department of Transportation, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and Humboldt County.