

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: _____

From: (Public Agency): Dept. of Trans. (Caltrans) District 10
1976 E. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
Stockton, CA 95205

(Address)

Project Title: Livingston Broadband (BBMMN)

Project Applicant: Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans) District 10

Project Location - Specific:

State Route 99 from Post Miles 28.2 to 37.3

Project Location - City: Livingston

Project Location - County: Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to install (4), 2-inch conduits in a 2 feet to 6 feet deep trench along State Route 99 from post mile 28.2 to 37.3 in Merced County, to allow for the installation of a fiber optic line as part of the Broadband Middle Mile Network. There are three proposed methods to install the conduit in this project (open trench, trenching in the pavement, and horizontal directional drilling). It is proposed to use one of three methods to convey the conduit through bridge locations namely attach the conduit to the outside of the bridge barrier, hang the conduit from the soffit of the bridge or place the conduits into the structure cell. Vaults will be spaced out at intervals not to exceed 2,500 feet and fiber optic cable splices approximately at 12,500 feet. Maintenance vehicle pullouts are also proposed to access the vaults. All work will be performed within Caltrans Right-of-Way. This project is exempt, by statute, from CEQA due to Section 21080.51 of the California Public Resources Code.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans), District 10

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans), District 10

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 21080.51 CPRC

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is exempt, by statute, from CEQA due to Section 21080.51 of the California Public Resources Code.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: James P. Henke Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 209-471-3941

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: James P. Henke Date: 10/17/2022 Title: Branch Chief

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____