



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)**

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** CMS Enhancements

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 01-MEN/DN

**PM/PM:** VAR

**EA:** 01-0L460

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** NA

**Project Description**

Maintenance is developing a State-Funded project on multiple routes in Del Norte and Mendocino County. The purpose of this project is to upgrade four Changeable Message Sign (CMS) boards and supplemental boxes across the district. Each location will get a new CMS board and accompanying hardware replaced in the cabinet.

The CMS signs will be replaced on the top of the sign structure. The existing multi conductor cables connecting the controller cabinet to the sign board will be removed and replaced with multiple CAT6/5E cables (qty 4). The 2070 controller and the CIA module (both rack mounted) will be removed from the existing 334 cabinet and the new test box and the hardened rack mount controller (that is delivered by METS) will be installed. The controller will be connected to Caltrans network hardware via an ethernet cable. Existing pull boxes will be opened, and contents of the existing conduit will be modified.

There are no proposed ground disturbing activities. The project will not have any significant impacts to environmental resources including biological, cultural, noise, visual, and air quality. Additionally, while unlikely, there is potential for migratory and/or non-migratory birds to nest on or in the CMS signs. As a result, pre-construction surveys are necessary if work is completed during the nesting season of February 1 thru August 31. Otherwise, surveys are not necessary.

**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

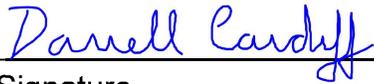
Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is:

- Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
- Categorically Exempt. Class 15301** (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].)



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**Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief**

Darrell Cardiff		11/10/22
Print Name	Signature	Date

**Project Manager**

Sean Larson		11/18/2022
Print Name	Signature	Date

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, 2022, 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 Enter activity number 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 May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.



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Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Print Name	Signature	Date
<b>Not Applicable</b>		
Project Manager/DL Engineer		
Print Name	Signature	Date

**Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable):** N/A  
**Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent:** 10/31/2022

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).