

**Notice of Exemption**

**Appendix E**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
County Clerk  
County of: MER  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**From:** (Public Agency) Caltrans, Dist. 10  
1975 E. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Stockton CA 95205

Project Title: 10-1P830; Merced I-5 ROW Fence  
Replacement Project Applicant: California Department of  
Transportation Project Location - Specific:  
10-MER-5-24.8/25.9

Project Location - City: Santa Nella Project Location - County: MER

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:  
The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to remove existing fence and replace it with new wire mesh fence with metal post in Merced County on Interstate (I) 5, near Santa Nella, from Delta Mendota Canal Bridge to Butts Road Overcrossing (postmile 24.8 to postmile 25.9). The fence is facing the end of its life span and showing signs of degradation and damage. All construction will take place within the existing State’s Right of Way (ROW). The purpose of this project is to re-establish access control and demarcation of Caltrans ROW. The need for this project is to prevent livestock and pedestrians from entering the ROW, which could endanger their own safety, as well as the safety of the traveling public.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

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: 15301 - Existing Facilities  
 Statutory Exemption. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason why project is exempt:  
The project will not affect any sensitive species or their habitat, cultural resources, scenic resources, or any other environmentally sensitive resources.

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: Reena Gohil Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 209-986-9816

**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: Reena Gohil Date: 2/13/2023 Title: Associate Environmental Planner

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR \_\_\_\_\_  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.