

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

FROM: Central Valley Flood Protection Board
 3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 170
 Sacramento, CA 95821

State Clearinghouse No. 2023070258

Project Title: Permit No. 19844-Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative Project – State Route 198 at Kaweah River Designated Floodway

Project Applicant (if any): California Department of Technology

Project Location/Address/City/County: The project is located on State Route 198 starting at approximately 36.44615°N 118.90203°W and extending north along State Route 198 for approximately 3500 feet, in the city of Three Rivers, Tulare County.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: To install one (1) 2-inch diameter Fiber Optic Conduit (FOC) with fiber optic cable within the Kaweah River designated floodway between Postmile 39.10 and 39.76. The FOC is to be installed by horizontal directional drilling method beneath eight existing culverts, with a minimum separation of 2 feet between the bottom of the culvert and the conduit. The FOC will transition to installation by trenching in 2 feet to 6 feet deep open trench (4.2 feet typical depth) between culverts.

Public Agency Approving Project: Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board)

Public Agency/Person Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Common Sense Exemption (CEQA Sec 15061(b)(3))
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: § 15303 and § 15304
- Statutory Exemption. State code number: 201080.51.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The project is statutorily exempt under the provisions of CEQA. The Board’s approval involves issuing an encroachment permit for the installation of a Broadband Network Infrastructure on State Route 198 along the Kaweah River which is exempt under the statutory exemption of the CEQA Public Resources Code Section 21080.51.

In addition, the Board has determined that the project is exempt from CEQA under the Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures categorical exemption (CEQA CCR, Title 14, Section 15303), because the activity consists of the installation of utility extensions. The project is also exempt under the Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land categorical exemption (CEQA CCR, Title 14, Section 15304), because the project involves minor public alterations in the condition of the land which does not involve the removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees. Further, none of the exceptions to the exemption in CEQA CCR, Title 14, Section 15300.2 apply.

Board Contact Person: Angela Nguyen-Tan; (916) 837-3717; Angela.Nguyen-Tan@cvflood.ca.gov

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

June 10, 2024

Signature

Chris Lief, Executive Officer

Date

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Responsible Agency

Date Received for filing at OPR:

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