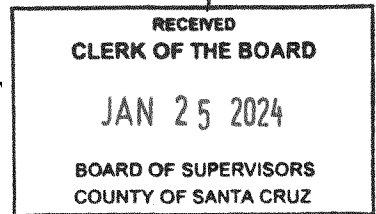


026-24



**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT  
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

The Santa Cruz County Planning Department has reviewed the project described below and has determined that it is exempt from the provisions of CEQA as specified in Sections 15061 - 15332 of CEQA for the reason(s) which have been specified in this document.

Application Number: 221049  
Assessor Parcel Number: 080-062-02  
Project Location: 186 Summit Drive, Santa Cruz

**Project Description:** Proposal to modify an existing telecommunications facility to include removal of the existing 70 foot 6 inch tall guyed lattice tower and related equipment, satellite dish, shed, 12 foot 6 inch tall lattice tower, and chain link fencing; replacement with a 6 foot chain link fence with green slats and barbed wire above, an approximately 151 foot tall wireless communication facility (WCF) camouflaged as a monopine with 9 panel antennas and associated wireless equipment, generator within the existing equipment building, outdoor propane tank, and repainting the equipment building, landscape screening, and other miscellaneous improvements located within the existing site and building enclosure. Requires a Commercial Development Permit, Exception to height, and a determination that the project is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**Person or Agency Proposing Project:** Delta Group Engineering, c/o Tom Derkas

**Contact Phone Number:** (925) 202-3333

- A.  The proposed activity is not a project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- B.  The proposed activity is not subject to CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c).
- C.  **Ministerial Project** involving only the use of fixed standards or objective measurements without personal judgment.
- D.  **Statutory Exemption** other than a Ministerial Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15260 to 15285).
- E.  **Categorical Exemption.**

Specify type:

Class 2 - Replacement or reconstruction (Section 15302)

Class 3 - New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (Section 15303)

**F. Reasons why the project is exempt:**

Class 2- consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the

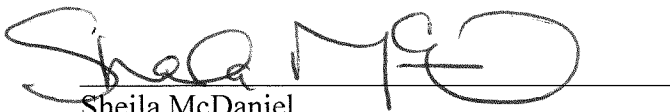
THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK  
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A  
PERIOD COMMENCING 1/25 2024  
AND ENDING 2/24 2024

new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced, including but not limited to: (a) Replacement or reconstruction of existing schools and hospitals to provide earthquake resistant structures which do not increase capacity more than 50 percent. (b) Replacement of a commercial structure with a new structure of substantially the same size, purpose, and capacity. (c) Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity. (d) Conversion of overhead electric utility distribution system facilities to underground including connection to existing overhead electric utility distribution lines where the surface is restored to the condition existing prior to the undergrounding.

Class 3 - Construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structure from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure.

In addition, none of the conditions described in Section 15300.2 apply to this project. The proposed wireless facility, including the lease area, wireless faux monopine, equipment within the lease area, and facility fencing is not located within a biotic resource area, sensitive habitat, visible from a scenic roadway or visual resource area or include significant hazardous substances. Propane tanks are common to residential development in the rural area and not considered to include significant hazardous materials. The site is also not identified on the hazardous site list by the Environmental Health Agency.

Pursuant to section 15061, the commonsense exemption applies here because the replacement facility is designed as a faux monopine and located in a forest setting surrounded by tall trees which camouflage the facility as a pine tree and landscape screening is provided to screen private understory views to the extent feasible. Limited private views of the facility tree trunk and top of faux monopine are not considered environmental impacts. Thus, there is no reasonable possibility that the replacement facility would have an environmental impact.



Sheila McDaniel,  
Project Planner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_