Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research CEQA Submit

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Central Region 1234 East Shaw Avenue Fresno, California 93710



Project Title: Middle Mile Broadband Network Project 2 (Project), Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-KER-36958-R4 (SAA)

Project Location: The Project will occur within seven unnamed ephemeral streams along State Route 14, between Post Mile 28.0 and Post Mile 17.38, in eastern Kern County.

Project Description: On $\frac{2/2/2024}{}$, CDFW executed the SAA pursuant to Fish and Game Code 1600 et seq., and the Project authorized by the SAA will be carried out by the California Department of Technology. The Project involves activities related to installation of the state-owned Middle Mile Broadband Network across streams including site preparation (clearing and grubbing), trenching, plowing, horizontal directional drilling, and backfilling of excavated areas. The SAA includes conditions governing authorized activities such as necessary reasonable measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife resources.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Technology

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption. California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15269, subdivision (b); Public Resources Code, section 21080.51;

Reasons why project is exempt: CDFW has concluded that the issuance of the SAA meets the qualifying criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21080.51, subdivision (a)(1 - 5.). CDFW's conclusion is supported by the activities authorized by and the conditions described in the SAA.

CDFW Contact Person: Dylan Burkey, Environmental Scientist - dylan.burkey@wildlife.ca.gov.

Signature:	Order Vance	Date:	/2/2024
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