

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
1976 E. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Blvd.
Stockton CA 95205

Project Title: 10-1S370: TMS Electrical System Updates

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific:
10-MER-5-15.5

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

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes a project to improve the Highway Management System (HMS) on Interstate 5 in Merced County at postmile 15.5. This project specifically focuses on replacing a Changeable Message Sign (CMS) located near Santa Nella, approximately 0.4 miles north of Etcheverry Road. All construction activities associated with this project will be confined within the existing state right-of-way. The existing CMS on I-5 is in poor condition and outdated. This project addresses this critical need to ensure reliable operation of the HMS. A functioning HMS is essential for Meeting Senate Bill (SB-1) targets, which mandate a 90% reduction in traffic fatalities and severe injuries by 2027. The need for this

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: S. 15301 Existing Facilities
- Statutory Exemption. State code number: _____

Reason why project is exempt:

Project will not affect any sensitive resources or their habitat, any cultural 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: 4/11/24 Title: Associate Environmental Planner

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

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

Date Received for filing at OPR _____