



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)**

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Traffic Management Systems Electrical Upgrade

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 10- MER, TUO-VAR      **PM/PM:** VAR

**EA:** 10-1S410      **Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

**Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to replace the Traffic Management Systems (TMS) technology components at various locations along State Route (SR) 152, 108, and 99 in Merced and Tuolumne Counties. Please see the Continuation Sheet for location details. All work will be within Caltrans Right of Way. The purpose of this project is to provide reliable and efficient TMS technologies to meet current Caltrans standards. The project is needed to improve mobility of the traveling public by ensuring that Traffic Management Center has reliable information feed of traffic within the project limits.

**Caltrans CEQA Determination** (Check one)

- Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency
- Not Applicable** – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is:

- Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
- Categorically Exempt. Class 1.** (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)
  - No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the [SER Chapter 34](#) for exceptions.
- Covered by the Common Sense Exemption.** This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)

**Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief**

Elizabeth Hummel		06/13/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date

**Project Manager**

Jason Miller		6/13/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

[X] Not Applicable

Caltrans has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). See SER Chapter 30 for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

[ ] 23 USC 326: Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2022, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- [ ] 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)()
[ ] 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)
[ ] Activity Enter activity number listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans

[ ] 23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Print Name Signature Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 6/13/2024

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet if needed (i.e., not necessary if included on an attached ECR). Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., additional studies and design conditions).



## CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

### Continuation sheet:

Table 1. Project Location Details

#	County	SR	Location	Direction	Type	PM	Scope
1	Mer	152	E/O I-5	WB	CMS	15.118	Replace all electronic components of the existing CMS Type 500 to CMS Type 700. Utilize the existing structure.
2	Tuo	108	E/O Peaceful Oak Road	EB	Traffic Census Station	R4.684	Replace loops and equipment.
3	Mer	99	S/O Mariposa Creek Bridge	NB	EMS	R9.4	This EMS was completely replaced with 10-41570X. It was damaged in an accident and it is currently non-operational - Replace

### **General:**

- Environmental reevaluation will be required if the scope of the project changes to include additional areas or activities, or if previously unknown cultural or other sensitive resources are discovered. Contact the Environmental Office if project changes occur or sensitive resources are discovered.
- Contact the Environmental Office to attend the pre-construction meeting.

### **Cultural:**

- If cultural materials are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately:



## CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

1. Stop all work within a 60foot radius of discovery
  2. Protect the discovery area
  3. Notify the Engineer
  4. The Department Investigates. Do not move cultural materials or take them from the job site. Retain a qualified archaeologist to assess the significance of the find. Do not resume work within the discovery area until authorized.
- If human remains are discovered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall cease in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County coroner contacted. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At the same time the landowner will work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

### **Biology:**

- Caltrans Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-10.01 shall be included in the contract. All food related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps will be disposed of in closed containers and removed daily from the construction site.

### **Hazardous Waste:**

- The Caltrans Standard Special Provision 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii), which pertains to Earth Material Containing Lead, shall be added to the construction contract. A Lead Compliance Plan prepared by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) is required and all soil must remain on-site.
- Caltrans standard specifications, section 14-11.15 for handling and disposal of electrical equipment should be added to the construction contract.

No Permits Required