



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Exploratory Bore Drilling (as part of I-5 Asset Management Project EA 43127)

DIST-CO-RTE: 11-SD-5

PM/PM: R0.3/R36.0

EA: 43127

Federal-Aid Project Number: 1121000129

Project Description

Caltrans proposes to perform exploratory bore drilling at 16 locations along I-5 from PM 2.66 to PM R31.29. Exploratory boring is required to determine the construction approach for select OH Sign and CCTV Pole foundations, culvert improvements, and pavement rehab locations as part of the I-5 Asset Management Project (EA 11-43127). Specific locations to perform exploratory drilling were identified in the final approved Project Report's Draft GDR. Bore holes will be up to 8-inches in diameter and will be backfilled per County of SD well destruction regulations. The environmental commitments for this project are attached as part of the ECR.

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

Matthew Voss for Shay-Lynn Harrison	<i>Matthew Voss</i>	10/31/2022
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Jose Luis Robles	<i>Jose Luis Robles</i>	11/1/2022
Print Name for Margarita Nunez	Signature	Date



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

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)(24)

23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)

Activity 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

Matthew Voss for Shay-Lynn Harrison Matthew Voss 10/31/2022
Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Jose Luis Robles Jose Luis Robles 11/1/2022
Print Name for Margarita Nunez Signature Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): 10/31/2022
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 10/27/2022

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).