



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** Butte 70, Sac 160 and 51, and El Dorado 50 CMS

**DIST-CO-RTE:** VAR/VAR/VAR

**PM/PM:** VAR/VAR

**EA:** 03-3G470

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

**Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), District 3 proposes to upgrade six (6) Changeable Message Signs (CMS) in Butte, Sacramento, and El Dorado County. The project will upgrade six (6) existing CMS signs. The current CMS have issues that make them inoperable during winter operations. The project is required to prevent or delay the need for major rehabilitation on the structures.

**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**

Thaleena Bhattal

*Thaleena Bhattal*

8/5/24

Print Name

Signature

Date

**Project Manager**

Jennifer Key

*Jennifer Key*

8/5/24

Print Name

Signature

Date



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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)()
[ ] 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

N/A Print Name, N/A Signature, N/A Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A Print Name, N/A Signature, N/A Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 8/1/24

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).



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### Continuation sheet:

The project includes the following:

Location	County	Route	Postmile	Work
1	Butte	70	19.702	Upgrade existing CMS sign
2	Sacramento	160	L3.954	Upgrade existing CMS sign
3	Sacramento	51	2.058	Upgrade existing CMS sign
4	El Dorado	50	58.88	Upgrade existing CMS sign
5	El Dorado	50	75.592	Upgrade existing CMS sign
6	El Dorado	50	79.846	Upgrade existing CMS sign

The project will be within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW). Acquisition of new ROW is not anticipated for this proposed project.

**Environmental Commitments:** The project will not pose significant environmental impacts based on studies conducted. As a result, the project is exempt from the requirement to prepare environmental document and qualifies for Categorical Exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The environmental commitments contained within the studies must be incorporated into the Plan Specification and Estimates (PS&E)/Ready to List (RTL) package as follows.

Hazardous Materials: An Initial Site Assessment was conducted and identified the following, which will be incorporated into the PS&E.

- Standard Special Provision Lead Compliance Plan 7-1.02K (6)(j)(ii), Lead Compliance Plan

Air Quality: Section 14-9. Section 14-9.02 specifically requires compliance by the contractor with all applicable laws and regulations related to air quality, including the Butte County, Sacramento Metro, and El Dorado County Air Quality Management Districts' regulations and local ordinances.

Noise associated with construction is controlled by Caltrans Standard Specification Section 14-8.02, "Noise Control," which states the following:

- Control and monitor noise resulting from work activities.
- Do not exceed 86 dBA Lmax at 50 feet from the job site from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.

### Permits

- Project will not require permits.