

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Daisey Miranda, Associate Planner

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN: 128-026-011

Project No.: PD2024-0001 & U2024-0002

Location: 1641 East Donovan Road

Project Title: AT&T Telecommunications Tower

Project Applicant: Jerry Ambrose, Eukon Group

Project Description: Review of a Planned Development Permit (PD2024-0001) and Conditional Use Permit (U2024-0002) for Eukon Group to construct a new stealth AT&T wireless telecom facility consisting of a new 65-foot high faux-eucalyptus tower and ancillary equipment on a 2-acre site in a PD/M-2 (Planned Development/ General Manufacturing) district.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Santa Maria

Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project: Jerry Ambrose, Eukon Group

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guidelines Section: This is a class 3 (new construction or conversion of small structures) Categorical Exemption pursuant to Section 15303 of the California Environmental Quality Act State Guidelines.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The project is for the construction of a new 65-foot-tall antenna support structure designed as a Eucalyptus tree, ground mounted equipment cabinets, a standby generator and additional ancillary equipment. The fenced-in lease area is 780 square feet. The 2-acre project site is located in the northeast portion of the City, just north of Donovan Road, south of the levee trail, east of Highway 101 and west of North Suey Road.

The project has been determined to be categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 applies to projects that consist of (1) a limited number of new, small facilities or structures; and (2) the installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures, both of which the State has determined to be a class of projects that will not have a significant effect on the environment.

The proposed project does not involve unusual circumstances, including future activities, resulting in or which might reasonably result in significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

(a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

The project site is not a designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted sensitive environment, pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies, but instead is a developed site surrounded by urban development, and therefore the project will not impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern.

(b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

This is a single proposal with no associated future phases. No cumulative impacts would be generated.

(c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

No unusual circumstances are posed by the site or the proposed project, and no significant environmental effects are anticipated.

(d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

No, scenic resources or official designated scenic highways exist on or near the site, therefore no such resources would be impacted by the project.

(e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

The project site is not included on any Gov. Code Section 65962.5 listing.

(f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

No historical or archaeological resources are located at the project site.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Daisey Miranda, Associate Planner

Phone #: (805) 925-0951 x 2016

Department/Division Representative: Community Development/ Planning Division

Date: August 22, 2024

Acceptance Date: _____

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____