

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk
County of: Modoc
108 E. Modoc Street
Alturas CA 96101

From: (Public Agency): County of Modoc
203 W. 4th Street
Alturas CA 96101
(Address)

Project Title: Frontier Project 5288548

Project Applicant: Frontier Communications c/o Greg Bordelon

Project Location - Specific:
Modoc County Roads 54 and 60 and Dons Road and Dons Road.

Project Location - City: Project Location - County: Modoc

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
See attached project description

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Modoc

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Frontier Communications c/o Greg Bordelon

- 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));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301, Existing Facilities & 15304(f), Minor Alterations to Land
[] Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:
The baseline condition of the project site for each segment occurs in existing road right-of-way or adjacent to improved road and shoulder and is regularly maintained. The Project qualifies for an exemption under CEQA Section 15301, Class 1: Existing Facilities. Frontier Utility Upgrade to existing facilities by adding fiber optic cable by means of underground placement and CEQA section 15304(f), Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land: The project includes minor trenching and horizontal boring and backfilling where the surface is restored.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Sean Curtis Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-233-7651

- 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: Sean Curtis Date: 18 Sept 04 Title: Inter Planning Director

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR:
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.



Frontier Project 5288548 – Subsurface Broadband Facility

Frontier Communications Project 5288548 is being undertaken to provide service in an underserved broadband area with the purpose of deploying high-quality advanced communications services to residents of Modoc County to promote economic growth, job creation, and the substantial social benefits of advanced information and communications technologies.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Frontier Communications proposes the installation of 80,980 feet of fiber optic cable by means of underground placement located along County Roads 54 & 60 and Dons Road, in Modoc County. The project has three buried sections. Segment A begins approximately 740 feet northeast of the intersection County Road (CR) 54 and CR 60 on the south bound shoulder and continues south for 678 feet where it crosses CR 54 and continues onto CR 60 for 321 feet where the terminus is located at existing pole 16. Segment B begins approximately 2,680 feet from the intersection of CR 54 and CR 60 on the north bound shoulder of CR 60 and continues south along CR 60 for 79,661 feet until the Project's terminus at an existing pole. Segment C begins along US-395 on the southbound side and turns west along Dons Road. This is a 320-foot alignment that will be buried by means of horizontal directional drilling. The underground cable will be placed via plowing, micro-trenching and horizontal directional drilling. The proposed communication cable would upgrade the existing service and facilitate improved communication services. Construction would be staged from the shoulder and would require closure of the shoulder as construction progresses down the right of way. Equipment to be used for the construction of the cable includes a plow, horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) bore, backhoe, bucket truck, and trailer for placing and splicing cable.

CEQA RECOMMENDATION

Modoc County Staff has reviewed your CEQA proposal and recommends the following determination. The baseline condition of the project site for each segment occurs in existing road right-of-way or adjacent to improved road and shoulder and is regularly maintained. Exemptions recommended are based on the scope, design, and review of documents provided by RX3 for Frontier Communications. The Project qualifies for an exemption under CEQA Section 15301: Existing Facilities, Class 1. Frontier Utility Upgrade to existing facilities. The project also qualifies for exemption under CEQA section 15304(f): Minor Alterations to Land, Class 4, where minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.