



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Abbot Mine Geotech

DIST-CO-RTE: 01-LAK-20

PM/PM: PM R43.9/R44.2

EA: 01-0M310

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0122000135

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using State funds, is proposing to complete geotechnical work in support of a project on State Route (SR) 20, between post miles (PM) R43.9-R44.2, in Lake County.

Continued to page 3.

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 6.** (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

Julie Mcfall	<i>Julie McFall</i>	11/06/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Isral Konopa	<i>Isral Konopa</i>	11/06/2024
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)(Enter activity number)
[] 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

NA Print Name, NA Signature, NA Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

NA Print Name, NA Signature, NA Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): NA

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 10/30/24

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:

Continued from page 1.

Additional Information: The Office of Geotechnical Design West (OGDW) is planning a geotechnical site investigation for the proposed cut slope. The investigation will include a boring location at approximately PM 44.1, and a seismic refraction line test on the proposed cut slope. The results of the surveys will be used to determine slope stability and bedrock composition to aid in the decision for suitable construction methods.

Purpose

The purpose of the project is to conduct geotechnical investigation to determine the depth of bedrock below the existing road.

Need

This segment of SR 20 experiences collisions at a rate higher than the statewide average. Collisions primarily occurred during wet conditions.

Right of Way

No ROW will be acquired for the purpose of Geotechnical surveys.

Staging/Stockpiling

Staging will be limited to Caltrans ROW, temporary lane closures will be needed for the safety of Caltrans workers. No vegetation removal will occur for the purpose of staging/stockpiling.

Disposal/Borrow Sites

The project would not utilize borrowed material. If any excess material is generated, it will be collected and disposed of in accordance with standard Caltrans disposal procedures.

Coordination/Consultation

To identify potential cultural resources, Caltrans staff conducted a review of internal and external agency resource records and databases. Once review was completed it was determined the proposed scope of work has no potential to affect cultural resources.

Utilities

All utility conversations will be coordinated with Caltrans Right of Way.

Permits

No permits will be necessary based on the current scope of work.






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Final Audit Report

2024-11-07

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