Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) California Department of Transportation
4050 Taylor Street
San Diego, CA 92110
(Address)

County Clerk
County of: San Diego County Administration Center
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260
San Diego, CA 92101

Project Title: Middle-Mile Broadband Network (EA 11-4B017 / 1122000238)

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Project Location—Specific:

The proposed project would install one network repeater hub on State Route 111 post mile 53.0.

Project Location—City: Niland Project Location—County: Imperial

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This MMBN project will install the broadband infrastructure along the State Highway System necessary to connect to a third-party–operated Last Mile Broadband Network, which will bring equitable highspeed internet connectivity to homes, businesses, and community institutions.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans

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))
- ◉ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1 (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)
- ○ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

Installation of broadband conduit fiber along freeway section with existing infrastructure (conduit and vaults). The action is required in order to implement a project that is part of the California Middle-Mile Broadband Network. The action will take place within Caltrans Right-of-Way and will not involve any significant environmental impacts.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Shay Lynn Harrison
Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (858) 453-8481

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: Digitally signed by Shay Lynn M. Harrison Date: 2025.02.11 15:55:41 -08'00' Date: 2/11/2025 Title: Environmental Special Projects Manager

Signed by:

▣ Lead Agency ▣ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date received for filing at OPR: