

## Notice of Exemption

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

**From:** Caltrans District 1  
1656 Union Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Project Title: Yurok Telecommunications Broadband

Project Location - Specific: HUM 101, DN 101, DN 169

Project Location - County: Humboldt and Del Norte

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Yurok Telecommunications (YTEL) Fiber project will consist of fiber optic cable installation (buried and aerial) along Highway 101 in Del Norte and Humboldt counties. For the fiber installation portion of this project, YTEL will utilize previously disturbed rights-of-way (ROW), established streets, roadways, or travel routes during construction. The proposed project will enable access to wireless internet services for anchor institutions and fixed wireless access to 200 households, throughout the Yurok Tribal Reservation. In rural areas communication (internet) is important, providing communities with services that would normally be unavailable, such as college classes, medical services, libraries, and even Tribal related programs. Access to these services is desperately needed in this area.

Name of Public Agency Approving 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: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: PRC 21080.51

Reasons why project is exempt:

The YTEL Broadband project is a linear broadband deployment in the Caltrans right-of-way that meets all conditions of Section 21080.51, and the project is statutorily exempt from CEQA. Environmental specialist reviews have occurred, and this project would not cause a significant impact to the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Cassie Nichols

Phone number: 707-798-7557

**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: *Cassie Nichols*      Date: 02/26/2025      Title: Sr. Environmental Scientist

Signed by Lead Agency       Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.