

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: County of Tulare c/o Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.

Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000

Attn: gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov and jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Tulare County Public Works
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277(559) 624-7000

Project Title: Establishing Underground Utility District No. 1 In Conjunction with the Southern California Edison "Rule 20 A" Program at Road 204

Project Location - Specific: Within the County of Tulare, proposed limits along Road 204 (Sycamore Ave.) north of Avenue 256 (Spruce Ave.) to 2000 feet South of Avenue 256, west of the unincorporated community of Tonyville and north of the City of Lindsay.

Project Location-Section, Township, Range: Section 12, Township 17S, Range 18E Mount Diablo Meridian

Project Location - City: Tonyville / Lindsay, CA

Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Approving Southern California Edison's use of the County's work credit monies to underground approximately 4,000 feet of Southern California Edison's Distribution and Transmission conductors, as well as third party overhead communication cables, with proposed wires, inside the proposed limits along Road 204 north of Avenue 256 to 2000 feet South of Avenue 256

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));
- Common Sense Exemption: CEQA Guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 2 Section 15302 (d), Replacement or Reconstruction**
- Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why the project is exempt: Class 2, Section 15302 (d); *The Replacement and Reconstruction Exemption* allows actions that are substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced where the surface is restored to the condition existing prior to the undergrounding and will not require any further analysis. In this case, the County is not acting to build anything, but SCE is, and this exemption covers the County's action of approving SCE's replacement, which is exempt under PUC policy and by SCE program level environmental analysis. The County would be exempt regardless of if they did the construction, as this is merely replacing above ground lines with lines underground lines, which is a benefit to the aesthetic and safety of the community at a busy intersection of the County. Therefore, the County of Tulare concludes that the project fits under the exemption because the County action is to use SCE program funds as an activity that is to replace existing power and communication above ground lines with those found below the ground.


Environmental Assessment Officer: Reed Schenke, P.E., RMA Director/EAO

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare

FILED TULARE COUNTY
MAY 8 2025
ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER BY:
DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Project Planner/Representative: Aaron R. Bock, Planning Director

Telephone: (559) 624-7050

Signature: 
Gary A. Mills

Date: 5/6/2025

Title: Chief Planner,
Environmental Planning Division

Signature: 
Michael G. Washam, A.C.E.

Date: 5/8/2025

Title: Associate RMA Director, Designee

Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to the LCI/SCH: _____

