

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019018343

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, CalFire
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: CalFire Sierra Vista Communication Tower and Facilities Replacement Project

Project Location – Specific: Sierra Vista Mountain, unincorporated Calaveras County

Project Location – City: Approximately 4 miles northeast of San Andreas, CA

Project Location – County: Calaveras

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) is proposing the replacement of aging CalFire telecommunications infrastructure with a new telecommunication tower, vaults and other supporting infrastructure within the State's Public Safety Microwave Network (PSMN) at Sierra Vista. Existing structures proposed for removal at Sierra Vista include one communication tower, an abandoned residence building and shed, a cistern, an abandoned concrete generator pad, a generator vault, a radio building, and a propane tank. Additional existing unused structures may also be identified during final engineering and removed during Project construction or cleanup. New equipment would include a new telecommunication tower with microwave dishes, a larger radio equipment vault, and a new vault to house the emergency backup generator fuel system and a propane tank. The new tower would be a self-supporting, 4-legged lattice structure (80 feet) with a 40-foot upper monopole, as well as a safety ladder, platform and an 18-foot mast and 10-foot lightning arrester at the top. CalFire's Sierra Vista telecommunication site is an essential component of California's PSMN that transmits 911 calls and emergency instructions during major public safety incidents and natural disasters. The purpose of the Project is to maintain CalFire's essential emergency communications linkage at the Sierra Vista communication facility to support current microwave technology.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, CalFire

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Terry Ash, Senior Environmental Planner, Department of General Services / Real Estate Services Division

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption., Class: 2 Section: 15302

Categorical Exemption., Class: 3 Section: 15303

Reason Why Project Is Exempt:

This exemption (Class 2 Section 15302(c)) allows for replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.

This exemption (Class: 3 Section 15303(d)) allows for installation and/or conversion of water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions, including street improvements, of reasonable length to serve such construction.

The State confirms that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of an exemption for this project.

Contact Person:

Terry Ash, Senior Environmental Planner
Department of General Services, Project Management and Development Branch
Energy & Environmental Section Environmental Services

Area Code

(916)

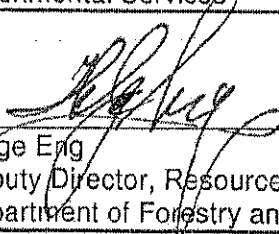
Telephone

376-3824

Date Received For Filing:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JAN 18 2019



Helge Eng
Deputy Director, Resource Management
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, CalFire

1/14/19

Date