



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): El Dorado to Clinton Rehabilitation – Phase 1

DIST-CO-RTE: 06-FRE-99

PM/PM: 22.2/24.4

EA: 06-0W801

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0624000244

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation will conduct potholing along State Route 99 between Belmont and Clinton Avenue. The work will involve the use of a hydro-vacuum truck, and compressed air or water to excavate and safely expose the selected utility. The potholes will have a maximum depth of 10 feet with a width of 6-to-8-inches at the surface, and possible widening of 1 to 2 feet at the bottom of the hole. After the utility is exposed and recorded, the hole will then be backfilled with fill-material and compacted in layers to ensure the hole is properly filled, and surface restored to its original condition. All work will take place within the existing right-of-way.

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 2(c).** (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

Judith Lopez

Print Name

Judith Lopez

Signature

9/29/2026

Date

Project Manager

Ilda Thanas

Print Name

Ilda Thanas

Signature

10/1/2026

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

☐ **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)(2)**

☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(i)**

☐ **Activity 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

Judith Lopez

Print Name

Judith Lopez

Signature

9/29/2026

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Ilda Thanas

Print Name

Ilda Thanas

Signature

10/1/2026

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 7/15/2024 (See Parent)

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).



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation sheet:

Noise:

Noise level shall not exceed 86 dBA (Lmax) at 50 feet from the job site activity from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. each day, and the noise level produced by the traffic on or by the construction activity can't exceed 52 dBA (Leq) interior noise levels in school facilities, as defined under California Streets and Highways Code 216. This is noted in Section 14-8.02 Standard Special Provision.

Paleontological Resources:

If paleontological resources are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately stop all work within a 60-foot radius of the discovery, secure the area, and notify the resident engineer. Do not move paleontological resources from the job site. This is noted in Section 14-7.03: Discovery of Unanticipated Paleontological Resources.