

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk

County of: _____

From: (Public Agency): Caltrans District 6
2015 E. Shields Ave, Suite 200
Frenso, CA 93703

(Address)

Project Title: Tulare Six-Lane and Paige Avenue Interchange Improvement Project

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific:

State Route 99 in the City of Tulare from Avenue 200 to Prosperity Avenue.

Project Location - City: Tulare Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Utility potholing is required to identify existing utilities within the project area. It is anticipated that a total of 114 positive locations that include 106 test holes and 8 manholes to be performed outside Caltrans existing right of way. Utility potholes will be 2 feet in diameter and will be backfilled with a self-consolidating backfill. Utility potholing will consist of the use of a vacuum truck to perform non-destructive excavation to expose the utilities at various locations, which will allow for positive identification and location information gathering for design purposes.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency carrying out Project: California Department of Transportation

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 6 (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt because the potholing work will not be invasive and will not have a significant impact on the environment surrounding and/or resources.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Judith Lopez Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559) 240-5068

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: Judith Lopez Date: 4/15/2026 Title: Env. Branch Chief

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: _____