Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans, Dist. 06
2015 East Shields Ave, Ste 100
Fresno, CA 93726

Project Title: CVIN MMBN SR33 61.45 – 53.4

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific: The project is located on State Route 33 between post mile 61.45 and 53.4 in Fresno County.

Project Location - City: N/A Project Location - County: Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The proposed project would install broadband infrastructure along approximately 8.05 miles on SR-33 from post mile 61.45 (south of Cromir) to post mile 53.4 (West Adams Avenue) in Fresno County. This Middle-Mile Broadband Network project will install the broadband infrastructure along the State Highway System necessary to connect to a third-party operated Last Mile Broadband Network which will bring internet connectivity to homes, businesses, and community institutions.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Central Valley Independent Network (CVIN)

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: Pub. Res. Code, § 21080.51

Reasons why project is exempt:
Senate Bill 156 (2021) as codified, requires the CPUC to work with stakeholders, especially Caltrans, to identify and prioritize locations on state highway rights-of-way where the open access middle-mile network infrastructure can be constructed. (Gov. Code, § 11549.54.) As part of the legislative package to support this initiative, a statutory CEQA exemption was adopted. (Pub. Res. Code, § 21080.51.)

Lead Agency Contact Person: Javier Almaguer Phone number: 559-287-9320

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: Javier Almaguer Date: 6/2/2025 Title: D6 Office Chief

☒ 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.