

## Notice of Exemption

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

**From:** California Department of Transportation – District 10  
1976 E. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Stockton, CA 95205

Project Title: 10-1T820: MER-5 Electrical Upgrades

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Project Location - Specific: Location 1 is on Interstate (I) 5 at Post Mile (PM) 22.590 and Location 2 is on State Route (SR) 152 at PM R10.763, both in Merced County.

Project Location - City: VAR

Project Location - County: MER

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Caltrans proposes electrical upgrades to the existing Changeable Message Signs (CMS) at two locations. The scope of work includes replacing the existing CMS Type 500 electrical components to upgrade them to CMS Type 800. All work will occur in Caltrans Right of Way. The purpose of this project is to ensure reliable real-time communication with the traveling public. The project is needed to ensure motorists are properly and timely notified of traffic and road conditions.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans

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: Section 15301 Existing Facilities
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project will not affect any sensitive species or their habitat, any cultural or scenic resources, or any other environmentally sensitive resources.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Elizabeth Hummel

Phone number: 209-986-9808

**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: Elizabeth Hummel    Date: 06/10/2025    Title: Environmental Branch 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.