

## Notice of Exemption

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

**From:** Caltrans, District 6  
2015 East Shields Avenue, Suite 100  
Fresno, CA 93726

Project Title: SR 178 Electrical Pull Boxes and Irrigation Modification 06-1G610

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific: In Kern County along SR 178 between post miles R5.1 and R6.1

Project Location - City: Bakersfield      Project Location - County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project is a director's order emergency contract to replace or add electrical wiring and pull boxes for the automated irrigation controls on State Route 178. The scope of work includes checking and manually testing each valve; trenching, removing, and replacing wires; clearing and grubbing; adding pull boxes; and repairing existing landscaping.

The steel sleeve housing the electrical wiring across the highway will be inspected and may need to be replaced. If needed, this would involve boring a 4-inch pipe under the highway for the new wires. Work is proposed within the Caltrans right-of-way.

The purpose of this emergency contract is to repair/replace landscape assets due to theft from unhoused individuals at encampments nearby. Currently, state forces are using water trucks to irrigate landscaping because the automated controls for irrigation are damaged. Landscape assets are in imminent threat of loss due to damaged irrigation systems if repairs are not made.

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 1(h); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project consists of the repair, maintenance, and minor alteration of existing structures and facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of existing use.

Lead Agency Contact Person: John Thomas


Phone number: 559-408-4496

**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:  Date: 6/11/25 Title: Senior Environmental Planner

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.