

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



State of California  
 The Natural Resources Agency  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

**PROJECT TITLE** Atwater Training and Office Space Lease

**PROJECT LOCATION** 4225 Hospital Road  
 Atwater, CA 95301 **COUNTY** Merced

**LEAD AGENCY** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

**CONTACT** Christina Snow  
**ADDRESS** 1131 S Street **PHONE** 916-216-0553  
 Sacramento, CA

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is proposing to lease approximately 92,8498 sf of training and office space within existing buildings. The space is needed to train staff for duties performed on the job. When training is in session there will be approximately 43 trainers and up to 360 students.

No tenant improvements are proposed.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class 1, Section 15301 Existing Facilities
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

This project fits under Class 1, Section 15301, Existing Facilities. Class 1 projects consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, *leasing*, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The project consists of entering into a new lease for office space within an existing building.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply that would preclude the use of a notice of exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, populations and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/ traffic, utilities and service systems, or to wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at 1131 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95811.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

DocuSigned by:

6/12/2025

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director Date  
 Resource Protection and Improvement  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection