

## 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 2  
1657 Riverside Drive  
Redding, CA 96001

Project Title: Caltrans Encroachment Permit for Cal Ore Telephone's State Route 161 Fiber Optic Cable Installation Project

Project Applicant: Cal Ore Telephone

Project Location - Specific: State Route 161 in Siskiyou County from post mile 3.049 to 3.272

Project Location - City: near Dorris      Project Location - County: Siskiyou

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Cal Ore Telephone is proposing to install fiber optic cable within the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans') right-of-way along State Route 161 in Siskiyou County from post mile 3.049 to 3.272. Beginning at post mile 3.272 from an existing Cal Ore Telephone handhole, there will be a bore 80 feet in length that crosses the highway from the north side of the road to the south side. The cable will be installed approximately 26 feet from the centerline of the highway going in a westerly direction to post mile 3.049 where a new handhole will be placed for cable access. The route will exit the highway right of way at this point. Once the conduits and cable have been placed, cleanup equipment will follow and compact the area of disturbance. Fiber optic cable will be placed in one of two conduits. The other conduit will be vacant for future use. Fiber splicing will follow to complete the project. There are no pedestals being placed as part of this project. Caltrans will issue an encroachment permit (0225-6-BB-0248) to allow the proposed improvements within the right of way of State Route 161.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans (for issuance of encroachment permit)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Cal Ore Telephone

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: Minor Alterations to Land, Section 15304
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

The California Department of Transportation has determined that the project is categorically exempt in accordance with Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) Class 4 (f) – Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored. Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. The project would not have a significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Keith Pelfrey

Phone number: (530) 941-3340

**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: *Keith Pelfrey*      Date: 7/1/25      Title: Branch Chief – R3

- 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.