CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): HM4-TMS CMS Sign Replacement

DIST-CO-RTE: 03-VAR-VAR **PM/PM:** VAR/VAR

EA: 03-3G710 **EFIS:** 0325000083

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to replace Changeable Message Signs (CMS) in six locations in Placer and Sacramento Counties. The scope of work includes mobilization, CMS replacement, traffic control, and incidental work. Night work and lane closures are anticipated.

Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

☐ **Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency

☐ **Not Applicable** – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is:

☐ **Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)

☒ **Categorically Exempt. Class** 1(d). (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

☒ No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the SER Chapter 34 for exceptions.

☐ **Covered by the Common Sense Exemption**. This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Lisa Machado	Lisa Machado (Aug 25, 2025 11:12:25 PDT)	08/25/2025
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Gary M. Dekens	Gary Dekens	08/25/2025
Print Name	Signature	Date

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

☒ **Not Applicable**

Caltrans has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). See SER Chapter 30 for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

☐ **23 USC 326:** Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2022, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- ☐ **23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)()**
- ☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)()**
- ☐ **Activity listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans**

☐ **23 USC 327:** Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

N/A		
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A		
Print Name	Signature	Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: N/A

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet if needed (i.e., not necessary if included on an attached ECR). Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., additional studies and design conditions).

Continuation sheet:

Purpose and Need
The purpose of this project is to replace Changeable Message Signs (CMS) in six locations on Interstate 5, Interstate 80, and State Route 65 in Sacramento and Placer Counties.

The project is needed due to electrical issues that have been identified in the existing CMS installations that could lead to inoperability during winter storm conditions, potentially creating a hazard to travelers from lack of communication of roadway conditions.

Work Locations (County-Route-PM):
1. (PLA-065-R12.37) Northbound
2. (PLA-065-22.79) Southbound
3. (PLA-080-5.65) Westbound
4. (SAC-005-1.55) Northbound
5. (SAC-080-M0.40) Eastbound
6. (SAC-080-M4.40) Westbound

Additional Work Elements:
- Night Work
- Lane Closures

Staging
If required, all staging would occur within the Caltrans right-of-way.

Disposal/Borrow
Based on the proposed scope of work, disposal and borrow are not anticipated.

Right-of-Way
This project would be completed within the operational right-of-way.

Consultation/Agency Coordination
Based on the proposed scope of work and due to the nature of the project, consultation and agency coordination are not required for this project.

Permits
Based on the proposed scope of work, no regulatory permits are required.

Utility
This project will not require any utility relocation.

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Final Audit Report 2025-08-25

Created:	2025-08-25
By:	Jason Ammerman (s162717@dot.ca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAOVmB4C32ps3yTs3jax0qJG7q9Pmw789G

"CE of EA 03-3G710 - final" History

Document created by Jason Ammerman (s162717@dot.ca.gov)
2025-08-25 - 4:38:10 PM GMT- IP address: 149.136.17.251

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2025-08-25 - 4:39:01 PM GMT

Email viewed by Lisa Machado (lisa.machado@dot.ca.gov)
2025-08-25 - 6:06:48 PM GMT- IP address: 149.136.17.248

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Signature Date: 2025-08-25 - 6:12:25 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 149.136.17.248

Document emailed to Gary Dekens (gary.m.dekens@dot.ca.gov) for signature
2025-08-25 - 6:12:28 PM GMT

Email viewed by Gary Dekens (gary.m.dekens@dot.ca.gov)
2025-08-25 - 6:22:49 PM GMT- IP address: 149.136.17.252

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Signature Date: 2025-08-25 - 6:23:06 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 149.136.17.252

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