Notice of Exemption

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

From: California Department of Transportation- District 3
703 B Street
Marysville, CA 95901

Project Title: American Dark Fiber State Route 32 Aerial Middle-Mile Broadband Network Project (Encroachment Permit 03-25-6-BB-1341)

Project Applicant: American Dark Fiber, LLC

Project Location - Specific: State Route (SR) 32 between post mile (PM) R15.762 and PM 27.349 in Butte County

Project Location - City: Chico Project Location - County: Butte

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
American Dark Fiber, LLC (ADF), in coordination with the California Department of Technology and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), proposes to install broadband infrastructure consisting of aerial strand (steel cable) and fiber optic cable on SR 32 between PM R15.762 and PM 27.349 in Butte County.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation-District 3

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: American Dark Fiber, LLC

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: _____
- ☒ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Public Resources Code Section 21080.51

Reasons why project is exempt:
Installation of broadband infrastructure is exempt by statute pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.51.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dotrik Wilson Phone number: (530) 821-3054

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: Dotrik Wilson Date: 9/17/25 Title: 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.