Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency) Caltrans District 8
464 West 4th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92401
(Address)

County Clerk
County of: Riverside
4080 Lemon Street
1st. Floor Riverside, Ca 92501

Project Title: Middle-Mile Broadband 08-24-6-UL-0925

Project Applicant: American Dark Fiber

Project Location—Specific:

08-RIV-010 PM R24.99/25.00 and 08-RIV-111 PM 63.50/63.61

Project Location—City: Whitewater Project Location—County: Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This permit is located along Interstate 10 (I-10) and State Route 111 (SR-111) from PM R24.54 on the I-10 to PM 63.61 on the SR-111, inside Caltrans right of way. The work includes trenching, horizontal directional drilling, installing vaults (approximately 36”x60”x24”), and cable marker posts.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

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

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: PRC 21080.51

Reasons why project is exempt:

The work proposed under permit 08-24-6-UL-0925 meets the conditions established in the Senate Bill 156 for Statutory Exemption. This permit is a component of the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network, constructed within 30 feet of right of way, and incorporates measures to address potential environmental impacts.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Kenya Amezcua
Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: 9094722632

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: Digitally signed by Kenya Amezcua Date: 2025.11.06 16:09:49 -08'00' Date: 11/6/2025 Title: Senior Environmental Planner

Signed by:

▣ Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date received for filing at OPR: _____