Notice of Exemption

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 Installation of Fiber Optic Along SR 97 in Siskiyou County from PM 34.365 to 36.154 and 52.379 to 53.831

Project Applicant: Cal-Ore Telephone

Project Location - Specific: State Route 97 in Siskiyou County from post miles 34.365 to 36.154 and 52.379 to 53.831

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

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Cal-Ore Telephone is proposing to install underground conduit with fiber optic cable within the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans') right of way along State Route 97 in Siskiyou County from post miles 34.365 to 36.154 and 52.379 to 53.831.

Work between post miles 34.365 and 36.154 would install 10,214 linear feet of new fiber optic cable in 9,814 linear feet of new conduit (9,214 linear feet of new conduit would be installed by plowing and 600 linear feet of new conduit would be installed by boring/directional drilling). Four handholes would also be installed.

Work between post miles 52.379 and 53.831 would install 8,986 linear feet of new fiber optic cable in 5,193 linear feet of new conduit (4,568 linear feet of new conduit would be installed by plowing and 625 linear feet of new conduit would be installed by boring/directional drilling) and in 3,618 linear feet of existing conduit. Eight handholes would also be installed.

The installation of conduit with fiber optic cable would require plowing soil. Installation in areas with hard surfaces and culverts would require boring/directional drilling. Bore pits and handhole locations would be excavated with a mini excavator or backhoe.

Caltrans will issue an encroachment permit (02-25-6-BB-0490) to allow the proposed improvements within the right of way of State Route 97.

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: David DeMar Phone number: (530) 759-3406

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: _____ Date: 11/19/25 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.