

## 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 6  
2015 East Shields Avenue, Suite 100  
Fresno, CA 93726

Project Title: Kern 155 Roadway/Slope/Culvert Repair

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific: In Kern County on Route 155 between post miles 42.0 and 57.0

Project Location - City: Glennville          Project Location - County: Kern

### Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

This is an emergency director's order to repair damage on State Route 155 between post miles 42.0 and 57.0. The work will remove and replace roadway, construct 3 new culverts, replace 10 culverts, clean 27 culverts, clean 15 downdrains, and replace 5 downdrains. The project will rebuild slopes damaged by failure, washout, or slip; install slope protection, rock slope protection fabric, and permanent erosion control; and replace markers, signage, and striping. A complete road closure is in effect until repairs are completed.

The purpose of this project is to repair the roadway, drainage facilities, and slopes that were damaged in storms that occurred in March 2023. The project is needed to avoid the failure or threat of failure to the transportation system and to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, or essential public services.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

### 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: Class 2(c); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15302
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project consists of the repair, replacement, or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities, with the new structure located on the same site as the structure replaced and having substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

Lead Agency Contact Person: John Thomas

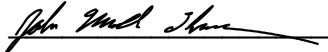
Phone number: (559) 408-4496

**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: 3/3/26      Title: Senior Environmental Planner

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.



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Kern 155 Roadway/Slope/Culvert Repair

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 06-KER-155

**PM/PM:** 42.0/57.0

**EA:** 06-1G040

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

**Project Description**

This is an emergency director’s order to repair damage on State Route 155 between post miles 42.0 and 57.0. The work will remove and replace roadway, construct 3 new culverts, replace 10 culverts, clean 27 culverts, clean 15 downdrains, and replace 5 downdrains. The project will rebuild slopes (damaged by failure, washout, or slip); install slope protection, rock slope protection fabric, and permanent erosion control; and replace markers, signage, and striping. A complete road closure is being used until repairs can be completed.

The purpose of this project is to repair the roadway, drainage facilities, and slopes that were damaged in storms that occurred in March 2023. The project is needed to avoid the failure or threat of failure to the transportation system and to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, or essential public services.

**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 2(c).** (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**

John Thomas

Print Name

  
Signature

2/25/26

Date

**Project Manager**

Gerardo Rocha

Print Name

  
Signature

2/26/2026

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

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)(Enter activity number)
23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)
Activity 2 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

John Thomas
Print Name
Signature
Date 2/25/26

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Gerardo Rocha
Print Name
Signature
Date 2/26/2026

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 2/23/26

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).



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DETERMINATION FORM**

**Continuation sheet:** The Environmental Commitments Record is attached.



## Environmental Commitments Record (ECR)

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 06 - KER - 155 **PM/PM:** 42.000/57.000

**EA/Project ID:** 06-1G040\_ / 0623000200

**Project Description:** Repair roadway, slopes, and culverts

**Date (Last modification):** 2/23/2026

**Environmental Planner:** Som Phongsavanh

**Phone:** 559-246-8601

**Construction Liaison:** Sukhraj Gill

**Phone:** 559-383-5562

**Resident Engineer:** Travis Landas

**Phone:** 559-287-4911

### PERMITS

Permit	Agency	Application Submitted	Permit Received	Permit Expiration	Permit Requirements Completed by	Permit Requirements Completed on	Comments
1610 Emergency	California Department of Fish & Wildlife	7/24/23	7/24/23				
401 RGPS	Regional Water Quality Control Board	7/20/23	8/15/23				
Regional General Permit (RGP)	US Army Corps of Engineers	7/20/23	9/21/23				

### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

#### PS&E/BEFORE RTL

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
Hazardous Waste	7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii)	SSP	SSP	L. Spann, RE	Must be included in specs pkg		R. Garcia	5/1/23	No excess soil, soil reused for slope repairs	

#### ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Category	Task and Brief Description	Source	Included in PS&E Package	Responsible Branch/Staff	Action to Comply	Due Date	Task Completed by	Task Completed on	Remarks	Mitigation for significant impacts under CEQA
	CEC at CCA			ECL			R. Garcia	8/1/24		
	CEC at Closeout			ECL			R. Garcia	3/5/25		