

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
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Fax (916) 323-3018

**From:** Douglas City Elementary School District  
100 School Road  
Douglas City, CA 96024

**Project Title:** Douglas City ESD TK Room Construction

**Project Location - Specific:** The project site is accessed from Steiner Flat Road  
The approximate latitude and longitude are 40.6530, -122.9436, respectively.

**Project Location - City:** Douglas City, CA **Project Location - County:** Trinity County

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**  
Please refer to the attached Exhibit "A"

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Douglas City Elementary School District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Douglas City Elementary School District

**Exempt Status:**

**Class 14 (Section 15314) – Minor Additions to Schools** - The project consists of minor additions to existing schools that do not increase student capacity by more than 25% or 10 classrooms, whichever is less.

**Class 1 (Section 15301) – Existing Facilities** - The project involves minor alterations to existing structures or facilities.

**Reasons why project is exempt:** Please refer to the attached Exhibit "A"

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Shannon Ross, Superintendent, Douglas City ESD  
Jeff Morris, Trinity County Office of Education, Facilities Analyst

**Area Code Telephone Extension:** Ms. Ross (530) 623 - 6350  
Mr. Morris (530) 355 -9880

**Signature:**  **Title:** Superintendent

**Date:** 2/21/25

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**DOUGLAS CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**TK CLASSROOM CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Douglas City Elementary School (DCES) currently has 162 students and 34 staff members on site on any given school day. Special events can add up to 250 people on campus using the facilities. The school has implemented phased construction of additions to its existing campus over the last several decades.

In response to the new TK grade level initiated by the State of California in 2021, DCES applied to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) to secure funding for a new classroom with the specific purpose to serve this new cohort of students. The school has designed a project with the assistance of Persinger Architects and a new classroom is planned for construction in the rear of the school where there is existing blacktop. The new classroom will be a "modular" and will arrive on site to be installed after the site work and foundation development have been completed.

The following are the major Project components as shown in **Figure 1**:

- **Prepare Site** – Remove blacktop and prepare site for foundation work.
- **Install Foundation and extend existing utilities** – After site is prepared, construction of the foundation and extension of existing utilities to serve the new classroom will be completed.
- **Deliver modular structure and install on constructed foundation** – The modular building will be constructed off site and then delivered to Douglas City Elementary to be assembled and installed.
- **See attached designs for specifics.**

**LOCATION**

The Project site is located at Douglas City Elementary School's campus at 100 School Road, Douglas City, CA 96024. The project site is accessed from Steiner Flat Road. The approximate latitude and longitude are 40.6530, -122.9436, respectively.

## REASONS FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION

CEQA allows certain government actions to proceed without further CEQA review if that type of action has been previously determined not to have a significant impact on the environment. Actions defined in a Categorical Exemption may be subject to further environmental review in the case of extraordinary circumstances under exemptions under CEQA. (14 CCR § 15061(b); 14 CCR § 15300.2.)

CEQA Guidelines Section 15300 identifies that Section 21084 of the State of California Public Resources Code requires that the CEQA Guidelines "include a list of classes of projects which have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and which shall, therefore, be exempt from the provisions of CEQA. "

In response to that mandate, the Secretary for Resources has found that various classes of projects "do not have a significant effect on the environment and therefore are declared to be categorically exempt from the requirement for the preparation of environmental documents."

Review of the 32 classes has led to a determination that the proposed Project would be categorically exempt under two classes – Minor Additions to Schools and Existing Facilities. For each class, discussion of applicable "examples" cited in the CEQA Guidelines is provided explaining why the proposed project is Categorically Exempt under CEQA.

### **15314. Minor Additions to Schools**

**15314** states that an exemption may be granted if the project "*consists of minor additions to existing schools within existing school grounds where the addition does not increase original student capacity by more than 25% or ten classrooms, whichever is less. The addition of portable classrooms is included in this exemption.*"

This project falls well below the 25% capacity threshold, with current TK attendance being less than 10% of the school's enrollment.

### **15301. Existing Facilities**

**15301** exempts the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. This includes interior or exterior alterations involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances.

This project will include extensions of existing utilities to serve the new classroom which is a negligible expansion of existing use.