



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 04/2022)**

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** Utility Pole Replacement

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 07-LA-107

**PM/PM:** 3.82

**TRACKING Number:** 725-6US-2653

**DEP CE Number:** 202603014

**Project Description**

Caltrans approves of the encroachment permit for Southern California Edison to replace utility pole #1909548E and install the associated pole equipment within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) along State Route 107 at post mile (PM) 3.82, as well as perform traffic control activities, in the City of Torrance, Los Angeles County. Excavation will have a maximum depth of 6 feet, and an average width and length of 2 feet by 3 feet. No public utilities will be relocated, and no new ROW will be acquired.

**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 2c.** (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15302)
  - 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**

Pauline Lee

04/01/2026

Print Name

Signature

Date

**Project Manager**

Thao Tran

04/01/2026

Print Name

Signature

Date



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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)
23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)
Activity 6 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 December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Pauline Lee Pauline Lee 04/01/2026
Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Thao Tran Thao Tran 04/01/2026
Print Name Signature Date

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

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).



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### Continuation sheet:

- Please contact the Division of Environmental Planning should there be changes to the project scope.
- If there are any such changes to the proposed undertaking, an additional review by the cultural resource unit will be required. If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, work shall be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find.
- No unpaved soil will be disturbed, and no construction dewatering will be involved during construction activities.
- If there is an active nest on the pole, applicant will follow standard procedures to avoid impacts to the nest until the young have fledged. This will be done under the guidance of a professional biologist.
- **Utility Pole Replacement (Minimal Disturbance of Material Containing Hazardous Waste Concentrations of Aerially Deposited Lead (ADL)):**  
The proposed replacement of utility pole (#1909548E) at the unpaved area is considered minimal soil disturbance work. The minimal disturbance of Aerially Deposited Lead (ADL) soil must be handled according to Caltrans Hazardous Material and Hazardous Waste Management Special Provision (**TR-0408**). All soil disturbed must remain in the immediate area of disturbance and not be transported elsewhere. **“Permittee must reuse the soil within the work limits in the immediate area from which it was excavated. If any excess soil is generated, it becomes the property of the permittee. Permittee must transport all excess soil outside of Caltrans’ right-of-way, and dispose of it in accordance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations.”** OEE recommends a task-specific health and safety plan, and training shall be implemented for worker safety prior to commencement of work.
- All work/construction is on Hawthorn Blvd (Route 107). It is recommended this Permittee to follow the Caltrans traffic control requirements. All work and safety (construction, excavation, equipment and e-waste, and disposal of materials) shall follow EPA/OSHA guidelines and requirements.
- **Treated Wood Waste (Removal of Existing Wood Pole):**  
Treated Wood Waste (TWW) can occur as existing wooden post for poles is being removed for disposal. Existing wood post is typically treated/coated with preserving chemicals that protect against insect attack and fungal decay. These chemicals may be hazardous (carcinogenic) and include, but are not limited to, arsenic, chromium, copper, creosote, and pentachlorophenol. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) requires that TWW either be disposed of as a hazardous waste, or if not tested, the generator may presume that TWW is a hazardous waste (to avoid the time and expense involved in completing laboratory testing) and manage the waste by Alternative Management Standards (AMS). The handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of TWW is subject to California regulation. TWW must be handled according to Caltrans Hazardous Material and Hazardous Waste Management Special Provision (**TR-0408**). All construction debris/materials must become the property of the Permittee, and must be transported and disposed of, outside of Caltrans’ right-of-way, in accordance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations.