

## Notice of Exemption

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

**From:** California Department of Transportation- District 3  
703 B Street  
Marysville, CA 95901

Project Title: American Dark Fiber State Route 20 Middle-Mile Broadband Network Project (Encroachment Permit 03-26-6-BB-0157)

Project Applicant: American Dark Fiber, LLC

Project Location - Specific: State Route 20 between post mile (PM) R13.611 and PM R13.674 in Nevada County.

Project Location - City: Grass Valley      Project Location - County: Nevada

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

American Dark Fiber, LLC, in coordination with the California Department of Technology and the California Department of Transportation, proposes to install broadband infrastructure consisting of conduit, fiber optic cable, a vault, and markers on State Route 20 between post mile (PM) R13.611 and PM R13.674 in Nevada County.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation-District 3

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

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: Public Resources Code Section 21080.51

Reasons why project is exempt:

Installation of broadband infrastructure is exempt by statute pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.51.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dotrik Wilson

Phone number: (530) 821-3054

**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: *Dotrik Wilson*      Date: 4/6/2026      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.