

Notice of Exemption

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

County Clerk
County of San Mateo

From: Caltrans District 4 Office of Maintenance Environmental
111 Grand Ave
Oakland, CA 94612

Project Title: Tom Lantos Tunnel Jet Fan Repairs DO (EA 1V030)

Project Applicant: Caltrans

Project Location - Specific: The project is located in the Tom Lantos Tunnel (Tunnel No. 35-0330L) on Highway 1 in the City of Pacifica from post mile (PM) R38.56 to R39.37.

Project Location - City: Pacifica

Project Location - County: San Mateo

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Caltrans proposes repairing and replacing malfunctioning jet fans and restoring reliable emergency radio communication coverage in the Tom Lantos Tunnel on Highway 1. The Office of the State Fire Marshal issued an Inspection Report Violation following an observed deficiency during Caltrans' Devil's Slide Emergency Drill. During the drill, four jet fans were found to be non-operational. A formal Violation Notice was issued, requiring corrective action. Jet fans are critical components of the tunnel's life safety system and are required to control smoke and heated gases during fire incidents, thereby maintaining tenable conditions for the traveling public and supporting firefighter operations. Currently, three jet fans in the left bore and one in the right bore are out of service, exceeding the allowable redundancy threshold and creating a serious life safety risk. The project will remove and replace the malfunctioning jet fans. As in-place vibration analysis will be performed. The emergency communication system will be restored to ensure reliable emergency radio communication coverage within tunnel facilities. Temporary traffic control will be required during repairs.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans

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: PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15301 Class 1

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Class 1 Existing Facilities. The project is not anticipated to result in any environmental impacts. The project contains a number of standardized project measures which are employed on most, if not all, Caltrans projects and were not developed in response to any specific environmental impacts resulting from the project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Juliane Smith

Phone number: (510) 926-0426

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: Juliane Smith Date: 4/14/26

Title: Senior Environmental Scientist (NEPA/CEQA Specialist)

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.