

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans, District 04
111 Grand Ave.
Oakland, CA 94612

Project Title: American Dark Fiber Middle Mile Broadband Project ADF-F20-CD4-UGA & ADF-F19-CD4-UGA

Project Applicant: American Dark Fiber, Caltrans

Project Location - Specific: SR-116, SR-1, 116 PM 0.0-3.870, 1 PM 9.929-26.379

Project Location - City: Sausalito Project Location - County: Sonoma

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

American Dark Fiber, in coordination with the California Department of Technology, proposes installation of approximately 50,550 feet of underground 1.25-inch and 2-inch high-density polyethylene conduit with fiber optic cable within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) along State Route (SR) 1 and SR-116 in Sonoma County, California. Methods of conduit installation include narrow trenching and horizontal directional drilling (HDD), to be done in accordance with the traffic control plan. Bridge attachment conduit installation will involve mounting steel conduits along the bridge barrier, overhang, slab or underside of the structure per the Caltrans bridge standard detail sheets. Steel plates would be used to maintain traffic flow on all driveways. During non-working hours, contractors would fill or cover all open pits or trenches. Work also includes placement of temporary traffic control devices and signage as well as installation of eighteen, 30" wide by 48" long by 24" deep vault. Fiber optic markers will also be installed at the vault location as well as approximately every 500 feet along the conduit path, with metallic disk markers installed in the pavement. All work is to take place within the Caltrans ROW.

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: _____

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: PRC 21080.51

Reasons why project is exempt:

Middle mile broadband initiative (MMBI) projects that are either installed underground or placed aerially along an existing pole in the right-of-way are exempt, under Senate Bill 156, which added section 21080.51 to the PRC.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brian Gassner

Phone number: (510) 506-0372

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: *Brian Gassner* Date: ^{05/06/2026} 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.


NOE ADF SON-1, SON-116 projects_5-6-26

Final Audit Report

2026-05-06

Created:	2026-05-06
By:	Sarah Wright (s157121@dot.ca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAmwOnRz7Xx0b70oOntYAo4gbNp6vfG4MP

"NOE ADF SON-1, SON-116 projects_5-6-26" History

-  Document created by Sarah Wright (s157121@dot.ca.gov)
2026-05-06 - 5:36:26 PM GMT- IP address: 149.136.25.246
-  Document emailed to Brian Gassner (brian.gassner@dot.ca.gov) for signature
2026-05-06 - 5:36:54 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Brian Gassner (brian.gassner@dot.ca.gov)
2026-05-06 - 6:09:04 PM GMT- IP address: 184.72.252.164
-  Document e-signed by Brian Gassner (brian.gassner@dot.ca.gov)
Signature Date: 2026-05-06 - 8:22:56 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 149.136.25.252 - Signature Appearance Selected: IMAGE
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