

Notice of Exemption

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

From: California Department of Transportation
500 South Main Street
Bishop, Ca 93514

Project Title: Southern Inyo Wind Warning Systems

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific: Various locations on US 395

Project Location - City: Pearsonville, Coso Junction, Grant, Lone Pine, Fort Independence

Project Location - County: Kern and Inyo

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of this project is to provide real time information to the traveling public and to assist Caltrans Maintenance forces in proactively managing high wind events. Wind warning signs are needed at multiple locations in Inyo and Kern counties to provide notice to the traveling public. Wind events can create an increased risk of “blow overs” to high-profile vehicles including RVs, Semi-trucks, and trailers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation

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: 15301 Class 1(f)
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project aims to implement safety devices to existing facilities, and all work will be conducted on disturbed areas within Caltrans right-of-way. The proposed project will not impact any known environmental resources. No exceptions to Categorical Exemptions apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Heather Elder

Phone number: (760) 874-8320

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: Heather Elder Date: 6/22/2026 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

☒ 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.