



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)**

Project Information

Project Name: Cold Plane and HMA on I-15 in San Diego County

DIST-CO-RTE: 11-SD-15

PM: 18.8/19.5

EA/PID: 11-2N296/PID 1126000067

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

Caltrans proposes a highway maintenance project consisting of cold planning and paving the asphalt portion of the I-15 managed lanes with 0.25' of hot mix asphalt HMA (Type-A) to extend the life of the pavement. Surface elevation of new pavement will be the same as existing pavement. This project will also incorporate electrical work to remove and replace the guide wire that is located under the movable barrier. Electrical guide wire is proposed to be buried 3-feet under the movable barrier. The project site is in San Diego County from 0.5 miles to 0.01 miles south of the route 56/15 separation. All work will be in State right-of-way and will not exceed 3-feet in depth. Environmental commitments for biological resources, hazardous waste/materials, and NPDES/Stormwater are included in the Environmental Commitments record (ECR).

Caltrans CEQA Determination

- ☐ **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 1** (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)
 ☐ 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

Mitchell Doucette

Print Name

Mitchell Doucette

Signature

7/20/2026

Date

Project Manager

Christopher Semaan

Print Name

Christopher Semaan

Signature

7/8/2026

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

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 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 May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 7/6/2026