Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk
County of: Modoc
108 E. Modoc St.
Alturas, CA 96101

From: (Public Agency): Modoc County Planning Department
203 W. 4th St.
Alturas, CA 96101
(Address)

Project Title: Frontier Project 5288532

Project Applicant: Frontier Communications c/o Greg Bordelon

Project Location - Specific:

County Roads 54, 60, 76, 260, and 261, Buck Lane and Hat Mountain Road.

Project Location - City: Alturas Project Location - County: Modoc

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

See Attachment A – Project Description for a detailed description of the proposed project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Modoc

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Frontier Communications c/o Greg Bordelon

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 (PRC) Section 21080.51

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project consists of the installation of linear broadband infrastructure within existing County road rights-of-way. The proposed work will occur along, or within 30 feet of, existing public roads and will be installed either underground with disturbed areas restored to pre-project conditions or aerially on existing utility poles, as applicable. The project incorporates applicable avoidance and minimization measures and other environmental protection requirements as conditions of approval. Therefore, the project meets the requirements of PRC Section 21080.51 and is exempt from CEQA.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Sean Curtis Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 233-7651

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: Sean Curtis Date: 29 July 26 Title: Interim Planning Director

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Project Description (Attachment A)

Frontier proposes to install approximately 40,208 linear feet of underground fiber-optic broadband cable within existing County road rights-of-way in the Alturas area of Modoc County. The project consists of five non-contiguous segments located along Buck Lane, Hat Mountain Road, County Road 54, County Road 76, and County Road 260. Construction will primarily utilize horizontal directional drilling (HDD) and trenching, with associated bore pits and utility pole connections where necessary. The project will replace existing copper telecommunications infrastructure with fiber-optic facilities to improve broadband and communication services.

The project includes the following work areas:

- **Location 1:** Approximately 6,615 linear feet along County Road 260, beginning approximately 90 feet north of the intersection of County Road 60 and County Road 260 at a proposed utility pole, extending south and then west along County Road 260, and terminating at an existing utility pole approximately 170 feet north of the intersection of County Road 260 and County Road 261.
- **Location 2:** Approximately 15,140 linear feet along County Road 54, beginning approximately 330 feet west of the intersection of County Road 60 and County Road 54 and extending east to approximately 265 feet west of the intersection of County Road 76 and County Road 54.
- **Location 3:** Approximately 6,883 linear feet beginning approximately 200 feet west of the intersection of County Road 54 and County Road 76, extending west before turning north along County Road 76, and terminating approximately 1,310 feet east of the intersection of Pit River Road and County Road 76.
- **Location 4:** Approximately 1,020 linear feet beginning at the intersection of County Road 76 and Buck Lane, extending north along Buck Lane to its terminus.
- **Location 5:** Approximately 10,550 linear feet beginning at the intersection of County Road 76 and Hat Mountain Road, extending north along Hat Mountain Road, crossing to the opposite side of the roadway, and continuing north to the end of Hat Mountain Road.

The project is designed to upgrade Frontier's existing telecommunications network by replacing aging copper facilities with fiber-optic infrastructure, providing improved broadband service while utilizing existing public road rights-of-way.