

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: Dusty Lane Electrical Service DDO

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific: INY-395-R76.54/R76.54

Project Location - City: Fort Independence Project Location - County: Inyo

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed work for this project was originally scoped under the Clean CA Fort Independence Lighting Project (09-39410). Due to unforeseen circumstances, the conduit installation portion of the lighting project was not constructed and is now being proposed as a separate project. This project will implement a new electrical service connection to highway lighting constructed during the original project. All technical environmental studies for the proposed project were completed under the former lighting project and remain valid. All associated studies are incorporated herein by reference under EA 09-43440.

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(c)
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project aims to install conduit to lighting standards along an existing street with no expansion of existing use. Contractor use areas will be confined to disturbed areas within Caltrans right-of-way. Implementation of avoidance and minimization measures

described in technical studies ensures the project will not impact any known environmental resources. No exceptions to Categorical Exemptions apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Stephen Pfeiler

Phone number: 760-874-8329

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: Stephen Pfeiler Date: 08/17/2026 Title: Env. 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.

09-43440_CEQA NOE_08-17-2026

Final Audit Report

2026-08-17

Created:	2026-08-17
By:	Mattie Rountree (s165179@dot.ca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAk1vAJl1pmdbBuMBqGRTLJn8M52Jugh-I

"09-43440_CEQA NOE_08-17-2026" History

-  Document created by Mattie Rountree (s165179@dot.ca.gov)
2026-08-17 - 10:49:07 PM GMT- IP address: 149.136.33.248
-  Document emailed to Stephen Pfeiler (stephen.pfeiler@dot.ca.gov) for signature
2026-08-17 - 10:49:44 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Stephen Pfeiler (stephen.pfeiler@dot.ca.gov)
2026-08-17 - 10:49:50 PM GMT- IP address: 100.51.8.143
-  Document e-signed by Stephen Pfeiler (stephen.pfeiler@dot.ca.gov)
Signature Date: 2026-08-17 - 10:50:51 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 149.136.33.248 - Signature Appearance Selected: IMAGE
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2026-08-17 - 10:50:51 PM GMT

