

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans District 2
1657 Riverside Drive
Redding, CA 96001

Project Title: Caltrans Encroachment Permit 02-26-6-BB-0392 for Frontier Communications Project 5419381 on State Route 395 in Modoc County from post mile 25.472 to 25.945

Project Applicant: Frontier Communications

Project Location - Specific: State Route 395 in Modoc County from post mile 25.472 to 25.945

Project Location - City: near Alturas

Project Location - County: Modoc

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Frontier Communications proposes the installation of approximately 227 linear feet of fiber optic cable by means of underground placement inside Caltrans' right of way (ROW) along State Route 395 in Modoc County from post mile (PM) 25.472 to 25.945 near Alturas. The proposed project aims to expand the existing copper plant with a more reliable fiber optic network. The project proposes to place approximately 140 linear feet of underground fiber optic cable via trench and the remaining 87 linear feet via Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD). The project begins at an existing utility pole southeast of the intersection of State Route 395 and Bowman Road at PM 25.495 near 41.511111, -120.495377. The project will riser down, then trench southwest for approximately 140 linear feet. The project will then continue north for approximately 87 linear feet via HDD exiting Caltrans' ROW at approximately 41.511231, -120.495830.

Construction within Caltrans' ROW will be staged from the shoulder and will require the closure of the shoulder as construction progresses. Equipment to be used for the construction of the cable includes a bucket truck, trucks equipped with cable reels, and a truck and trailer for cable placement and splicing.

Soil disturbance is anticipated at approximately one (1) bore pit, and one hundred forty (140) linear feet of trenching. The total soil disturbance area is approximately 1,500 square feet or <.04 acres.

Caltrans will issue an encroachment permit (02-26-6-BB-0392) for the proposed work.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans (for issuance of encroachment permit)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Frontier Communications

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: Minor Alterations to Land (Section 15304)
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The California Department of Transportation has determined that the project is categorically exempt in accordance with Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) Class 4. Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- (f) – Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.

The project would not have a significant effect on the environment.

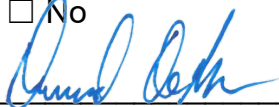
Lead Agency Contact Person: David DeMar

Phone number: (530) 759-3406

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:  Date: 9/18/2026 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.