

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: Merced

2222 M Street

Merced, CA 95340

From: (Public Agency): County of Merced

Department of Public Works - Road Division

715 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Merced, CA 95340

(Address)

Project Title: Hills Ferry Road Emergency Repair Project

Project Applicant: Merced County Department of Public Works

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located on Hills Ferry Road (37°21'0.17"N, 120°58'24.18"W) in the unincorporated community of Hilmar, approximately two miles northeast of the City of Newman in northeastern Merced County, California

Project Location - City: unincorporated

Project Location - County: Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project would include removal of a fallen tree and other debris, grading of the existing embankment along Hills Ferry Road, and installation of rock slope protection and imported fill. The purpose of the project is to repair the existing embankment along Hills Ferry Road, which was washed out during high water flows on September 13 through September 16, 2019. The project is needed to prevent failure of the roadway and to ensure the shoulders along Hills Ferry Road meet safety standards.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Merced County is the CEQA Lead Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Merced County Department of Public Works - Road Division

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: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

15269(b) includes "[e]mergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare." The project would include emergency repairs on Hills Ferry Road. If the roadway is not repaired, the roadway is expected to fail, preventing property and emergency access. Therefore, the project qualifies for this exemption.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Dana Hertfelder

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (209) 385-7601

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: Dana J. Hertfelder Date: 11/25/2019 Title: Director of Public Works

☒ 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: _____

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

NOV 27 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE