NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 212 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Highway Patrol 601 N. 7th Street, Building B Sacramento, CA 95811

Project Title: CHP Statewide Planning & Site Acquisition - Humboldt Area

Project Location - Specific: 674 Allard Avenue

Project Location – City: Eureka
Project Location – County: Humboldt

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

California Highway Patrol (CHP) proposes to acquire approximately 8.3 acres of property located at 674 Allard Avenue, in Eureka, Humboldt County. The property is proposed to be used for the replacement of the CHP Humboldt Area Office, as the current building and service structures are inadequate for program needs. CHP has not approved any development or use of the site. Future actions, to include development of the property, will undergo complete environmental review as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Highway Patrol (CHP), Facilities Section Name of Person/Agency Carrying Out Project: Paul Chambers, Project Director III, (916) 375-4516, California Department of General Services – Real Estate Services Division – Project Management & Development Branch (DGS-RESD-PMDB)

Exempt Status: §15061(b)(3), General Rule

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The acquisition activity is exempt under the "general rule" or "comment sense" exemption at California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061, subdivision (b)(3), where "The activity is covered by the commonsense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA." Land acquisition agreements that transfer ownership to the State do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Any future approval of any use of the site is conditioned upon full CEQA compliance per California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15004, subdivision (b)(2)(A), which states prior to completion of CEQA compliance regarding the use of a site, "agencies may designate a preferred site for CEQA review and may enter into land acquisition agreements when the agency has conditioned the agency's future use of the site on CEQA compliance."

Contact Person: Cindy Pontes, Assistant Chief, California Highway Patrol – Administrative Services Division **Telephone Number:** (916) 843-3500

Signature: