

Attachment 7

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**CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION 2019
FOR COUNTY PROJECT 22039**

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: General Services Department

Based on a preliminary review of the project the following activity is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN(s) Applicable Countywide Case No.

LOCATION: Countywide, including inland and Coastal Zone areas within the County of Santa Barbara, California. A list of proposed sites is listed below in the table below

NO	SITE NAME	LOCATION	TYPE OF EXEMPTION	ANTICIPATED WORK
1	Fire Station 24 (Los Alamos STA) (County owned)	99 Centennial Street, Los Alamos	15301, 15303, 15061(b)(3)	Add one new generator for the new tower and shelter
2	Rincon (AT&T)	34* 22' 22.3" N/ 119* 25'	15301, 15302, 15061(b)(3)	Install new tower and fencing

PROJECT TITLE: Public Safety Radio System Replacement

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The County of Santa Barbara's Public Safety Radio System (PSRN) is at end of its vendor supported life and needs replacement. The PSRN users are: Fire, Sheriff, Public Health, Probation, Parks, General Services, District Attorney, and contracted cities. EF Johnson is designing and implementing the PSRN, which consist of the following major components:

- Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems for Fire, Sheriff and EMS, and a Local Government (LG) system for Public Works, Public Health, Parks and General Services. LMR systems provide voice communications between radio users in the field and the Sheriff Dispatch Center (Dispatch) or other radio users via a mobile or portable radio (subscriber units) and the LMR base stations at radio sites throughout the County.
- The County Public Safety Microwave Radio System to carry radio user voice signals between the LMR base station sites and the Communications (Comm) Center where the system control equipment is located for all four County LMR systems.
- Dispatch where the dispatch consoles reside that allow the Sheriff / Fire dispatchers to dispatch on all three County LMR systems.

As set forth in more detail in the chart above, at each listed site work will either involve replacing existing equipment or adding new equipment, including a tower and shelter where indicated. Work at all the sites will involve replacing existing equipment will involve operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Replacement or reconstruction work of existing

structures or facilities will be located on the same site as the structure or facility replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the replaced structure or facility. New construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures and installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures are also part of the project as detailed above. Lastly the project will include a contract with Federal Engineering, Inc. for consulting services associated with technical implementation services management for the Public Safety Radio System Replacement Project.

EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption [Section 15301,15302,15303]
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect [Section 15061(b)(3)]

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section:

Reasons to support exemption findings: The proposed actions are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the following CEQA guidelines sections: 15301 as the actions consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, licensing or minor alteration of existing public structures, facilities, mechanical equipment or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use; 15302 as the actions consist or replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities located on the same site and with the same purpose and capacity; 15303 as the actions consist of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures and installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and 15061(b)(3) as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment.

The exceptions to the Categorical Exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines have been considered as follows:

(a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply in all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resources of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and official adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

The site locations identified above for application of the Class 3 exemption (Section 15303) are located outside of any designated or existing Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESH) areas. There are no other designated or mapped environmental resources of hazardous or critical concern on or adjacent to the project site. Therefore, no significant impacts that threaten the environment would result from the project.

(b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

Due to the relatively low number of projected facilities and the need for the facilities to be spread around the County and not concentrated together, the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place over time will not be significant. Therefore, this exception to the Categorical Exemption is not applicable to the proposed project.

- (c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.***

he proposed project does not involve unusual circumstances, including future activities, resulting in or which might reasonably result in significant effects on the environment. The proposed project will not result in a significant effect on the environment.

- (d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.***

The project will not result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway because, as noted above, most sites involve replacement of existing equipment at existing facilities or adding equipment to existing facilities that will either be located within equipment rooms or shelters or will blend in with other equipment. Where new structures are proposed, they will be of a relatively small scale that will not damage scenic resources. Therefore this exception to the Categorical Exemption is not applicable to the proposed Project.

- (e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.***

None of the sites identified above are included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. Therefore, it is not located on a hazardous waste site and this exception to the Categorical Exemption is not applicable to the proposed Project.

- (f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.***

The proposed project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of any historical resources. As noted above, most sites involve replacement of existing equipment at existing facilities or adding equipment to existing facilities and will not cause any substantial changes. Where new facilities or structures are proposed, there will be no substantial adverse changes in the significance of historical resources.

As described above, none of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions contained within Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines apply to this Preliminary Project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: _____ **Phone:** _____

Department/Division Representative: _____

NOTE: A copy of this document must be posted with the County's Planning and Development Department at least 6 days prior to consideration of the activity by the decision-makers to comply with County CEQA guidelines, and a copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

Distribution: Board of Supervisors

DATE FILED WITH CLERK OF THE BOARD

Department/Division Representative (print & sign name)



CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St. Room 407 • Santa Barbara • CA • 93101

Complete this form when filing a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report or Notice of Exemption.

You will need to submit one original for posting plus one copy for the Department of Fish & Wildlife. A scanned copy including the date/time of posting will be emailed to the Lead Agency and Project Applicant. If you would like a return copy, please submit an extra copy along with a pre-addressed, stamped envelope.

Contact Person Carl Thornton		Phone (805)-207-3653	
Lead Agency County of Santa Barbara, General Services		Lead Agency Email cthornton@countyofsb.org	
Project Title Public Safety Radio System Replacement			
Project Applicant Carl Thornton	Email cthornton@countyofsb.org	Phone (805)-207-3653	
Project Applicant Address 105 E. Anapamu St., Room 108	City Santa Barbara	State CA	Zip 93101

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

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- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
 - 2018 Filing Fee..... \$3,168.00
 - Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**)..... \$0.00
 - No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... \$0.00

 - Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration
 - 2018 Filing Fee..... \$2,280.75
 - Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**)..... \$0.00
 - No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... \$0.00

 - Notice of Exemption..... \$0.00

 - County Administrative Handling Fee (**required for all filings**) \$50.00

TOTAL: **\$ 50.00**

PAYMENT METHOD: ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING

Cash Check # _____ Journal Entry # JE-0220962