

ATTACHMENT 4

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:
Office of Planning and Research
1400 10th Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:
California Tahoe Conservancy
1061 Third Street
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Project Title: Tahoe Mountain Cell Tower Short-Term License Agreement and Permanent Easements

Project Location – Specific:

Existing unpaved road off Deveron Way in El Dorado County and that extends to the top of Tahoe Mountain, crossing multiple land ownerships, including Conservancy parcels El Dorado County Assessment Numbers 032-050-020, 032-050-022, and 032-050-069 (Exhibit A).

Project Location – City: Unincorporated

Project Location – County: El Dorado County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Conservancy is entering into one short-term license agreement authorizing New Cingular Wireless (AT&T) to install utility infrastructure along an existing, unpaved road and to use the road to access its project site at the top of Tahoe Mountain, on USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) land. AT&T will construct a new 117-foot-tall monopine cell tower and supporting facilities. AT&T has designed the proposed cell tower to visually blend in with the tree canopy and its height is similar in size to nearby trees to minimize scenic impact. AT&T will make minor modifications to the road on LTBMU and private land to provide sufficient turning radii for construction and maintenance vehicles accessing the site. Along an existing unpaved road, AT&T will construct a five-foot-deep and two-foot-wide trench, lay conduit and lines for fiber-optic infrastructure, and backfill the trench in the road on Conservancy property. Liberty Utilities will install a powerline to service the cell tower in the conduit as part of the construction. The Conservancy is entering into a permanent 20-foot-wide easement with AT&T for access and maintenance of its fiber-optic infrastructure and entering a permanent 20-foot-wide utility easement with Liberty Utilities for access and maintenance of its powerline.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:

California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy Board meeting of 6/17/2021) (Agenda Item 2d)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: New Cingular Wireless (AT&T)

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (§ 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§ 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§ 15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption – Classes 3 & 4, §§ 15303 and 15304 (see also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 12102.3 and 12102.4.).

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The construction of the cell tower and associated facilities are exempt under Class 3 because it involves the construction of new, small structures and equipment. The road improvements, trench digging, and filling activities are exempt under Class 4 because they involve minor alterations to the land.

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Date Received for Filing:

Jane Freeman
Acting Executive Director