

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Overhead Fiber Optic Cable Crossing at Lateral 24.2

CEC-14-044

Prepared by:


Mike Inthavong
Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 11/3/14

Concurred by:

See Attachment A
Archaeologist/Architectural Historian
Mid-Pacific Regional Office


Date: See Attachment A

Concurred by:

See Attachment B
Native American Affairs Specialist
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: See Attachment B

Concurred by:


Jennifer Lewis, Ph.D.
Wildlife Biologist/Biology Technician
South-Central California Area Office


Date: 11/3/14

Concurred by:


Rain L. Emerson
Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 11/4/2014

Approved by:


Michael Jackson
Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 11/4/2014

for



Nature of the Action

A 25-year land-use authorization would be issued to AT&T that would allow them to install a fiber optic cable overcrossing Lateral 24.2 near and east of the intersection between Avenue 14 and Road 22 in Madera County, California (refer to Figure 1). The cable would be connected onto existing PG&E poles on either side of Lateral 24.2 and would not require new poles or any ground disturbance. Work is expected to be completed within two days.

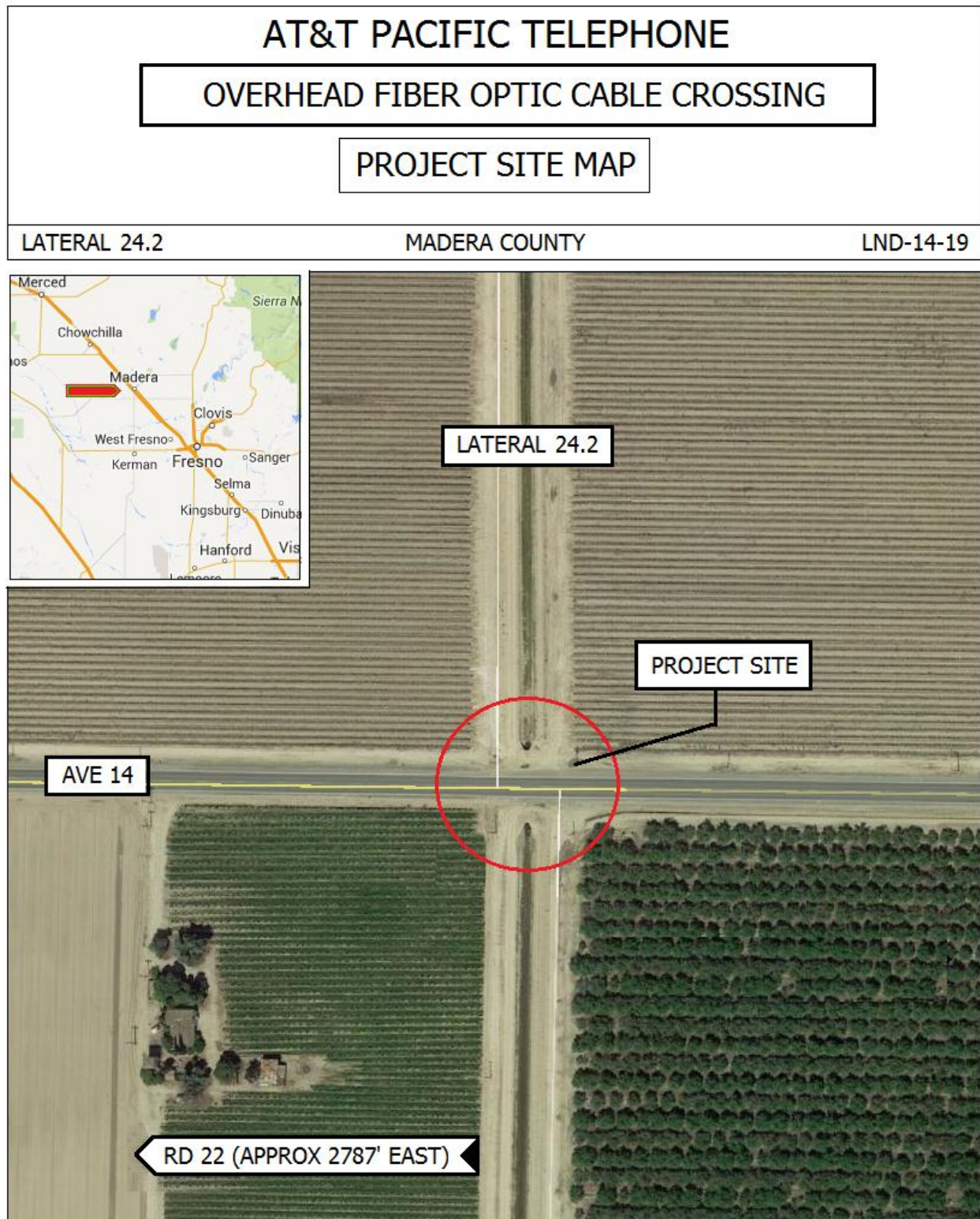
Project location: Sections 20 and 29, Township 11 South, Range 17 East., Mount Diablo Base & Meridian, as depicted on the Mendota 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle map.

Environmental Commitments

There are no environmental commitments prescribed for this action.

Exclusion Category

516 DM 14.5 Paragraph D *(10) Issuance of permits, licenses, easements, and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Bureau lands where the action does not allow for or lead to a major public or private action.*



Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

- | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E) and 43 CFR 46.215(c)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)). | No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Uncertain
<input type="checkbox"/> | Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | No | Uncertain | Yes |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. This action would violate a Federal, tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. This action would limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007, 43 CFR 46.215 (k), and 512 DM 3)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, EO 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Attachment A Cultural Resources Determination

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE
Mid-Pacific Region
Division of Environmental Affairs
Cultural Resources Branch

MP-153 Tracking Number: 15-SCAO-016

Project Name: Overhead Fiber Optic Cable Crossing at Lateral 24.2

NEPA Document: CEC-14-044

MP 153 Cultural Resources Reviewer: Joanne Goodsell



Date: October 24, 2014

The proposed action involves the issuance of a 25-year land use authorization to AT&T that would allow for the installation of a fiber optic cable overcrossing Lateral 24.2 near and east of the intersection between Ave 14 and Road 22 in Madera County, California. The cable would be connected onto existing PG&E poles on either side of Lateral 24.2 and would not require new poles or any ground disturbance.

This action is an undertaking as defined in Section 301(7) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 USC 470 *et seq.*). Upon review, Reclamation has determined that this undertaking involves the type of activity that does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. As such, Reclamation has no further obligations under Section 106 of the NHPA pursuant to 36 CFR 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1).

This document communicates the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process and cultural resources review for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should the proposed action change, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be necessary.

Attachment B Indian Trust Assets Determination



Inthavong, Michael <minthavong@usbr.gov>

Re: ITA Request Form - CEC-14-044 AT&T Fiber Optic Cable

1 message

RIVERA, PATRICIA <privera@usbr.gov>

Fri, Oct 31, 2014 at 5:25 AM

To: Michael Inthavong <minthavong@usbr.gov>

Michael,

I reviewed the proposed action to issue a 25-year land-use authorization to AT&T that would allow them to install a fiber optic cable overcrossing Lateral 24.2 near and east of the intersection between Ave 14 and Road 22 in Madera County, California. The cable would be connected onto existing PG&E poles on either side of Lateral 24.2 and would not require new poles or any ground disturbance. Work is expected to be completed within two days.

The proposed action does not have a potential to impact Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is a Public Domain Allotment approximately 6 miles SW of the project location.

Patricia Rivera
Native American Affairs Program Manager
Bureau of Reclamation