

CEQA QUESTIONNAIRE FOR APPLICATION ITEM 18

CASF Infrastructure Grant Applications Required Information for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Updated 03-12-2023

Please respond to the questions below; the completed Questionnaire must be submitted with Application Item #18 of the CASF Infrastructure Grant Application.

Applicants may send the Questionnaire to the CEQA section of the Energy Division in advance of submitting CASF Application.

For questions, contact CASF_Application_Questions@cpuc.ca.gov.

There are 4 classes of CEQA exemption applicable to CASF Infrastructure Grant Projects based on the project descriptions.

14 C.C.R. § 15301 – Existing Facilities

14 C.C.R. § 15302 – Replacement or Reconstruction

14 C.C.R. § 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

14 C.C.R. § 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land

Please provide a statement of the CEQA exemptions applicable to the proposed projects including documentation and factual evidence sufficient to support a finding that the claimed exemptions are applicable. The statement should provide responses to the following questions:

Please provide responses to the following:

1. A detailed map of the project area, including, geography, terrain, arterial transportation, urban and suburban development, and that includes the existing and proposed infrastructure for the project.
2. A detailed description of the project, including, project location (city, county, community, neighborhood, etc.), length of project, and roadways along the project alignment.

3. A detailed description of the project setting, including, land use, geography, terrain, arterial transportation, urban and suburban development, etc.
4. Provide photos of the Key Observation Points for the project and a preliminary design of the project.
5. Assumptions used regarding which type of CEQA review is anticipated and any citations to CEQA sections and exemptions as appropriate.
6. Does the project consist of the installation of new facilities primarily in new conduit or within new Right-of-Way or previously undisturbed ground?
7. Does the project consist of minor physical changes to existing facilities or the placement of facilities in or on existing buildings?
8. Will new fiber be installed in existing conduit, on existing utility poles, or placed underground? If underground, will it be located along an existing roadway?
9. If placing fiber on existing poles: will the project comply with the pole loading requirements of General Order 95?
10. Does the project involve the installation of underground or at-grade hand-holes, pull-boxes, and conduit vaults?
11. What is the total length of the fiber runs? What are the height/dimensions of any facilities (e.g., conduit, poles, cabinets, dishes, antennas or vaults)?
12. Are any other permits required for the project? What are they and which agency, local, state and federal, will issue them?

13. Have there been any environmental studies/technical reports completed for the project? Please provide.

14. Is the applicant aware of any sensitive environmental habitat, scenic highway or cultural resources near the project site?

15. Does the budget cover a PEA and possibly a Mitigated Negative Declaration or EA/EIR?