

Notice of Exemption (NOE)

Document Filed With: County Clerk County of Los Angeles, 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA 90650			
From (Public Agency):		Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS) Authority	
Project Title:	LA-RICS Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System – Site MCI		
Project Applicant:	LA-RICS Authority, 2525 Corporate Place, #200, Monterey Park, CA 91754		
Facility Name:	MCI	Facility Type:	Private
Project Description: (Technical Specifications)	Installation of up to 40 whip and up to 9 microwave antennas on an existing lattice tower which may require structural remediation or replacement in order to comply with California Building Code. Construction would also include installation of LMR radio equipment in an existing equipment shelter, and connection to existing electrical infrastructure. The project may include installation of a new up to 80-kW diesel generator to replace an existing generator, and the associated installation of a replacement diesel fuel tank similar in size to the existing fuel tank should it be required, either housed inside the existing shelter or within the existing fenced compound. Proposed repair and/or replacement of portion of existing chain-link fence may also be required to maintain site security.		
Jurisdiction Location:	Los Angeles County	County Location:	Los Angeles
Site Address:	24500 Saddle Peak Road, Malibu, CA 90265		
LatitudeWGS84:		LongitudeWGS84:	
Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:	The LA-RICS LMR system is a modern, integrated wireless voice and narrowband data communications system designed and built to serve law enforcement, fire service, health service, and public works professionals throughout Los Angeles County. The new system would provide day-to-day communications within and among agencies and allow seamless interagency communications when responding to routine, emergency, and catastrophic events. It would support more than 80 public safety agencies represented by approximately 34,000 first responders and 17,000 secondary responders serving more than 10 million residents, tourists, and commuters in the region.		
Name of Public Agency Approving Project:	LA-RICS Authority		
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:	LA-RICS Authority		
Exempt Status:	Categorical Exemptions. CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304.		Exempt
Reasons Why the Project Is Exempt:	<p>Categorical Exemption Findings:</p> <p>The project qualifies under Section 15301 because this site includes an existing antenna support structure that would be used to support proposed antennas. The project would not result in any expansion of use of the site because no staff would be required at the site to operate the LMR equipment and operational activities at the site would be limited to routine inspections, maintenance and repairs. The project would entail installation and operation of additional antennas on an existing lattice tower that currently contains antennas, which in turn is contained within an existing antenna farm.</p> <p>The project qualifies under Section 15302 because it consists of the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures that would be located on the same site and would have the same purpose and capacity of the structure replaced. If the existing tower is unable to be remediated, it would be a one-for-one replacement at the same height.</p> <p>The project qualifies under Section 15303 because it consists of construction of a limited number of new, small facilities. Only a generator with fuel tank, fencing / walls, and minor appurtenances would be installed to replace existing equipment onsite to support the proposed LMR system equipment. No new occupied structures would be constructed. New replacement infrastructure (e.g., generator, diesel fuel tank, fencing) installed at the site would create less than 2,000 square feet of new impermeable surface and result in no more than 5,000 square feet of temporary ground disturbance, all within an area already used for communications purposes.</p> <p>The project qualifies under Section 15304 because the project would result in no more than 5,000 square feet of temporary ground disturbance, construction activities would be minor in nature, occur adjacent to existing</p>		

structures, and would require minimal grading. No native vegetation would be altered, and no waters would be affected. In addition, no healthy mature scenic trees would be removed.

No exceptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 would apply.

To the extent some leased circuit work may need to occur outside of the LMR site, such work would involve minor alteration of existing facilities, mechanical equipment, and location of new small facilities as well as minor alteration in the condition of land within the public right-of-way. There would be negligible to no expansion of use associated with this activity since the fiber for the leased circuit lines are dedicated to providing this type of connectivity. Leased circuit work would not include the removal of healthy, mature scenic trees and would not be located in a particularly sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the categorical exemptions inapplicable based on the project records.

Lead Agency Contact Person:	Susy Orellana-Curtiss	Contact Telephone No.	(323) 881-8292		
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Signature:	<i>Susy for Susy Orellana-Curtiss</i>	Date:	<i>8/16/22</i>	Title:	Administrative Chief