



State of California  
 The Natural Resources Agency  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**PROJECT TITLE** SLU Drill Grounds Training Site Lease and Operation

**PROJECT LOCATION** 1666 Tehama Ave., San Luis Obispo, CA 93405 **COUNTY** San Luis Obispo

**LEAD AGENCY** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

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**ADDRESS** 635 N. Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire leases the Drill Grounds Training Site from the California National Guard (CNG) at Camp SLO. The scope of this project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing and minor alterations of the existing public facilities located at the drill grounds.

The 3.92-acre drill grounds facility is located within the intersection of Tehama, Mono and Sutter Avenues approximately 1/2 mile southwest of Cuesta College. The existing project site consists of two permanent structures and a number of steel shipping containers that are located in a variety of configurations to provide fire department training opportunities including a rope rescue tower, burn building, multi-story burn building, active shooter, and storage. The project site consists of a level paved area with concrete slabs surrounded by gravel and a chain-link fence.

The project will include a variety of tactical drill ground activities required for fire department training. There will be no ground disturbance for these drill ground activities; however, noise may be caused by crews and small equipment. Smoke will occur as a result of training burns; however, all burning will be in accordance with a required burn permit issued by the San Luis Obispo County APCD. The project site is located near a dead end with no adjacent residential or recreational areas.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: 14 CCR § 15301 (Class 1) – The operation, repair, maintenance, leasing and minor alterations of existing public facilities.
- Statutory Exemption (state code section):
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

This project fits under the Categorical Exemption listed in the CEQA Guidelines - 14CCR §15301 covering the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing and minor alterations of existing public facilities.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at San Luis Obispo Unit Headquarters.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

Governor's Office of Planning & Research  
 OCT 11 2016  
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

*Helge Eng*  
 Helge Eng, Deputy Director Date 10/7/16  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection