

# Community and Economic Development Planning Division

Jamie Bax Director

- 200 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street
- Suite 3100
- Madera, CA 93637
- (559) 675-7821
- FAX (559) 675-6573TDD (559) 675-8970
- · mc\_planning@maderacounty.com

**PLANNING COMMISSION DATE:** 

March 12, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: #1

CUP	#2023-022	Conditional Use Permit for Communication Tower
APN	#031-142-025	Applicant: Streamline Engineering & Design Inc.  Owner: Kevin Lee Herman & Diane Patricia
CEQA	Exempt	Trustee Notice of Exemption 15303 Construction or Conversion of small new structures

# **REQUEST:**

The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit #2023-022 to allow the installation of an unmanned wireless facility consisting of a 120-foot monopole and a 25' x 25' fenced-in lease area.

**LOCATION:** On the southwest corner of Road 28 and Avenue 19 1/2 (no situs), Madera.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:**

This project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15303. Class 3 Categorical Exemptions.



**RECOMMENDATION:** Adoption of a resolution approving Conditional Use Permit #2023-022 subject to conditions, Findings of Fact, and a CEQA Exemption.

# **GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION** (Exhibit A):

SITE: AE (Agricultural Exclusive) Designation

SURROUNDING: AE (Agricultural Exclusive) Designation; LI (Light

Industrial/Business Park) Designation, LDR (Low-Density

Residential) Designation

**ZONING** (Exhibit B):

SITE: ARE-40 (Agriculture, Rural, Exclusive 40 Acre) District

SURROUNDING: ARE-40 (Agriculture, Rural, Exclusive 40 Acre) District; PDD

(Planned Development) District, RUS (Residential Urban

Single Family) District

LAND USE:

SITE: Agriculture

SURROUNDING: Agriculture; Residential; Commercial

SIZE OF PROPERTY: 150.83 Acres

**ACCESS** (Exhibit D): The property is accessed via Road 28.

### **BACKGROUND AND PRIOR ACTIONS:**

June 1, 2021: The Board of Supervisors adopted the allocation of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding which included funds to support the economic stabilization of low-income households and businesses in the unincorporated areas.

January 25, 2022: The Board of Supervisors provided direction for staff to seek community input for the use of funds allocated for Project 20-009 (State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Project Inventory Report - Investment in Disadvantaged Communities) to determine the most critical infrastructure needs for those communities.

May-July 2022: Staff conducted community meetings for input on priority projects in the communities of LaVina, Fairmead, Chuk Chanse, Eastin Arcola, & Ripperdan. Broadband access was identified as a priority in those areas.

August 2022: Staff began discussions with Cal.Net to leverage County ARPA funds with Connect America Fund Phase II (CAF II) funds awarded to Cal.Net to effectuate the deployment of broadband internet services to the five unserved

communities in the western portion of the county: LaVina, Fairmead, Chuk Chanse, Eastin-Arcola, & Ripperdan.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This is a request for a Conditional Use Permit to install an unmanned wireless facility that includes a 120-foot monopole, ground equipment, and a 6-foot chainlink fence with barbwire. The lease area for the facility measures 25 feet by 25 feet. The project site can be accessed via Road 28.

The parcel is presently being used for agriculture. The lease area of 25' x 25' where the project is planned to be developed is situated in the center of the 150.83-acre parcel. The project location is surrounded by agricultural practices and commercial uses and there is a residential subdivision located about 0.5 miles northeast of the project site.

The installation of a new telecommunications facility is proposed, which will enhance wireless coverage in the area and boost network capacity. The network will provide a valuable service to the Chuk Chanse community, making it easier for people to call for emergency services, communicate with colleagues or clients remotely, and stay in touch with family members. The proposed location has been selected by the project engineer as it's capable of providing the necessary coverage and capacity, with the ability to hand off the wireless signal to the next telecommunications site. This will result in reliable and continuous wireless coverage, benefitting both travelers and community members alike.

# **ORDINANCES/POLICIES:**

<u>Chapter 18.53</u> of the Madera County Zoning Ordinance outlines the permitted uses within the ARE-40 (Agricultural, Rural, Exclusive 40 Acre) District.

<u>Chapter 18.92</u> of the Madera County Zoning Ordinance outlines the procedures for the processing and approval of conditional use permits.

<u>Part 1</u> of the Madera County General Plan outlines the AE (Agricultural Exclusive) designation.

<u>Telecommunications Act of 1996</u> authorizes local jurisdictions the discretionary authority over new cellular tower approvals.

# ANALYSIS:

The Connect America Fund (CAF II) is a program under the Universal Service High-Cost program. Its main objective is to expand access to voice and broadband services in areas where they are not available. CAF Phase II provides funding to service providers to subsidize the cost of building new network

infrastructure or performing upgrades. This program is intended to provide voice and broadband service in areas where it is lacking. Cal.Net is one of the recipients of the award for Madera County.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed into law. The ARPA created the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), which provided emergency funding to eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to respond to the pandemic and mitigate or prevent job losses of critical essential services. Madera County received a direct federal allocation of \$30,558,925.

On January 25, 2022, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to allocate \$5 Million of the county's ARPA allocation for projects in the most severely disadvantaged communities. The staff were also directed to conduct community outreach activities in these communities to identify community priorities. This input was then used to create actionable and feasible projects for the Board's consideration. The five communities that meet the severely disadvantaged designation are La Vina, Chuk Chanse, Fairmead, Eastin-Arcola, and Ripperdan. Community meetings were held at different locations and

This is a request for the construction of an unmanned telecommunications facility which will benefit the community of Chuk Chanse. The facility will consist of a 120-foot monopole, ground equipment, and a 6-foot chain-link fence.

The design of the telecommunication tower adheres to the specifications outlined in the previously agreed contract between the County and Cal.Net. As per the terms of the contract, the tower is to be constructed as a monopole structure. This design choice aligned with the agreed-upon requirements and considerations, ensuring optimal functionality and compliance with regulatory standards. Due to the limited availability of ARPA funds, a stealth tower was not considered for the project. However, it is expected that the monopole tower located in the rural area of the project site will not have any negative visual impact.

The project site is currently being used for agricultural purposes and is surrounded by agricultural and commercial uses. There is a residential community located approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the project site, with agricultural practices to the west, and south and commercial practices to the north.

The location of cell towers depends on several factors such as terrain, signal strength, population, number of calls and data usage, and obstructions such as buildings and mountains. The quality of cell phone connectivity depends on the terrain, transmitter power, network size, and the design capacity of the network. Cellular providers utilize their variables as well to locate facilities. These variables

include local zoning regulations, topography, existing structures, co-location opportunities, site access, available utilities, and a willing landlord. Coverage is also considered, specifically in areas where there is limited or no coverage available. There is a lattice communication tower on the north side of Avenue 19 that is heavily loaded and does not have any available Grid power to connect to.

Access to the site will be via Road 28, just south of its intersection with Avenue 19 1/2, via a dirt road. The project operations will not require the use of water, and no trash, water or wastewater will be generated. However, there will be a slight increase in traffic during the construction of the site. The cell tower facility will be unmanned, except for the occasional maintenance technician visit, which will happen once or twice a year.

Per the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, any cell tower structure within the airport compatibility zones that are 150 feet in height from ground level to peak of tower or higher would be under the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) purview for review of compatibility (ALUC Policy 3.5.1). This height measurement is independent of the elevation at ground level. As this monopole style tower is 120' (one hundred twenty feet) in height at peak, and is outside the compatibility zones for both airports, an ALUC review is not necessary.

The general plan designation of AE (Agricultural Exclusive) allows for public and quasi-public uses as a compatible use. Quasi-public uses are typically defined as essentially public (as in services rendered) under private ownership or control. Public uses include public utilities. The zoning designation of ARE-40 (Agriculture, Rural, Exclusive 40 Acre) District allows for a communications tower/wireless communication facility with a conditional use permit. A communication tower with a conditional use permit is consistent with the zoning ordinance.

Cellular radio services operate within the frequency range of 800 to 2310 megahertz. To transmit these signals, antennas are used which are usually located on elevated structures such as towers or water tanks. The combination of these antennas and the associated electronic equipment is called a "base station." Free standing base station towers typically range in height from 50 to 200 feet. A cellular base station may use either "omni-directional" antennas, which are less common, or "sector" antennas. Sector antennas are rectangular panels arranged in three groups of three each. Each group contains one antenna used for transmitting signals to mobile units (cell phones) and two antennas used for receiving signals from mobile units.

Wireless services rely on radio waves, which are a type of radiofrequency (RF) energy, which in turn, is a type of electromagnetic energy. Electromagnetic radiation is best described as waves of electric and magnetic energy that move

through space. These waves are produced by the movement of electrical charges, such as in a conductive metal or antenna. Studies have concluded that the levels of RF energy encountered by the general public are typically below the levels that can produce significant effects. Several studies have also been conducted to investigate the effects of low-level RF radiation exposure. A report by the FCC (Federal Communication Commission) has stated that any evidence of harmful effects caused by such low-level exposure is ambiguous and unproven.

In 1996, the FCC adopted updated guidelines for evaluating human exposure to radiofrequency (RF) fields from transmitting antennas such as those used for cellular radio. The new guidelines for cellular base stations are identical to those recommended by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP). These guidelines are also essentially the same as the 1992 guidelines recommended by the American National Standards Institute and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (ANSI/IEEE C95.1-1992).

In 1996 the FCC adopted updated guidelines for evaluating human exposure to radiofrequency (RF) fields from transmitting antennas such as those used for cellular radio. The new guidelines for cellular base stations are identical to those recommended by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP). These guidelines are also essentially the same as the 1992 guidelines recommended by the American National Standards Institute and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (ANSI/IEEE C95.1-1992).

In the case of cellular and PCS (Personal Communication Service) cell site transmitters, the FCC's RF exposure guidelines recommend a maximum permissible exposure level to the general public of approximately 580 microwatts per square centimeter. This limit is many times greater than RF levels typically found near the base of cellular or PCS cell site towers or in the vicinity of other, lower-powered cell site transmitters. Calculations corresponding to a "worst-case" situation (all transmitters operating simultaneously and continuously at the maximum licensed power) show that, in order to be exposed to RF levels near the FCC's guidelines, an individual would essentially have to remain in the main transmitting beam and within a few feet of the antenna for several minutes or longer. Thus, the possibility that a member of the general public could be exposed to RF levels in excess of the FCC guidelines is extremely remote.

Measurements made near typical cellular and PCS installations, especially those with tower-mounted antennas, have shown that ground-level power densities are thousands of times less that the FCC's limits for safe exposure. Therefore, in order to be exposed to levels at or near the FCC limits for cellular frequencies, an individual would essentially have to remain in the main transmitting beam (at the height of the antenna) and within a few feet from the antenna. This makes it

extremely unlikely that a member of the general public could be exposed to RF levels in excess of those guidelines due to cellular base station transmitters.

The FCC authorizes and licenses devices, transmitters and facilities that generate RF and microwave radiation. It has jurisdiction over all transmitting services in the US. Under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the FCC has certain responsibilities to consider whether its actions will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Therefore, FCC approval and licensing must be evaluated for significant impact on the environment. Human exposure to RF radiation emitted by FCC-regulated transmitters is one of several factors that must be considered in such environmental evaluations.

Major RF transmitting facilities under the jurisdiction of the FCC, such as cellular and PCS facilities, are required to undergo routine evaluation for RF compliance whenever an application is submitted to the FCC for construction or modification of a transmitting facility or renewal of license. Failure to comply with the FCC's RF exposure guidelines could lead to the preparation of a formal Environmental Assessment, possible Environmental Impact Statement, and eventual rejection of an application.

The signals from a cellular base station antenna are essentially directed toward the horizon in a relatively narrow pattern in the vertical plane. The radiation pattern for an omni-directional antenna might be compared to a thin doughnut or pancake centered around the antenna, while the pattern for a sector antenna is fan-shaped, like a wedge cut from a pie. As with all forms of electromagnetic energy, the power density from a cellular or PCS transmitter decreases rapidly as one moves away from the antenna. Consequently, normal ground-level exposure is much less than exposures that might be encountered if one were very close to the antenna and in its main transmitted beam.

This project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15303, which includes a list of project categories that have been deemed not to have a significant impact on the environment and are therefore not subject to CEQA provisions. Section 15303 lists Class 3 projects, such as the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, and installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures. A small structure is defined as a structure that does not use significant amounts of hazardous substances and does not exceed 2500 square feet in floor area. The project proposed here involves constructing a monopole communication tower with ground equipment and does not necessitate the removal of any structures, vegetation or trees. Moreover, the project would not impact any known or unknown historical resources. The project site is not listed under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code, nor is it within the viewshed of a

scenic highway. The proposed communication tower is a small structure that will not have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, the project is not subject to CEQA.

The project was circulated to the County Departments for comments and conditions. Comments were received from the Environmental Health Division and have been added as conditions of approval for the project.

If this project is approved, the applicant will need to submit a check, made out to the County of Madera, in the amount of \$50.00 to cover the Notice of Exemption (CEQA) filing at the Madera County Clerks' office.

### FINDINGS OF FACT:

The following findings of fact must be made by the Planning Commission to make a finding of approval of the project. Should the Planning Commission vote to approve the project, Staff recommends that the Planning Commission concur with the following:

- 1. The proposed project does not violate the spirit or intent of the Zoning Ordinance. The parcel is zoned ARE-40 (Agricultural, Rural, Exclusive, 40 Acre). The zoning designation allows for cellular towers with an approved conditional use permit. The conditional use permit process requires submittal of supporting documentation that allows the jurisdiction to analyze the project for health, safety, and welfare issues to make a recommendation. The approved conditional use permit provides the local jurisdiction the authority to ensure that the proposed project is maintained in a safe manner in accordance with the conditions included in the approval.
- 2. The proposed project is not contrary to the public health, safety, or general welfare. With the wider use of cell phones, and the decreasing use of land-line phones, the proposed use is intended to increase cell phone and wireless internet coverage in remote areas. This increase is beneficial to residents, visitors and emergency responders in that cell phone and wireless internet coverage is increased and will provide for quicker response times in the event of emergencies. This is beneficial to the health, safety, and welfare of all involved.
- 3. The proposed project is not hazardous, harmful, noxious, offensive, or a nuisance because of noise, dust, smoke, odor, glare, or similar factors. The project must adhere to the conditions of approval. By its' nature, the project will not generate hazardous, harmful, noxious, or offensive odors. While electromagnetic radio frequencies have been a concern of the public, due to the height of the antennas, and the power output of antennas, the

health risk is minimal. The 1996 Federal Communications Commission guidelines recommend a maximum permissible exposure level to the public of approximately 580 microwatts per square centimeter. This limit is many times greater than RF levels typically found near the base of cellular towers or in the vicinity of other, lower-powered cell site transmitters. The possibility that a member of the public could be exposed to RF levels in excess of the FCC guidelines is extremely remote.

4. The proposed project will not cause a substantial, adverse effect upon the property values and general desirability of the surrounding properties. The project as designed will not have an adverse effect upon the property values and general desirability of the surrounding properties. There are power and telephone poles in the region already, so the proposed project will not be creating any new impacts.

# **WILLIAMSON ACT:**

The property is subject to a Williamson Act contract. Telecommunication facilities are deemed consistent with the County's Rules and Procedures for Agriculture Preserves. Due to the limited size (approximately 625 square feet of footprint) and scope of the project (communication facility), there will be no conflicts with the Williamson Act Contract because of this project.

### **GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY:**

The proposed use is consistent with the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The General Plan designation for the property is AE (Agricultural Exclusive) which allows for public and quasi-public uses, which a cell tower would fall under. The property is zoned ARE-40 (Agricultural, Rural, Exclusive, 40 Acre) District which allows for a communication tower/wireless communications facility, with an approved conditional use permit. The Zoning and General Plan designations are consistent with the proposed use.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

The analysis provided in this report supports approval of Conditional Use Permit (CUP #2023-004) and a CEQA Exemption.

# CONDITIONS

See attached.

# ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Exhibit A, General Plan Map
- 2. Exhibit B, Zoning Map
- 3. Exhibit C, Assessor's Map
- 4. Exhibit D-1, Site Plan

- 5. Exhibit D-2, Enlarged Site Plan
- 6. Exhibit D-3, Equipment Plan
- 7. Exhibit D-4, Elevation Plan
- 8. Exhibit D-5, Structural Details Plan
- 9. Exhibit D-6, Electrical Plan
- 10. Exhibit D-7, Grounding Details
- 11. Exhibit D-8, Antenna Plan
- 12. Exhibit D-9, Equipment Details Plan
- 13. Exhibit D-10, Topographical Map
- 14. Exhibit D-11, Proposed Site Coverage
- 15. Exhibit E, Aerial Map
- 16. Exhibit F, Topographical Map
- 17. Exhibit G, Towers in Are Map
- 18. Exhibit H. Operational Statement
- 19. Exhibit I, Environmental Health Comments
- 20. Exhibit J, Notice of Exemption
- 21. Exhibit K, Resolution

# **CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

PROJECT NAME:	T NAME:	Conditional Use Permit #2023-022	Conditional Use Permit #2023-022, Streamline Engineering & Design Inc
PROJEC	PROJECT LOCATION:	On the southwest corner of Road	On the southwest corner of Road 28 and Avenue 19 1/2 (no situs), Madera.
PROJEC.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION:	Request for a Conditional Use Per that includes a 120-foot monopole fence with barbwire. The lease an feet.	Request for a Conditional Use Permit to install an unmanned wireless facility that includes a 120-foot monopole, ground equipment, and a 6-foot chain-link fence with barbwire. The lease area for the facility measures 25 feet by 25 feet.
APPLICANT:	INT:	Streamline Engineering & Design Inc Alyse Mathis (916) 996-4327	Inc Alyse Mathis (916) 996-4327
CONTAC	CONTACT PERSON/TELEPHONE NUMBER:	Annette Kephart - Madera County Planning (559) 675-7821	, Planning (559) 675-7821
No.	Condition	Department/A	Verification of Compliance
		gency	Date Remarks
Environn	Environmental Health Division		
	All parcels shall comply with Madera County Code Title 13 as it relates to water and onsite wastewater treatment systems setback requirements.		
.,	The facility will be regulated under the Hazardous Material Business Plan and or Waste 2 Generator depending on the type and/or amount of hazardous material on-site. (Article I, Chapter 6.95, of the California Health & Safety Code).		
	If facility is already regulated by this Division the applicant must update their Hazardous 3 Material Business Plan if the hazardous material storage location or hazardous material quantity(s) has changed.		
7	As of January 2013 all CUPA regulated businesses must submit their Hazardous Material 4 Business Plan electronically into the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) at: www.cers.calepa.ca.gov.		
(1)	During the application process for required County permits, a more detailed review of the proposed project's compliance with all current local, state & federal requirements will be		

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Planning Division

Fire Marshall Division

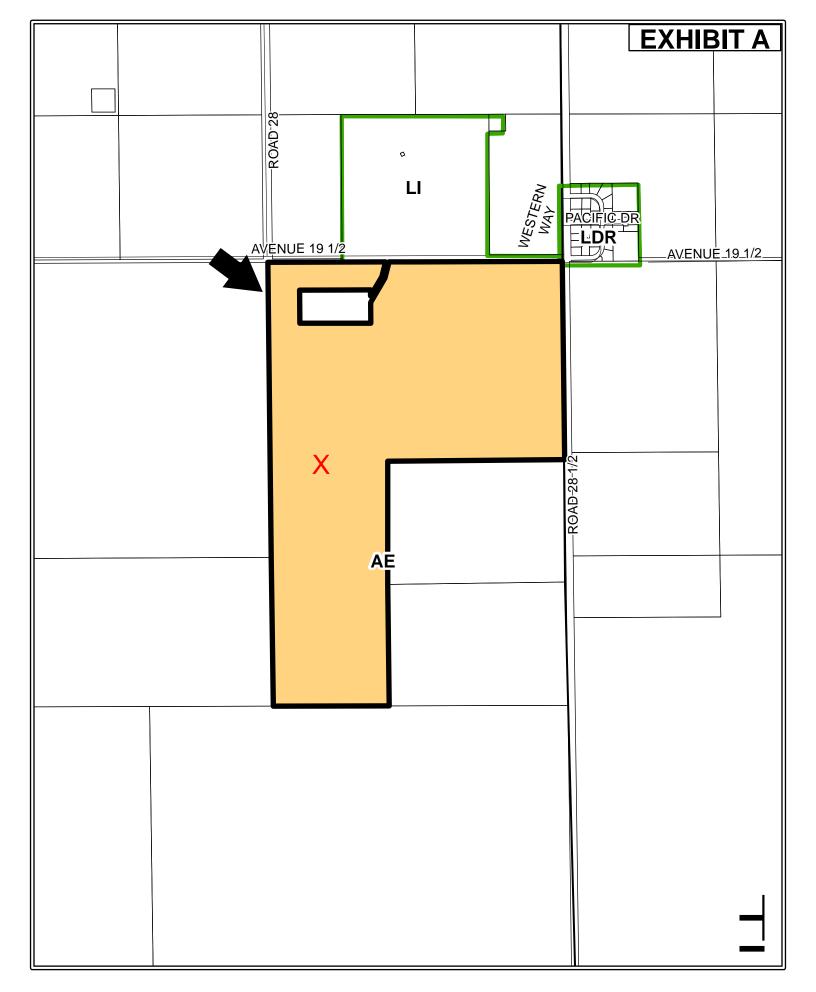
any type of public nuisance(s) to occur including but not limited to the following nuisance(s); 6 Dust, Odor(s), Noise(s), Lighting, Vector(s) or Litter. This must be accomplished under accepted and approved Best Management Practices (BMP) and as required by the County General Plan, County Ordinances and any other related State and/or Federal jurisdiction.

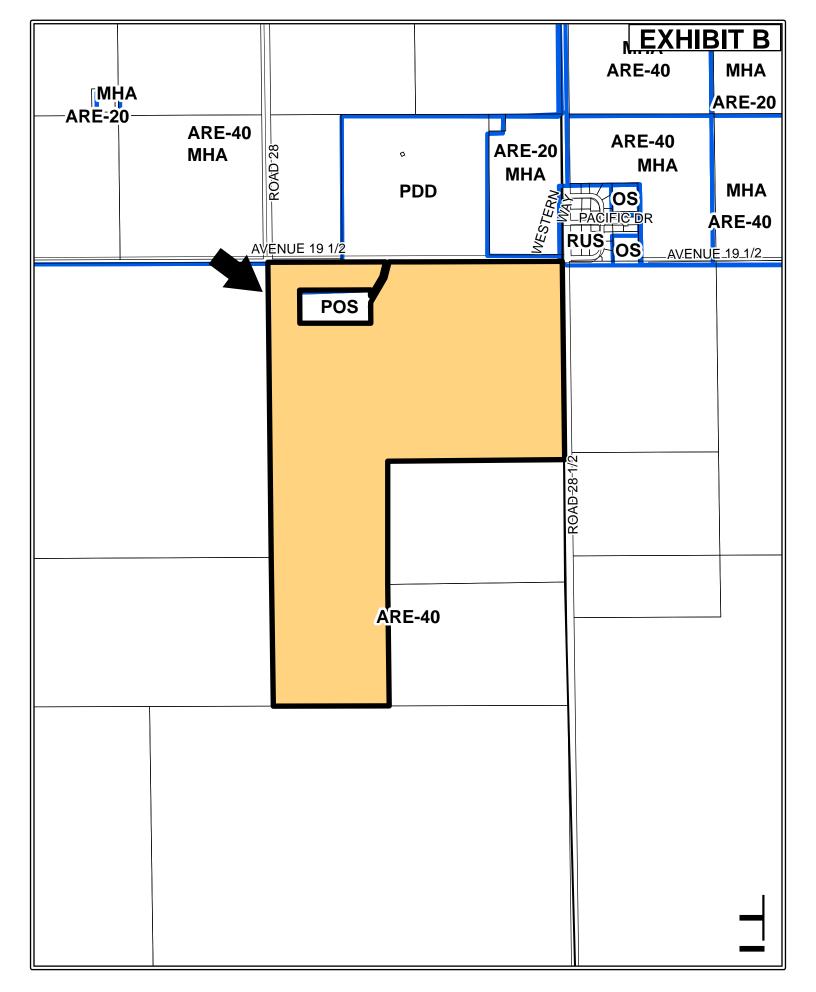
The construction and then ongoing operation must be done in a manner that shall not allow

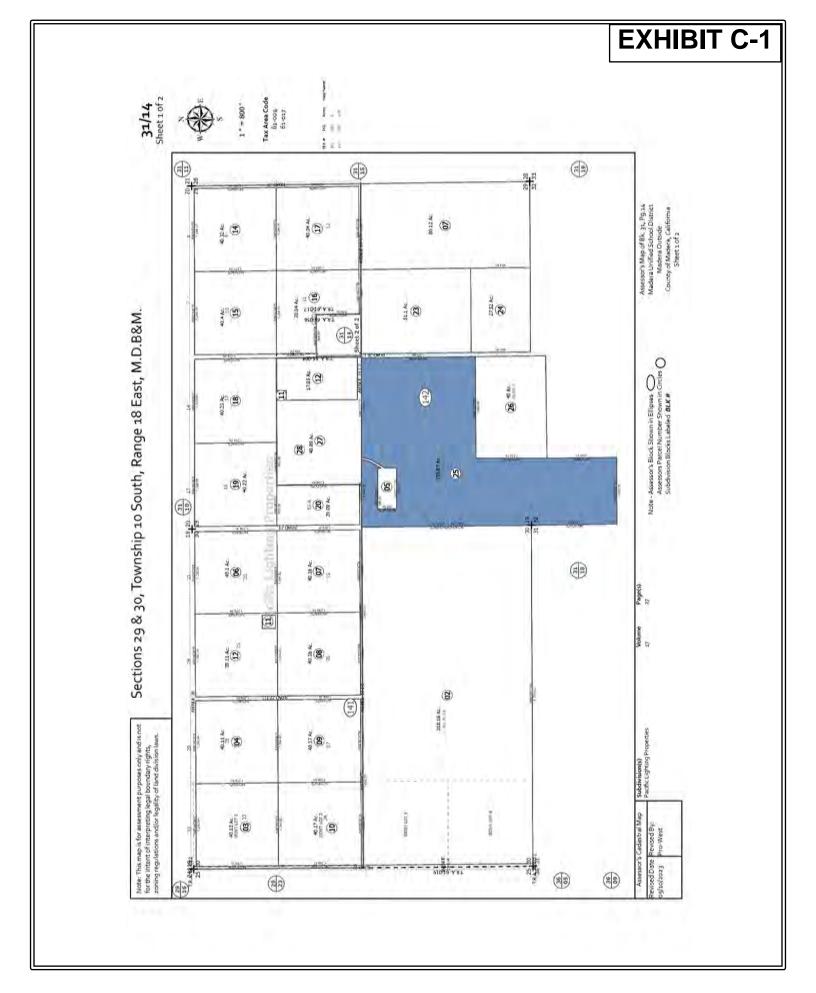
reviewed by this Division.

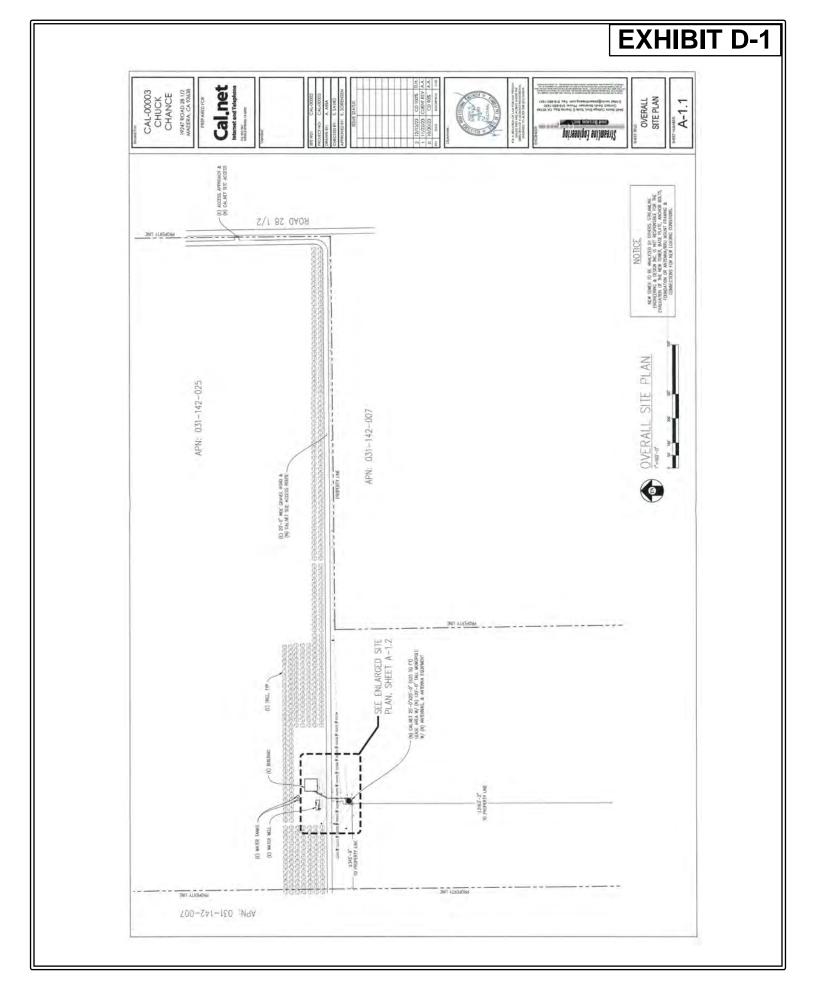
No.	Condition	Department/A		Verification	Verification of Compliance
		gency	Initials	Date	Remarks
1	Facility to operate in accordance with submitted Operational Statement and plans unless otherwise modified by conditions of approval.				
2	The applicant shall be required to maintain the facility at an acceptable level as determined by the Planning Department regarding visual/aesthetic components of the facility until such time as the tower is removed.				
3	Lighting associated with this project is to be hooded and directed downward and away from adjoining parcels.				
4	4 Use low-glare lighting to minimize nighttime glare effects on neighboring parcels.				
2	=				
	The tower antennas shall be treated of coated in such a manner as to make it non-fellective.				
9	All parking and circulation areas within the project area shall be paved or surfaced with an approved material to reduce dust generation.				
7	Applicant shall allow co-location opportunities on the tower.				
8	Construction and operation of the facility must meet FCC standards for radio frequency operations.				
6	The applicant shall be responsible for the removal of the cell tower when no longer needed.				
10	No component of the tower or associated equipment shall create, or cause to be created electrical interference with aircraft communications or navigation.				
11	start without first notifying the Planning Department and completion of a Phase 3 Archeological study.				
12	The applicant or applicant's successor in interest shall indemnify and defend and hold harmless the County of Madera, its agents, officers, and employees from any claims, actions, or proceedings against the County of Madera, its agents, officers, and employees to attack, set aside, void, or annul any approval by the County of Madera and its advisory agency, appeal board, or legislative body concerning, which ac□on is brought within applicable statutes of limita□ons. The County of Madera shall promptly no □fy the applicant or applicant's successor in the interest of any claim or proceedings and shall cooperate fully in the defense. If the County fails to do so, the applicant or applicant's successor in interest shall not therea□er be responsible to defend, indemnify or hold the County harmless. This condition may be placed on any plans or other documents pertaining to the applicant's project.				

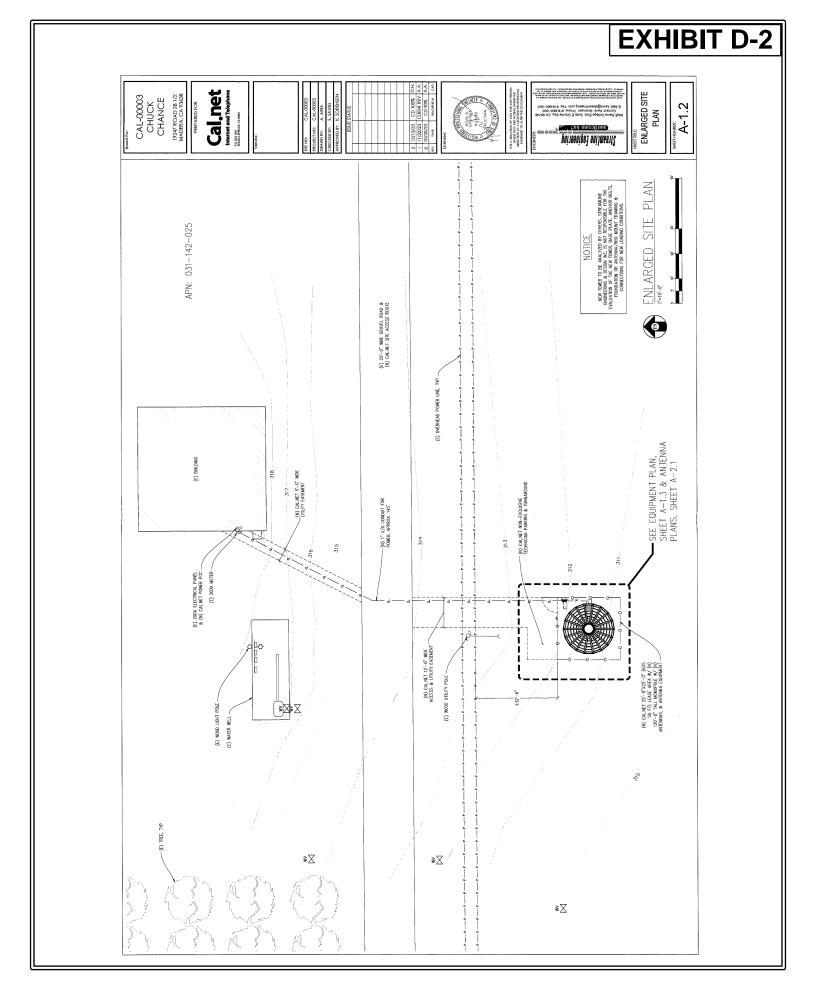
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ublic Wor	ublic Works DEPARTMENT				

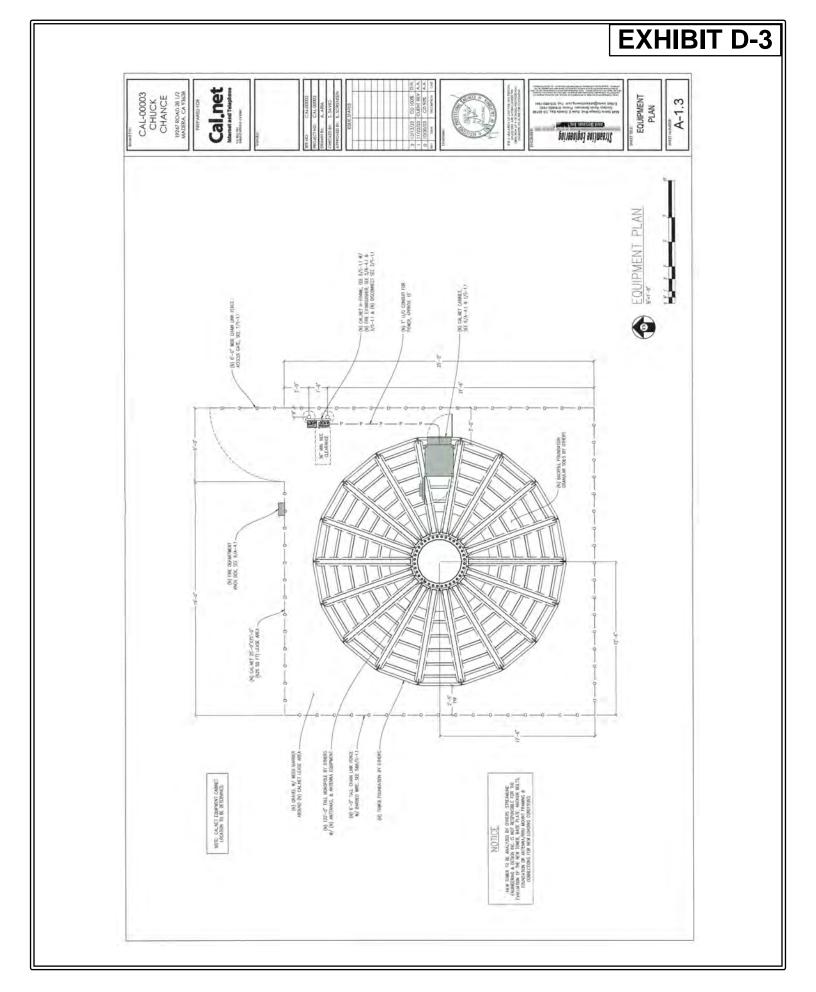


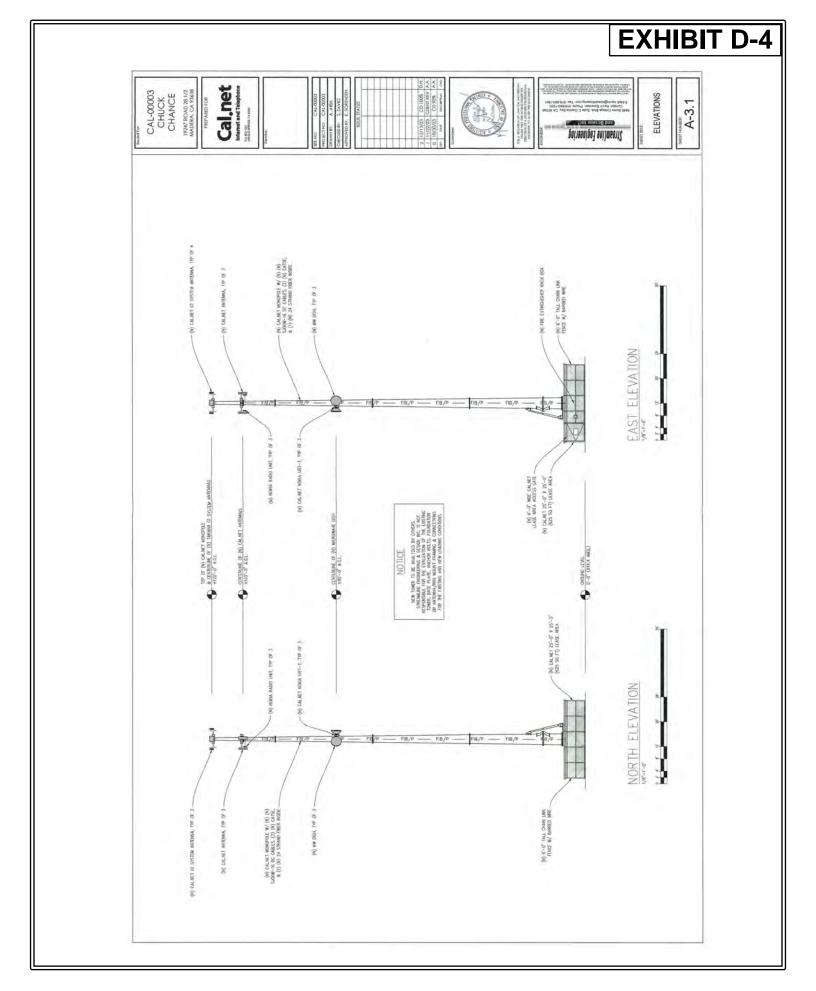


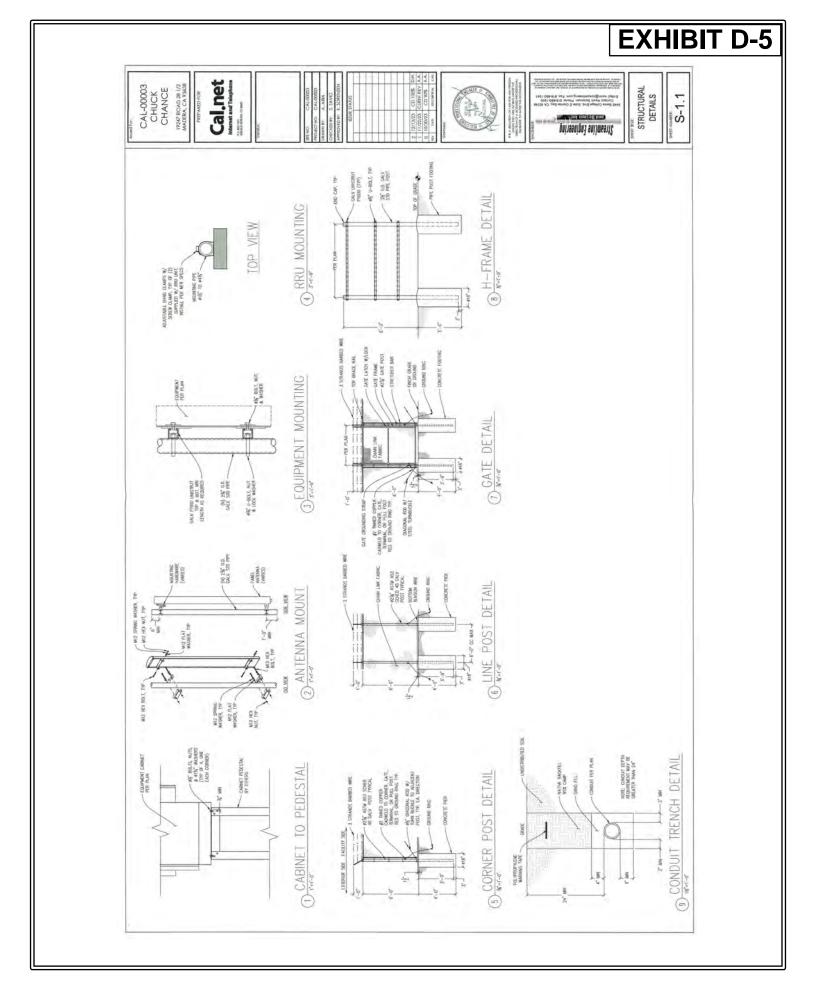




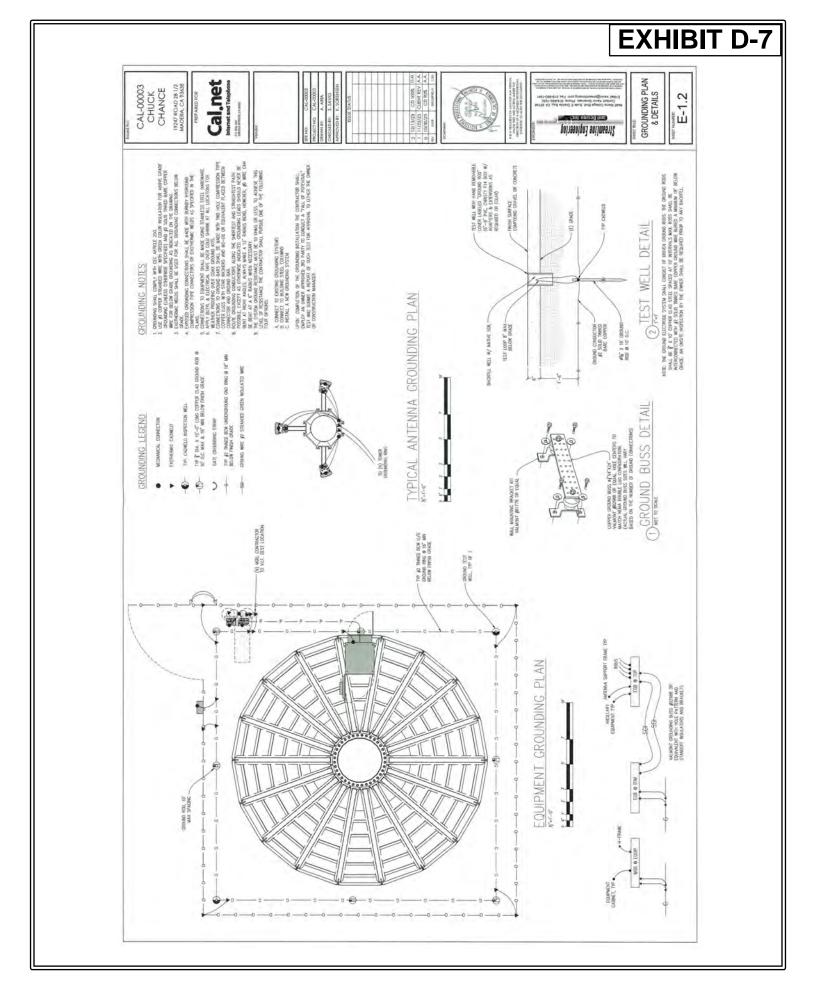


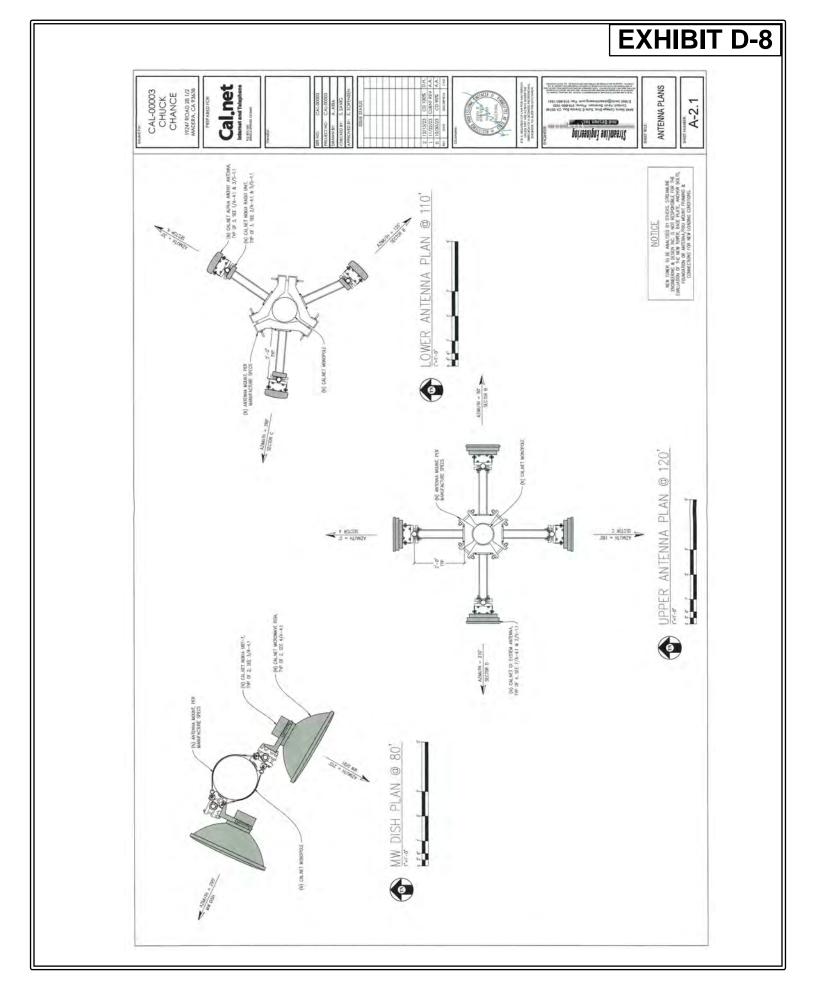


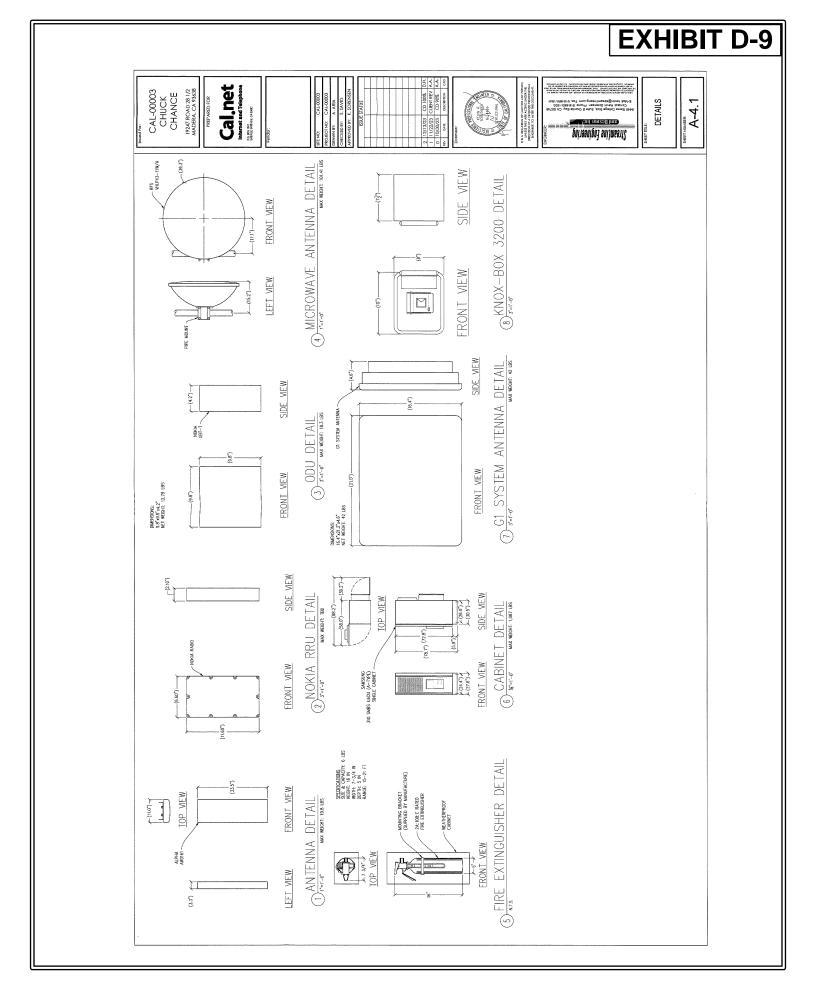


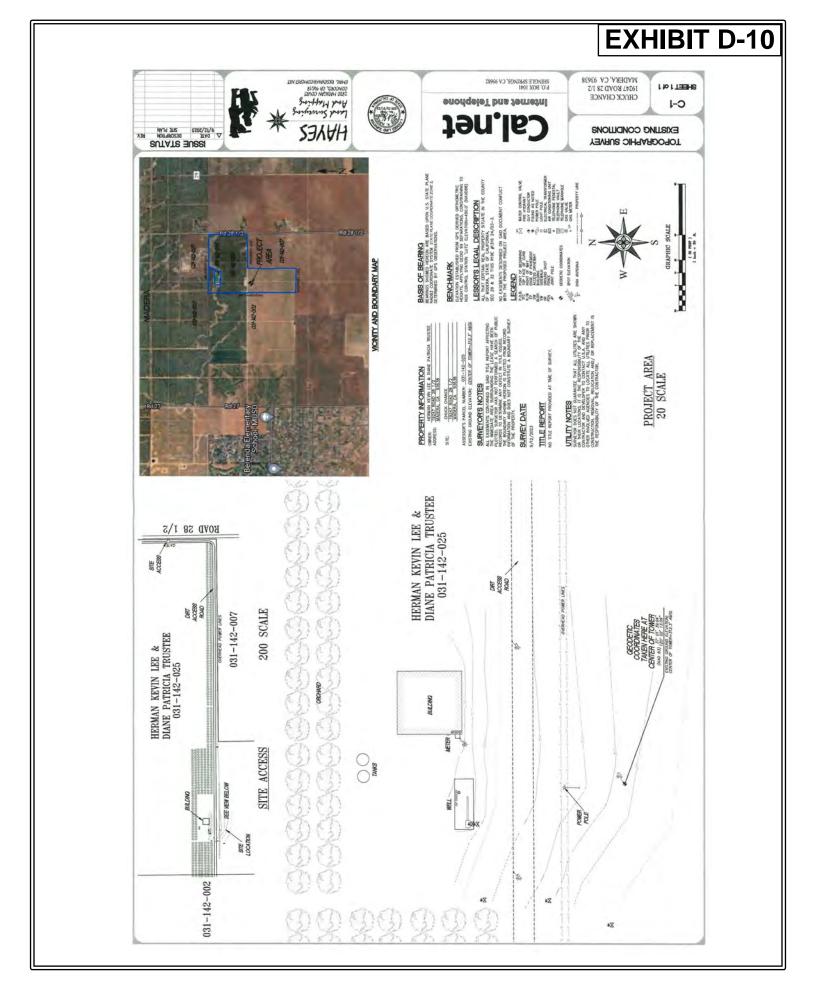


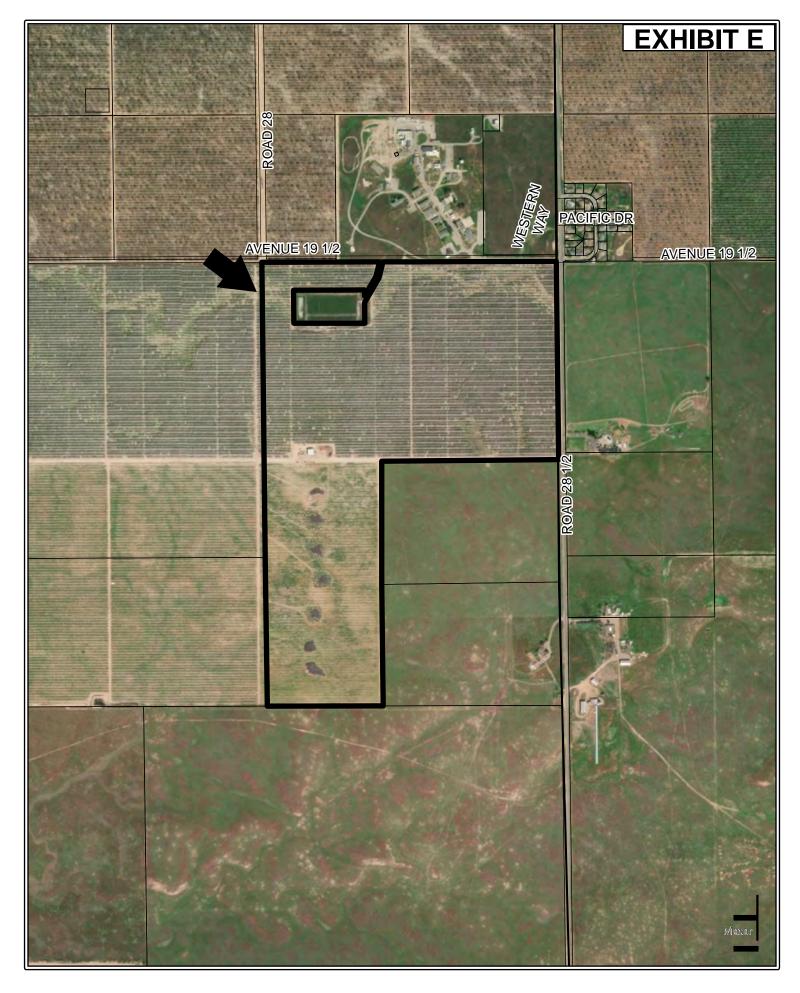
**EXHIBIT D-6** Calinet and Telephone **ELECTRICAL PLAN** CAL-00003 CHUCK CHANCE 19247 ROAD 28 1/2 MADERA, CA 93638 E-1.1 painasaipa3 sailmesit2 AND BETTERED AND WERN HALL DEPOSE OF SELL SE ALL HOUSESTS TORNERS. PRESENTED THE RESPONSE OF THE SECONDARY PRESENTED THE SECON OR OUTET, WATERPROOF THER SHITTL WATE OUTDOOK USHT D DH 3 ( -1· (c) 2504, 34, 4M, 20/208V PAREL (N) SOA DISCONNECT NISIDE (N) CAL NET LEASE AREA



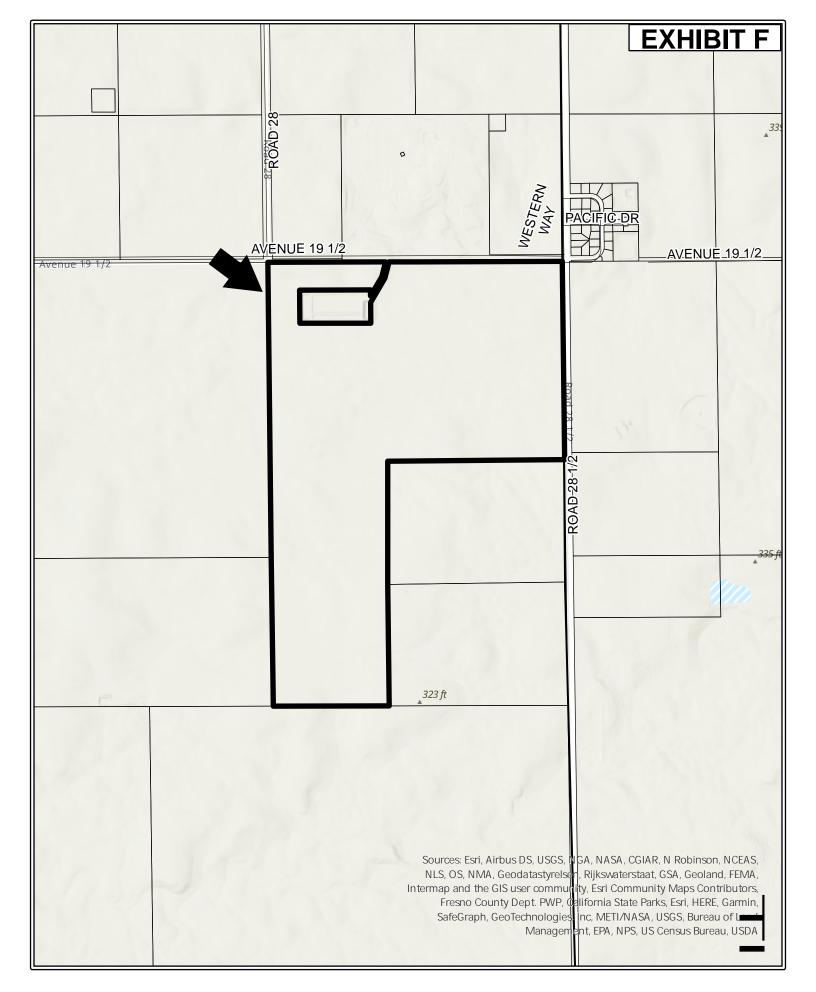


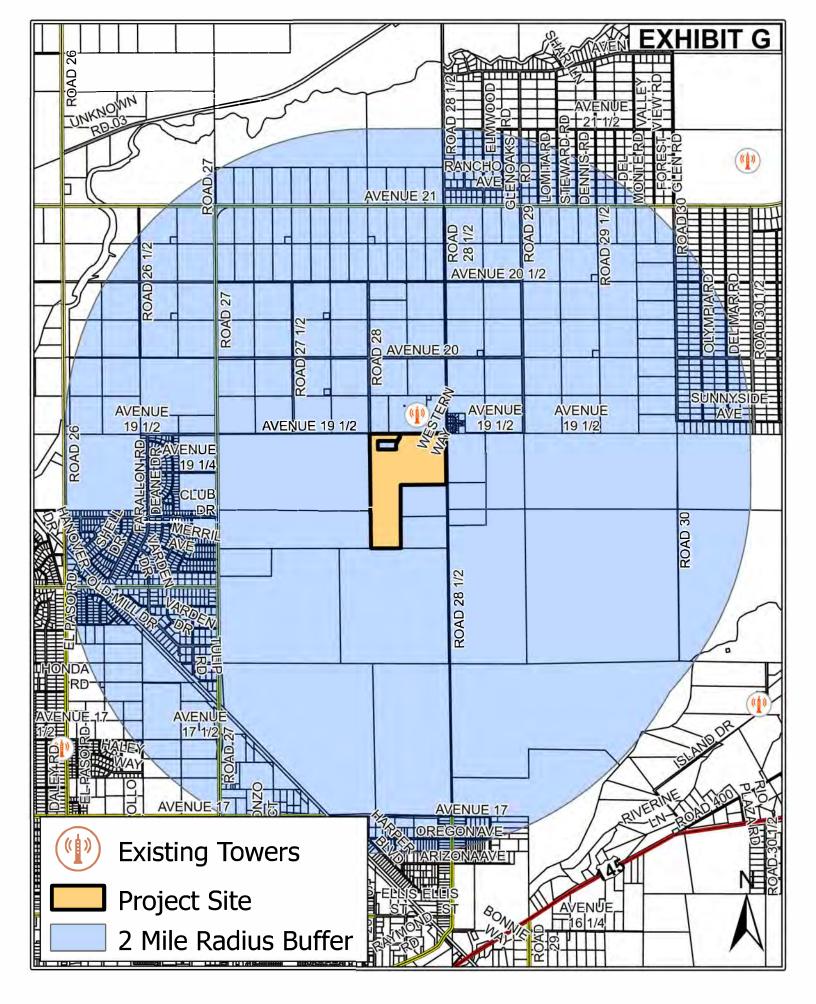


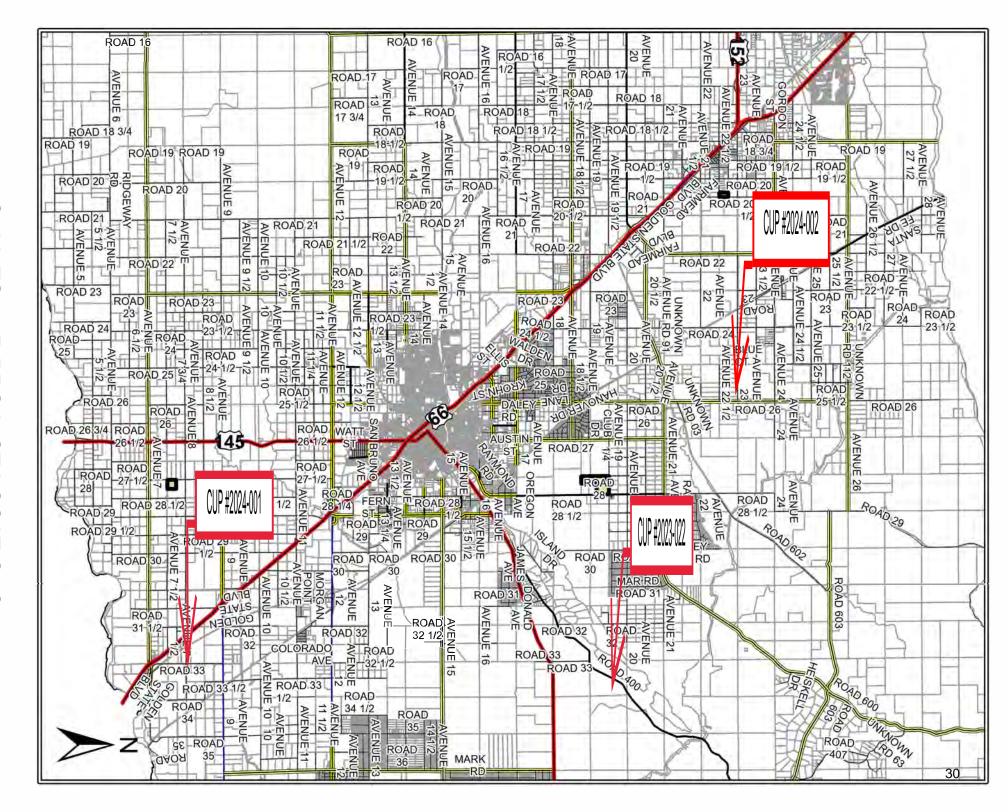




**AERIAL MAP** 









# Community and Economic Development Planning Division

- Suite 3100
- Madera, CA 93637
  (559) 675-7821
  FAX (559) 675-6573
- TDD (559) 675-8970
- mc\_planning@maderacounty.com

# **OPERATIONAL/ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT** CHECKLIST

It is important that the operational/environmental statement provides for a complete understanding of your project proposal. Please be as detailed as possible.

1.	Please provide the following information:
	Assessor's Parcel Number: 031-142-025
	Applicant's Name: Alyse Mathis, Streamline Engineering & Design on Behalf of CalNet
	Address: 8445 Sierra College Blvd. Ste. E Granite Bay, CA 95746
	Phone Number: 916.996.4327
	OC.
2.	Describe the nature of your proposal/operation.
	Installation of a (N) unmanned Calnet Telecommunication Facility.
3.	What is the existing use of the property?
<b>J</b> .	Agricultural
4.	What products will be produced by the operation? Will they be produced onsite or at some other
	location? Are these products to be sold onsite?
	None.
5.	What are the proposed operational time limits?
	Months (if seasonal): year around
	Days per week: 7 days
	Hours (fromto _): Total Hours per day: 24 hours a day.
6.	How many customers or visitors are expected?
	Average number per day: N/A
	Maximum number per day: N/A
	What hours will customers/visitors be there? N/A
	What hours will customers/visitors be there:
7.	How many employees will there be?
-	Current: N/A
	Future: N/A
	Hours they work: N/A
	•
	Do any live onsite? If so, in what capacity (i.e. caretaker)? N/A

8.	What equipment, materials, or supplies will be used and how will they be stored? If appropriate, provide pictures or brochures.
9.	Will there be any service and delivery vehicles? N/A
	Number: N/A
	Type: N/A
	Frequency: N/A
10.	Number of parking spaces for employees, customers, and service/delivery vehicles. Type of surfacing on parking area.  N/A
11.	How will access be provided to the property/project? (street name) Road 28 1/2
12.	Estimate the number and type (i.e. cars or trucks) of vehicular trips per day that will be generated by the proposed development.  After construction is completed a site tech would visit the site 1-2 times per year for approximately 1 hour at a time.
	The constitution of the control of t
13.	Describe any proposed advertising, inlcuding size, appearance, and placement.  N/A
14.	Will existing buildings be used or will new buildings be constructed? Indicate which building(s) or portion(s) of will be utilized and describe the type of construction materials, height, color, etc. Provide floor plan and elevations, if applicable.  N/A
15.	Is there any landscaping or fencing proposed? Describe type and location. (N) Chain Link Fence with Barbed Wire.
16.	What are the surrounding land uses to the north, south, east and west property boundaries?  Agricultural
17.	Will this operation or equipment used, generate noise above other existing parcels in the area?
18.	On a daily or annual basis, estimate how much water will be used by the proposed development, and how is water to be supplied to the proposed development (please be specific).  N/A

19.	how will it be disposed of?  N/A
20.	On a daily or weekly basis, how much solid waste (garbage) will be generated by the proposed project and how will it be disposed of?  N/A
21.	Will there be any grading? Tree removal? (please state the purpose, i.e. for building pads, roads, drainage, etc.)  N/A
<b>22</b> .	Are there any archeological or historically significant sits located on this property? If so, describe and show location on site plan.  N/A
23.	Locate and show all bodies of water on application plot plan or attached map. N/A
24.	Show any ravines, gullies, and natural drainage courses on the property on the plot plan.
25.	Will hazardous materials or waste be produced as part of this project? If so, how will they be shipped or disposed of?  N/A
26.	Will your proposal require use of any public services or facilities? (i.e. schools, parks, fire and police protection or special districts?)  N/A
27.	How do you see this development impacting the surrounding area?
28.	How do you see this development impacting schools, parks, fire and police protection or special districts?  N/A
29.	If your proposal is for commercial or industrial development, please complete the following; Proposed Use(s): Telecommunication Facility  Square feet of building area(s): 625 Lease area
	Total number of employees: N/A
	Building Heights: Tower height is 120'

30.	If your proposal is for a land division(s), show any slopes ove	er 10% on the map or on an attached
	map.	
	N/A	
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# Community and Economic Development **Environmental Health Division**

**Dexter Marr** 

**Deputy Director** 

Madera, CA 93637

TEL (559) 661-5191

• FAX (559) 675-6573 • TDD (559) 675-8970

# **M** EMORANDUM

TO: Annette Kephart

**FROM** Dexter Marr, Environmental Health Division

DATE: February 28, 2024

RE: Streamline Engineering & Design Inc - Conditional Use Permit - (031-142-025-000)

# **Comments**

TO: Planning Division

FROM: **Environmental Health Division** 

DATE: January 19, 2024

RE: Conditional Use Permit (CUP) #2023-022, Streamline Engineering, Madera APN 031-142

-025

The Environmental Health Division Comments:

All parcels shall comply with Madera County Code Title 13 as it relates to water and onsite wastewater treatment systems setback requirements.

The facility will be regulated under the Hazardous Material Business Plan and or Waste Generator depending on the type and/or amount of hazardous material on-site. (Article I, Chapter 6.95, of the California Health & Safety Code)

If facility is already regulated by this Division the applicant must update their Hazardous Material Business Plan if the hazardous material storage location or hazardous material quantity(s) has changed.

As of January 2013 all CUPA regulated businesses must submit their Hazardous Material Business Plan electronically into the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) at: www.cers.calepa.ca.gov

During the application process for required County permits, a more detailed review of the proposed project's compliance with all current local, state & federal requirements will be reviewed by this Division.

The construction and then ongoing operation must be done in a manner that shall not allow any type of public nuisance(s) to occur including but not limited to the following nuisance(s); Dust, Odor(s), Noise (s), Lighting, Vector(s) or Litter. This must be accomplished under accepted and approved Best Management Practices (BMP) and as required by the County General Plan, County Ordinances and any other related State and/or Federal jurisdiction.

If there are any questions or comments regarding these conditions, contact this Division at (559) 675-7823.

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# **Notice of Exemption**

# **EXHIBIT J**

Appendix E

<b>To:</b> Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044	From: (Public Agency):
County Clerk	
County of:	(Address)
Project Title:	
Project Applicant:	
Project Location - Specific:	
Project Location - City:	Project Location - County:
Description of Nature, Purpose and Benef	ficiaries of Project:
Name of Public Agency Approving Project	t:
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out I	Project:
	0(b)(3); 15269(a));
Reasons why project is exempt:	
Lead Agency Contact Person:	Area Code/Telephone/Extension:
If filed by applicant: 1. Attach certified document of exemption been file.	otion finding. ed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No
Signature:	Date: Title:
Signed by Lead Agency S	Signed by Applicant
Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public I Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, F	

# **EXHIBIT K**

# BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF MADERA STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of	) Resolution No.: <u>PCR 2024-</u>
STREAMLINE ENGINEERING & DESIGN INC CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT #2023-022	APPLICATION OF STREAMLINE

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission at a regular meeting in the Madera County Government Center, 200 West Fourth Street, Madera, California on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, held a duly noticed public hearing to consider the application of Streamline Engineering & Design Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit; and

WHEREAS, County staff has presented substantial factual information regarding the Conditional Use Permit; and

**WHEREAS**, the hearing was to consider the application of Streamline Engineering & Design Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP #2023-022) to allow an unmanned wireless facility consisting of a 120-foot monopole and a 25' x 25' fenced-in lease area; and

WHEREAS, the property 031-142-025-000 (37.6 acres) is located on the southwest corner of Road 28 1/2 and Avenue 19 1/2 (19247 Road 28 1/2), Madera; and WHEREAS, the property is zoned ARE-40 (Agricultural, Rural, Exclusive, 40 Acre)

District; and

WHEREAS, the project was categorically exempt pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3), Article 19 Section 15303, the proposed project is covered by the categorical exemption for new construction of small structures; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has considered all public testimony and information presented during the public hearing regarding this item.

# **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Planning Commission finds that:

- 1. A Notice of Exemption is approved.
- 2. The proposed use is consistent with the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The General Plan designation for the property is AE (Agricultural Exclusive) which allows for public and quasi-public uses, which a cell tower would fall under. The property is zoned ARE-40 (Agricultural, Rural, Exclusive, 40 Acre) District which allows for a communication tower/wireless communications facility, with an approved conditional use permit. The Zoning and General Plan designations are consistent with the proposed use.
- 3. The Commission found that any potentially significant negative impacts to environmental quality and natural resources have been properly evaluated. Under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3), Article 19 Section 15303, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA by the categorical exemption for new construction of small structures.
- 4. The proposed project does not violate the spirit or intent of the zoning ordinance. The parcel is zoned ARE-40 (Agricultural, Rural, Exclusive, 40 Acre). The

zoning designation allows for cellular towers with an approved conditional use permit. The conditional use permit process requires submittal of supporting documentation that allows the jurisdiction to analyze the project for health, safety, and welfare issues to make a recommendation. The approved conditional use permit provides the local jurisdiction the authority to ensure that the proposed project is maintained in a safe manner in accordance with the conditions included in the approval.

- 5. The request will not be contrary to the public health, safety, or general welfare of the citizens of Madera County. With the wider use of cell phones, and the decreasing use of land-line phones, the proposed use is intended to increase cell phone and wireless internet coverage in remote areas. This increase is beneficial to residents, visitors and emergency responders in that cell phone and wireless internet coverage is increased and will provide for quicker response times in the event of emergencies. This is beneficial to the health, safety, and welfare of all involved.
- 6. The proposed project will not be hazardous, harmful, noxious, offensive, or a nuisance because of noise, dust, smoke, odor, glare, or similar factors. The project must adhere to the conditions of approval. By its' nature, the project will not generate hazardous, harmful, noxious, or offensive odors. While electromagnetic radio frequencies have been a concern of the public, due to the height of the antennas, and the power output of antennas, the health risk is minimal. The 1996 Federal Communications Commission guidelines recommend a maximum permissible exposure level to the public of approximately 580 microwatts per square centimeter. This limit is many times greater than RF levels typically found near the base of cellular towers or in the vicinity of other,

lower-powered cell site transmitters. The possibility that a member of the public could be exposed to RF levels in excess of the FCC guidelines is extremely remote.

- 7. The proposed project will not, for any reason, cause a substantial, adverse effect upon the property values and general desirability of the neighborhood. The project as designed will not have an adverse effect upon the property values and general desirability of the surrounding properties. There are power and telephone poles in the region already, so the proposed project will not be creating any new impacts.
- 8. As a result of Findings 1-7, the Conditional Use Permit is approved, subject to the attached conditions.

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The foregoing resolution was a seconded by Commissioner Madera County Planning Conthe following vote:	adopted on a motion by Commissioner , at a regular meeting h nmission on this day of	and eld before the 2024 by
CC	MMISSIONER MILES-MATTINGLY VOTE	D:
cc	OMMISSIONER DAL CERRO VOTED:	
cc	MMISSIONER BURDETTE VOTED:	
CC	OMMISSIONER PALMER VOTED:	
CC	MMISSIONER ESTRADA VOTED:	
Chairperson		
ATTEST:		
Secretary of the Planning Con	nmission	
Approved as to Legal Form: COUNTY COUNSEL		
Bv:		