



RESOLUTION No. _____

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR ADDITIONAL CLEAN-UP ASSOCIATED WITH THE DIRECT COMMUNITY SUPPORT TASK OF THE CAL FIRE 5GA21159 WINTER STORM HAZARDOUS VEGETATION CLEAN-UP PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES TO SIGN AND FILE A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION WITH THE NEVADA COUNTY CLERK RECORDER'S OFFICE AND THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH FOR THE DIRECT COMMUNITY SUPPORT TASK

WHEREAS, the County of Nevada was severely impacted by the Winter Storms of 2023, which resulted in significant downed hazardous vegetation posing a wildfire risk; and

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to support disaster response and relief in counties impacted by severe winter storms, including Nevada County; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2023, President Biden declared a major disaster, "California Severe Winter Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides" (DR-4699); and

WHEREAS, the County of Nevada Office of Emergency Services applied for the Wildfire Prevention Grant Program - California Climate Investments on April 5, 2023, submitting the Winter Storm Hazardous Vegetation Clean-Up Project to support community recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS on May 1, 2023, CAL FIRE awarded the grant for the Winter Storm Hazardous Vegetation Cleanup Project (5GA21159) to the County of Nevada (Res. 23-230); and

WHEREAS, the Winter Storm Hazardous Vegetation Cleanup Project will reduce the amount of fuels in the Wildland Urban Interface in communities that experienced the greatest impacts of the 2023 Winter Storms; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency services plans to remove storm debris caused by the Winter Storms of 2023 from the sides of private and County-maintained roads in highly impacted communities since this material is a public safety hazard and a fire hazard; and

WHEREAS, the first phase of this project removed storm debris from approximately 38 miles of private roads included in the Notice of Exemption authorized by the Board on October 10, 2023 (Res. 23-516); and

WHEREAS, additional work is planned for approximately 40 miles of private roads included in this Notice of Exemption; and

WHEREAS, work performed under this Environmental Clearance will be funded by the CAL FIRE Grant Agreement 5GA21159 within the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services budget; and

WHEREAS, under Section 15269(a) of the California Environmental Quality Act projects to maintain, repair, or restore property damaged or destroyed as a result of disaster in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act are categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approves the Notice of Exemption and authorizes the Director of the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services to sign and file a Notice of Exemption with the Nevada County Clerk-Recorder's Office and the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for the Direct Community Support Task of the 2023 Storm Debris Removal Project.