

2019018492

Appendix E

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812

From: California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: Merced, Madera, Fresno,
Tulare, Kern, Riverside

Project Title: Community Air Grant- Collaborative Action for Air Quality Improvements in the San Joaquin and Eastern Coachella Valley

Project Applicant: Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability

Project Location – Specific: Various communities in the San Joaquin and Eastern Coachella Valleys such as Delhi, Planada, South Merced, Fairmead, La Vina, the City of Madera, Cantua Creek, El Porvenir, Jane Addams neighborhood, Lanare, South Central Fresno, Southeast Fresno, Southwest Fresno, Tombstone Territory, Ivanhoe, Lone Oak Tract, Matheny Tract, Soultis Tract, Tooleville, Arvin, Greenfield, Lamont, Rexland Acres, Weedpatch, Mecca, North Shore, Oasis, and Thermal

Project Location - City: Various

Project Location – County: Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kern, Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Leadership Counsel will use community air grant funds to conduct community outreach, host bilingual community meetings, create community steering committees and attend AB 617 workshops and hearings to support emissions reductions in disadvantaged communities throughout the San Joaquin and Eastern Coachella Valleys. The Leadership Counsel will conduct community outreach through a variety of means, including door-to-door outreach, phone calls and texts, and flyers. The community meetings will educate community members on air quality issues, and update them on the AB 617 process, allow community members to provide feedback that will ultimately inform advocacy within the communities, at a cross-regional level and as part of AB 617.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Air Resources Board

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability,
Veronica Garibay

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080 (b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: §15061(b)(3) Common Sense,
§ 15306 Information Collection
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

In accordance with CEQA, the use of the Common Sense Exemption is based on the "general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment." (CEQA Guidelines, §15061(b)(3)). The use of this exemption is appropriate if "it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment." With certainty, there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. The project consists of

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community outreach activities, technical assistance, trainings, technical comments on projects, community assistance, and translation services to the community.

Additionally, the project also qualifies as a Class 6 exemption under Article 19 of Categorical Exemptions, §15306, because the activities proposed involve collection of information and does not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The use of the Class 6 Information Collection exemption is appropriate if "[the project] consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource." This is applicable as the project will be gathering information from existing sources.

The project will not result in any specific or general exceptions to the use of categorical exemption as detailed under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. The project will not cause an impact to an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern nor does the project have unusual circumstances that could possibly have a significant effect on the environment. The project would not result in impacts to scenic highways, hazardous waste sites, historic resources, or other sensitive natural environments, or have a cumulative effect to the environment. No significant environmental impacts are anticipated to occur.


Lead Agency

Contact Person: Rachel Pallatin

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 324-3502

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exempting finding.
- 2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature:  Date: 1/28/19 Title: Staff Services Analyst

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JAN 28 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE