

Notice of Exemption**Form D**

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Applicant: California Olive Ranch, Inc.

Project Title: Adopting solar renewable energy to reduce GHG emissions on California olive oil agricultural operation

Project Location – Specific: 5945 County Road 35 (APN 021-020-027-000)

Project Location – City: Willows **Project Location – County:** Glenn

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will install a solar photovoltaic energy system to serve existing on-site electrical demand for the agricultural operation. The rooftop solar array will be on a south-facing roof of an existing milling facility. The ground-mounted solar arrays will be located on 0.2-acre on the southeast corner of the property. Installation of the arrays will require some minor trenching and grading, and conduits for feeder and branch circuitry and preparation of concrete pier footings. Installation of the ground-mounted array will require no drilling, welding, or heavy equipment.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Olive Ranch, Inc.

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial Exemption (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(4); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number
Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §§ 15301, 15304, and 15311
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Pub. Resources Code section 21080.35
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

Public Resources Code section 21080.35: The project involves installation of a solar energy system on the rooftop of an existing building. The equipment will enable the generation and use of solar energy to power on-site agricultural electrical demand. Associated equipment will not occupy more than 500 square feet of ground surface and does not contain plants protected by the Native Plant Protection Act.

The project does not require a federal Clean Water Act permit; waste discharge requirements under Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act; individual take permit; streambed alteration permit. For these reasons, the rooftop mounted solar portion of this project is statutorily exempt under Public Resources Code section 21080.35.

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301: The project involves minor alteration and operation of existing facilities. Solar arrays will be installed to power existing on-site agricultural electrical demand. These installations will not expand the existing agricultural use and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

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

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304: The project to install solar arrays involves minor grading, trenching, and backfilling to provide an alternate source of power for existing on-site electrical demand. These activities will not have a significant effect on the environment.

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15311: The project will install new solar arrays accessory to the existing, on-going agricultural operation. These installations will not expand the existing agricultural use and will not have significant effect on the environment.


Each exemption is an independent basis for finding the project exempt.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Geoffrey Dodson **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-654-5171

If filed by applicant:

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

Signature:  **Date:** 6/17/2019 **Title:** EC Specialist II

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date received for filing at OPR: JUN 17 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE