

**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-45  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Project Applicant:** Blanco Farms, LLC

**Project Title:** Guarte Ranch Solar

**Project Location – Specific:** 307 Morsoli Rd (APN: 257-061-009-000)

**Project Location – City:** Soledad 93960

**Project Location – County:** Monterey

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The purpose of this project is install a 110 kW rooftop solar PV system, an EV charging station, and a pump on the vegetable farm. The project will serve the electrical needs of the existing agriculture operation.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** California Energy Commission

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Blanco Farms, LLC

**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, § 15303; Cal. Code Regs., tit 14 § 15302
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number. PRC § 21080.35
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

This project will involve the installation of a solar energy system on one carport at a parking lot that has existed for over two years and pursuant to Pub. Res. Code § 21080.35 is exempt from CEQA. The materials will enable the generation and use of solar PV. The system will be installed at a vegetable farm in Monterey County. Associated equipment will not occupy more than 500 square feet of ground surface.

The project does not involve a federal Clean Water Act permit; waste discharge requirements under Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act; individual take permit; streambed alteration permit; or removal of specific required or native trees. For these reasons, this project is statutorily exempt from CEQA under Pub. Res. Code § 21080.35.

This project will involve the installation of an electric vehicle charger under carport at a vegetable farm in Monterey County. The charger will serve electric vehicles. This project involves installation of a carport of small new equipment in a small structure. The project falls under categorical exemption listed in 14 CCR section 15303.

This project will involve replacement of a diesel-powered water pump with an electric-powered pump at a vegetable farm in Monterey County. The pump is for irrigation purposes. The new pump is on the same site as the original pump and has substantially the same purpose and capacity as the original pump. The project falls under categorical exemption listed in 14 CCR section 15302.

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

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

**Lead Agency**

**Contact Person:** Lucio Hernandez **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-654-5004

**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:** Lucio Hernandez **Date:** 6/17/19 **Title:** AES

**Signed by Responsible Agency**

**Signed by Lead Agency**

**Signed by Applicant**

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUN 17 2019

Date received for filing at OPR: STATE CLEARINGHOUSE