

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-48
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Applicant: Bakhtar Research and Engineering, LLC

Project Title: FORCED RESONANCE IMAGING FOR BURIED PIPELINE DETECTION

Project Location – Specific: TBD

Project Location – City: TBD **Project Location – County:** _____

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project will develop and field demonstrate a natural gas pipeline detector using forced resonance imaging technology. The detector can accurately locate underground pipelines, estimate pipe depth and diameter, and confirm pipe material type. This project will also develop software to process detection data and report results in near real time.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Bakhtar Research and Engineering, 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, § 15301 ; Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:


Categorical exemption section 15301 exempts projects consisting of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. This project is exempt under 15301: Existing Facilities, because it will demonstrate a natural gas pipeline detecting tool at existing pipeline facilities. Project activities involve operation of existing pipeline facilities with no expansion of existing or former use. This project is also exempt under categorical exemption section 15306: Information Collection, as the project will collect data of natural gas pipelines in real-time. This project will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Yahui Yang **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-327-2224

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: 6/11/2020 Title: Mechanical Engineer

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Jun 11 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____