

**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:** Integral Consulting Inc.

**Project Title:** A Risk Assessment Framework to Evaluate Effects of Offshore Wind Farms on the California Upwelling Ecosystem

**Project Location – Specific:** 200 Washington St Ste 201

**Project Location – City:** Santa Cruz, CA      **Project Location – County:** Santa Cruz

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** The purpose of this Agreement is to fund a desktop numerical modeling study that evaluates the potential impact of floating offshore wind farms on coastal upwelling ecosystems. This Agreement will result in lower costs and environmental benefits by facilitating offshore wind permitting, turbine siting and array evaluation; understanding tradeoffs; and identifying data gaps to prioritize research, which will contribute to offshore wind project development and increased renewable energy generation in California.

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

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Integral Consulting 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, § 15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

**Reasons why project is exempt:** This project is exempt under Section 15306 because the project may only be collecting environmental data related to wind speed, ocean waves, and upwelling to validate the models with no serious major disturbance to sites in the Pacific Ocean.

The project is exempt under the common sense exemption CCR 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the numerical modeling study of offshore wind farms may have a significant effect on the environment.

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

**Lead Agency**

**Contact Person:** David Stoms      **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** (916) 327-2381

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

**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: David Stoms

Date: June 10, 2020

Title: ECS II

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**Jun 22 2020**

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_