

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: Association for Energy Affordability, Inc.

Project Title: Large Capacity CO2 Central Heat Pump Water Heating Technology Evaluation and Demonstration

Project Location:

<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
1401 J St	San Diego 92101	San Diego
515 13Th St	San Diego 92101	San Diego
6001 International Blvd	Oakland 94621	Alameda
720 E 11Th St	Oakland 94606	Alameda
174 Ellis St	San Francisco 94102	San Francisco

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This technology demonstration project funds the replacement of existing hot water heating equipment at multifamily buildings with new low-global warming potential central heat pump water heaters. Project data and performance will be collected, and research results disseminated to encourage installation of central heat pump water heater technology in California.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

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

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project involves the installation and testing of an innovative central heat pump water heating system in a total of 5 sites located in existing multifamily buildings. The systems will be integrated into the structures and may require the pouring of a concrete pad and slight modifications to the existing boiler rooms at the sites. The systems will take the place of existing hot water heaters and will result in negligible or no expansion of any existing or former uses at the sites.

This project is therefore categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 as minor alterations to existing facilities that involve no expansion of an existing or former use. This project is also categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 as basic data collection, research, and resource Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Association for Energy Affordability


evaluation activities that will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. Further, none of the exceptions to exemptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies to this project.

Responsible Agency

Contact Person: Amir Ehyai **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-327-3094

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:** 8/3/2020 **Title:** Energy Commission Spec.

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____