

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: Electric Power Research Institute, Inc.

Project Title: Demonstrating Code-compliant Energy Storage Systems and Their Capabilities for Grid Harmonization

Project Location:

Address	City	County
35030 Sky Ranch Road	Carmel Valley 93924	Monterey
Varies - Ridge View single-family homes located between Quincy Ave & N locan Ave	Clovis 93612	Fresno
Varies - The Highlands single-family homes located between E Shaw Ave and N Highland	Clovis 93612	Fresno
Varies - Willowglen single-family homes located between Bodway Pkwy, Valley House Dr, and Petaluma Hill Rd	Rohnert Park 94928	Sonoma
Varies	Santa Rosa 95403	Sonoma
4202 11th Street	Guadalupe 93434	Santa Barbara
665 Sierra Madre Ave	Santa Maria 93454	Santa Barbara

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of this project is to install and evaluate the performance of commercially available energy storage in new construction single-family homes and multifamily affordable housing complexes, assess the values of energy storage for the customer, and determine whether any future changes would be required to Title 24 building code. Title 24 recently requires solar on all new construction. It is anticipated that developers will be offering energy storage to customers and customers may be asking for energy storage to enable them to reduce electricity costs and provide backup power during a grid outage. This project will install and connect energy storage units to solar panels being installed by developers at approximately 15 new single-family homes and two multifamily affordable housing complexes which are either currently being built or in the planning stage and evaluate the performance of the energy storage for at least one year. This project will provide benefits for the homeowners, multifamily affordable housing owners and tenants, the utility grid, and IOU ratepayers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Electric Power Research Institute, 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 ; Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15303

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.
 Electric Power Research Institute, Inc.

- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 ("Existing Facilities") provides that projects which consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. The project will install lithium - ion (Li-ion) battery energy storage units at approximately 15 fully developed single family homes and two multifamily affordable housing complexes with existing rooftop solar photovoltaic panels. Installation will require minor alterations to the interior or the exterior of the garages of the single-family homes and the interior of the building utility rooms of the multifamily affordable housing complexes with no expansion of footprint. Specifically, containerized energy storage units will be installed near the electrical panel in the existing garage of each home and the building utility room of each multifamily affordable housing complex and connected to the home's and building's rooftop solar. For these reasons, the project will have no significant environmental impact and falls under section 15301.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 15303 ("New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures") provides that projects which consist of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. The battery energy storage units described above are commercially available, residentially sized Li-ion batteries. Specifically, the power and energy capacities of the batteries will be either 5 kW (8.6kWh) or 7 kW (13.5 kWh) units. The commercially available battery units likely to be used for this project include LG Chem RESU 10H/SolarEdge StorEdge, Generac PWRCELL 9, Tesla Powerball, and Sonnen eco10. The dimensions (L x W x D) of the battery and inverter enclosures are approximately 36 in x 30 in x 8.5 in, and approximately 37 in x 12.5 in x 7.2 in for LG Chem/SolarEdge unit, and approximately 68 in x 22 in x 10 in and 25 in x 20 in x 8 in for the Generac unit. The dimensions (L x W x D) of the battery enclosures are approximately 46 in x 30 in x 6.5 in for Tesla unit and approximately 75 in x 26 in x 14 in for the Sonnen unit. For these reasons, the project will have no significant environmental impact and falls under section 15303.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Hatice Gecol **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-327-2222

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: *Hatice Gecol* **Date:** 7/9/2020 **Title:** Commission Agreement Manager

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Aug 10 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

- Signed by Responsible Agency
- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____