

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: Charge Bliss, Inc.

Project Title: Essential Power Support for the Kaiser Permanente Ontario Medical Center using Long Duration Batteries within a Renewable Energy Microgrid

Project Location – Specific: 2295 S Vineyard Ave

Project Location – City: Ontario 91761 **Project Location – County:** San Bernardino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Charge Bliss proposes an 8 MWh long-term flow battery plus 2.2 MW photovoltaic array microgrid for the Kaiser Permanente Ontario Medical Center in a combined disadvantaged and low-income community. The project will pioneer prolonged support of the critical power system of a hospital in California, advance state and national healthcare energy system standards, address the needs of an underserved community, and demonstrate technical, economic, and environmental advantages over a comparable, pre-existing lithium ion healthcare microgrid installation. In addition, the project will further the development of an innovative microgrid controller to support broader application of long-term batteries across commercial buildings types.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Charge Bliss, 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, § 15311
- 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 involves the installation and demonstration of a renewable energy microgrid including a battery system and solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at the City of Ontario's Kaiser Permanente Ontario Medical Center. Specifically, the project includes the: (1) installation of solar PV systems on existing rooftops, (2) installation of carport solar PV systems over existing parking lots; and (3) installation of flow batteries at the site.

The rooftop and carport solar PV systems will total approximately 2.2 MW. The rooftop solar PV systems associated equipment, such as electrical conduits and controls, will be located on the same parcels as the PV arrays, will not occupy more than 500 square feet of ground surface, and the locations of the associated equipment will not contain plants protected by the Native Plant Protection Act. The rooftop solar PV systems will not require any of the permits listed in Public Resources Code section 21080.35(d). The carport solar PV systems will be installed over parking lots that have existed for more than 2 years and will not require the removal of any trees.

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

The long-term flow batteries are fully containerized. There will be eight containers with approximate dimensions of 44' x 10' each. Four containers will be stacked on top of the other 4 containers to reduce space. Concrete pads will be poured outdoors on already developed land and the containers will be set upon the pads to anchor the batteries. No additional site modifications besides the concrete pads will be needed to accommodate the flow batteries.

Some trenching through the existing parking will be needed and approximately 100' of underground conduit will be needed in total for the project. The project will not generate noise in excess of permitted levels, will not generate odors, will not affect any historic resources, and will not involve any hazardous or toxic materials.

The rooftop and carport solar PV system measures of this project are therefore statutorily exempt under Public Resources Code section 21080.35. The project as a whole is 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 at the sites and categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15311 as the construction of minor structures accessory to, or appurtenant to, existing facilities. The project, when considered as a whole, will not result in a cumulative impact that is significant on the environment. Further, none of the exceptions to exemptions listed in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply to this project.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: _____ **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** _____

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: Joseph Sit **Date:** 09/15/20 **Title:** Utilities Engineer

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____