

## Notice of Exemption

TO: Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 212  
Sacramento, California 95814

FROM: California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Project Title: Rulemaking to Modify Computer and Computer Monitor Appliance Efficiency Regulations

Project Location: Statewide

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Rulemaking to modify existing appliance efficiency regulations for computers and computer monitors to:

- 1) Provide a new energy allowance, or “adder,” for a type of innovative computer gaming monitor, which allows users to view image contents with a much faster refresh rate.
- 2) Provide a new energy allowance, or adder, for a new type of Ethernet that provides data transfer rates of more than 1 gigabits per second and less than 10 gigabits per second.
- 3) Add a definition concerning computers with cyclical behavior, which are notebook computers that periodically charge and discharge their batteries while they are connected to mains power sources causing a cyclical pattern in a computer’s power consumption.
- 4) Modify the definition of notebook computers to allow the inclusion of multi-screen notebook computers, which have secondary screens, such that they would have to comply with the notebook standards and modify the test procedure to address the testing protocol for these multi-screen computers.

These proposed regulations would benefit manufacturers by increasing their ability to manufacture and sell products, including products that incorporate innovative features, that comply with the regulations. They benefit consumers and businesses by allowing them to purchase a broader range of contemporary products while ensuring such products comply with the regulations.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Energy Commission

Exempt Status: (Check One)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption: State type and section number:

- Statutory Exemption: State code number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: Adoption of the amendments is exempt from CEQA requirements pursuant to the "common sense" exemption (CEQA Guidelines, 15061, subd. (b)(3)).

Reasons why project is exempt: The amendments to sections 1602, 1604, 1605.3, and 1606 of Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations would not have a significant effect on the environment or result in a physical change to the environment. One amendment would result in a minute increase in energy consumption by providing a new "adder", for new types of computer gaming monitors. But the approximately .01% increase in energy consumption compared to the overall estimated energy savings generated with prior efficiency standards results in a negligible effect and supports the conclusion that there is no possibility this project will have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, these amendments are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act because of the "common sense" exemption under section 15061(b)(3) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

Lead Agency Contact Person

Soheila Pasha  
California Energy Commission  
(916)657-1002  
Soheila.Pasha@energy.ca.gov

Signature: Soheila Pasha

Date: 12/14/2020

Title: Senior Electrical Engineer

Signed by the Lead Agency

Date received for filing by OPR

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