

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: Feasible, Inc.

Project Title: Machine Learning enhanced Acoustic Inspection to improve Battery Manufacturing

Project Location – Specific: 1175 Park Ave

Project Location – City: Emeryville 94608 **Project Location – County:** Alameda

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Energy Commission is providing Feasible, Inc. with a \$1,000,000 grant to support the commercialization of a machine-learning-driven battery inspection platform called EchoStat, which uses ultrasound and data analytics to detect manufacturing issues earlier and with more sensitivity. This project aims to reduce battery cell cost and to reduce the likelihood of safety incidents from unexpected battery failures. The project will be carried out in the fully permitted, existing 4942 sq. ft. facility in Emeryville, CA. No permits are required for the operation of the project and is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

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

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project involves development, testing, and validation of a machine-learning-driven battery inspection platform called EchoStat. The development and assembly will take place at a Feasible, Inc.'s existing facility in Emeryville, California. This will include minor interior alterations and operation of facilities and mechanical equipment. There will be no change of use and no expansion of the building. The testing and validation will be performed at one or more existing manufacturers' facilities already in operation, possibly the facilities of a Tier 1 German automaker.

The project consists of the operation of these existing public or private facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Therefore, this project is exempt under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301, Existing Facilities. In addition, the project involves data collection and research, which would not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. Therefore, this project is exempt under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15306, Information Collection.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Maggie Deng **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-776-0749

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: Maggie Deng **Date:** 4-7-2021 **Title:** Commission Agreement Manager

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____