

**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:** Noon Energy Inc.

**Project Title:** Pilot Demo of Ultra Low Cost, Long-Duration Energy Storage Coupled to Solar Power

**Project Location – Specific:** 8105 S Lassen Ave

**Project Location – City:** San Joaquin 93660      **Project Location – County:** Fresno

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

This project will scale-up an ultra-low-cost, long-duration battery technology from TRL4 to TRL 6. The battery stores energy by splitting CO2 into solid carbon and oxygen in a flow battery configuration, utilizing abundant materials and simple reaction chemistry. At <\$1 per kWh capacity for the storage media, it will provide long-duration storage at below \$20 per kWh capacity, much lower than existing storage technologies. During the project, a 5kW and 100kW battery will be built and tested at an industrial demonstration site. The battery technology will be housed within a 20-ft shipping container and transported to the site.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** California Energy Commission

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Noon Energy 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, § 15303
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15061(b)(3))

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

Class 3 projects that consist of the construction and location of limited number of new, small facilities or structures not exceeding 2500 square feet in floor area, 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. This project involves the demonstration of battery technology in one small structure consisting of a 20 ft x 8 ft shipping container which is significantly smaller than 2500 square feet. The project also includes the installation of a concrete pad and electrical connecting equipment, such as a transformer, that will serve the structure. Therefore, this project is categorically exempt from environmental review as a Class 3 project pursuant to Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 § 15303.


**Lead Agency**

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

Contact Person: Joshua Croft Area code/Telephone/Ext: 916-445-5309

**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: 4/7/2021 Title: Energy Commission Specialist II

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_