

**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:** Zira Group Inc (DBA Lightapp)

**Project Title:** Leveraging Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to Increase Energy Efficiency in California Dairies

**Project Location:**

Address	City	County
9200 Telstar Ave	El Monte 91731	Los Angeles
351 Belle Haven Dr	Lemoore 93245	Kings
3441 Jack Northrop Ave Bldg 14	Hawthorne 90250	Los Angeles

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

ZIRA GROUP INC (DBA LIGHTAPP). Proposed resolution approving agreement EPC-20-XXX with Zira Group Inc (DBA Lightapp) for a \$4,227,648.00 grant to demonstrate and deploy advanced energy management software solution that leverages artificial intelligence and machine learning to maximize energy efficiency by combining real-time energy, operational, and behavioral data at California dairy processing facilities and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. (EPIC funding) Contact: Michael Lozano.

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

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Zira Group Inc (DBA Lightapp)

**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:**

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 15301 provides that projects which consist of operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing structure, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, which involve negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's California Environmental Quality Act determination are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. The project will include the installation of various meters, sensors, and controls for energy optimization of the current facilities' processes.

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

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 15306 provides that projects which consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities, and which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. This project will be collecting electricity usage data from different existing processes within dairy facilities as inputs for the energy management system that will be installed for improved energy efficiency optimization.

**Lead Agency**

**Contact Person:** Michael Lozano **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-776-0788

**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:** Michael Lozano **Date:** 6/15/2021 **Title:** Senior Mechanical Engineer

**Signed by Responsible Agency**

**Signed by Lead Agency**

**Signed by Applicant**

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