

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: DOE- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Project Title: Cost-Effective Technologies and Strategies to Improve Energy Efficiency and Reduce Emissions of Direct Heating Equipment in California with Health Benefits – 2nd REVISED NOE

Project Location:

<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
1 Cyclotron Rd Bldg 90	Berkeley 94720	Alameda
1 Cyclotron Rd Bldg 70	Berkeley 94720	Alameda
Terrace Dr	El Cerrito 94530	Contra Costa
Hickory Ave	Hayward 94544	Alameda
Jefferson Ave	Murrieta 92562	Riverside
Center Rd	Novato 94947	Marin
Chestnut St	Oakland 94607	Alameda
E 27Th St	Oakland 94606	Alameda
Rio Vista Way	Petaluma 94952	Sonoma
G St	Sacramento 95811	Sacramento
Florida St	San Francisco 94110	San Francisco
Concord St	San Francisco 94112	San Francisco
Woodward St	San Francisco 94103	San Francisco
Via Coralla	San Lorenzo 94580	Alameda
Clairemont Dr	San Diego 92117	San Diego
E 5Th St	Stockton 95206	San Joaquin
Jefferson Ave	Murrieta 92562	Riverside
27Th St	Sacramento 95818	Sacramento
E Dakota Ave	Fresno 93726	Fresno
Browns Valley Rd	Napa 94558	Napa
Jay St	Arcata 95521	Humboldt

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of this Agreement is to fund the development of cost-effective strategies to reduce natural gas use, environmental impacts, and safety and health risks of direct heating equipment (DHE) in California. These strategies will be based on market assessment of this equipment in the state, laboratory and field evaluations, as well as policy and program modeling and analysis. This project is to test DHE in the laboratory, and in the field at twelve household test sites by replacing existing equipment. This project will result in no new construction and consists only of basic data collection, research and experimental management activities which will result in no disturbance to an environmental resource.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: DOE- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

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., Title 14 Section 15301 provides a CEQA exemption for existing facilities. The project involves minor alteration of existing facilities and mechanical equipment. New higher efficiency DHE will be installed in the lab and existing homes, replacing older DHE. The project will not involve expansion of the existing use and will not have significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., Title 14 Section 15306 provides a CEQA exemption for information collection. The project will involve basic data collection and research. DHE will be tested in the lab and in existing homes to complete a policy & program modeling and analysis. The research includes basic data collection with no serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource under class 6, since the work includes testing in a lab facility. The project is strictly for information gathering purposes.

The Energy Commission made CEQA findings pertaining to this project, including finding that it was categorically exempt under Title 14 CCR 15301 and 15306 when grant agreement PIR-18-006 for this project was originally approved by the Commission on June 12, 2019. This 2nd revised NOE is to add three new sites for this project (2811 E Dakota Ave, Fresno, 4150 Browns Valley Rd, Napa, and 2204 Jay St #A, Humboldt).

These changes will not result in any environmental impacts beyond those already considered by the Commission and do not change the applicability of the categorical exemption under 14 CCR 15301 and 15306. Therefore, both CEQA categorical exemption can independently exempt all activities for this project.

This amended Notice of Exemption provides documentation of the test site changes and the CEC's CEQA analysis.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jackson Thach **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-776-0818

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: Jackson Thach **Date:** 12-21-2021 **Title:** Mechanical Engineer

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____