

Notice of Exemption

Form D

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Blueprint for High Efficiency Heavy Duty Hydrogen Refueling Infrastructure (REVISED) (Replaces SCH 2022020711)

Project Applicant: Linde Inc.

Project Location - Specific: 17047 Zachary Avenue, Bakersfield CA 93308

Project Location – City: Bakersfield

Project Location - County: Kern County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Linde Inc. will prepare a blueprint document that will facilitate the development of well-supplied, fast hydrogen refueling infrastructure.

Linde will define a conceptual design of the infrastructure; produce a hydrogen safety plan and conduct a hydrogen safety review; develop community and workforce development plans; collaborate with trucking fleets and original equipment manufacturers of fuel cell electric vehicles to receive input on station design, traffic management and fueling rates; and evaluate available funding options for station deployment.

The purpose of this project is to accelerate the conversion of fleets in California to FCEV's by assuring the availability of a well-supplied, fast hydrogen refueling infrastructure that is easily accessible from major interstate corridors.

The beneficiaries are Linde Inc. and their customers that use zero-emission vehicles.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Linde Inc.

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: Cal. Code Reg.s, tit. 14, section 15306 ("Information Collection")
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project consists of basic data collection, research and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource are categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA. This project consists of developing a planning document for possible, future deployment of zero emission vehicle infrastructure equipment. The project will not cause direct physical changes to the environment, and there will be no physical construction. This project involves data collection, technology assessment, public outreach, administrative coordination efforts, planning, and similar activities. Therefore, the proposed project will have no significant effect on the environment and is categorically exempt under section 15306.

Responsible Agency

Contact Person: Rose Strauss Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-908-7493

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: Rose Strauss Date: 9/12/2022 Title: Energy Analyst

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Signed by Applicant