

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
715 P Street, MS-18 Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Blueprint for Development of ZEVs in the California Logging and Biomass Sector

Project Applicant: Allotrope Partners LLC

Project Location - Specific: 1301 Clay Street #71180 Oakland, CA 94612

Project Location - City: Oakland, CA **Project Location - County:** Alameda

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Under grant agreement ZVI-21-013, the California Energy Commission will provide a \$175,256 grant to Allotrope Partners LLC for a Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) blueprint study. This project will consist of developing a planning document to assess and scope the potential to utilize ZEVs in the logging/biomass transport industry, in particular the potential to convert logging trucks delivering logs to sawmills and chip trucks delivering wood chips to biomass power plants. Hauling biomass and logs to power plants and sawmills respectively is an important sector for California with direct impacts on forest management and forest carbon throughout the state. Decarbonization of these processes can have a meaningful impact on those sectors and on addressing climate change, and serve as an example for other heavy industries that depend on heavy duty vehicles.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Allotrope Partners LLC

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.

Reasons why project is exempt:

Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, §15306, Information Collection, provides that projects which consist 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 vehicles and related 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: Kate Reid Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-237-2536

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: *Kate Reid* Date: 14 Jan 22 Title: Air Resources Engineer

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____