

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, MS-44
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Develop and Deploy Liquid Hydrogen Refueling Infrastructure at SunLine Transit

Project Applicant: SunLine Transit Agency

Project Location - Specific:

32505 Harry Oliver Trail, Thousand Palms, CA 92276

Project Location - City: Thousand Palms

Project Location - County: Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The nature of the project is installation of a new stand-alone liquid hydrogen fueling station, including liquid storage, compression equipment, gaseous storage, and a dispenser at SunLine's existing heavy-duty hydrogen refueling station.

Beneficiaries will include residents in Riverside county, and this will extend to several communities beyond the immediate project site.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: SunLine Transit Agency

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, Sections 15301 ("Existing Facilities:") 15303 ("New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures:") 15306 (Information collection:)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 15301 provides that projects which consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, and which involve negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. The hydrogen refueling project would not significantly expand the use beyond that already existing at potential sites; and the square footage of equipment installation is estimated to be relatively small.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 15303 provides that projects which consist of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; 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 meets the requirements of 14 CCR 15303 because the hydrogen refueling equipment may consist of hydrogen storage tanks, compression, and dispensing equipment at an existing site.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 15306 provides that projects which consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in serious or major disturbance to an

environmental resource, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. The proposed project requires collection of operational data from the deployed hydrogen refueling infrastructure for all the fuel cell buses that will fuel at the station.

Responsible Agency

Contact Person: Madison Jarvis Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-237-2555

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: Madison Jarvis Date: 4/20/2021 Title: Commission Agreement Manager

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Signed by Applicant