

To: Office of Planning and Research
 PO Box 3044
 1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Energy Commission
 715 P Street, MS-48
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Applicant: Lookin, Inc.

Project Title: In-Line Quality Control of Lithium-Ion Battery Electrodes through Terahertz Scanning

Project Location – Specific: 570 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA & 23961 Calle de la Magdalena, Laguna Hills, CA

Project Location – City: Los Angeles 90066 **Project Location – County:** Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

LookIn, Inc. proposes a transformative solution for a currently unmet need in lithium-ion battery manufacturing: a high-throughput terahertz scanner for in-line quality control of lithium-ion battery (LIB) electrodes, which improves manufacturing capability to deliver high power batteries with better shelf life, increased safety, lower cost, and decreased production lead-time. This project will fund the development and assembly of a field prototype of an in-line quality control instrument that detects defects and non-uniformities in lithium-ion battery electrodes during manufacturing at an existing laboratory in Los Angeles. The prototype will be installed in two existing manufacturing facilities located at the University of California, Irvine and at LG Energy Solutions, Ochang, South Korea, for validation studies and testing.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: LookIn, Inc.

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
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

Projects that consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, and minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities and mechanical equipment, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use are categorically exempt from CEQA under CCR section 15301. The project involves development of a field prototype of an in-line quality control instrument that detects defects and non-uniformities in lithium-ion battery electrodes during manufacturing will occur at an existing laboratory. The prototype will be installed in two existing manufacturing facilities for validation studies and testing. There are no planned modifications to the facilities and the project involves no expansion of existing or former use at the sites. There will be no excessive generation of noise or odors anticipated and no hazardous waste involved.

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

This project does not involve any cumulative impacts of successive projects of the same type in the same place that might be considered significant; does not involve unusual circumstances that might have a significant effect on the environment; will not result in damage to scenic resources within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway; the project site is not included on any list compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5; and the project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. Therefore, none of the exceptions to categorical exemptions listed in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply to this project and this project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Molly Mahoney **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-776-0790

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: Molly Mahoney **Date:** 6/20/2022 **Title:** Commission Agreement Manager

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____