

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95814-3044

From: (Public Agency): Temecula Valley Unified School District
31350 Rancho Vista Road
Temecula, CA 92592

County Clerk
County of: Riverside
2724 Gateway Drive
Riverside, CA 92507

Pauba Valley Elementary School Battery for Storage and Emergencies
Project Title

Temecula Valley Unified School District
Project Applicant

33125 Regina Drive
Project Location – Specific

Temecula Riverside
Project Location – City **Project Location – County**

The District is utilizing the SGIP Equity Resiliency incentive to provide battery backup systems for critical infrastructure facilities located in high-fire threat districts and that serve low-income communities. The batteries will provide full system backup power during an outage and provide emergency power in the case the site needs to be used as an emergency shelter as per the Mass Care and Shelter Facility Use Agreement between the County of Riverside and Temecula Valley Unified School District, entered into in November of 2021. The battery pack will be housed inside an enclosure adjacent to the existing utility enclosure. As a result of this battery addition, the community at large will benefit in case of an emergency due to the added resiliency. The project is tentatively scheduled to start construction in in the Spring of 2023, and the construction would take approximately six weeks.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project

Temecula Valley Unified School District

Name of Public Agency Approving Project

Temecula Valley Unified School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project

Categorical Exemption

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: Class 3 15303, Class 11 15311, Class 14 15314
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

The proposed project is exempt from further environmental documentation under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code §§ 21000 et seq.), categorical exemptions Class 3, Class 11, and Class 14.

Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (CEQA Guidelines § 15303), consists 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.... Examples of this exemption include ... (d) Water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions, including street improvements, of reasonable length to serve such construction.

The proposed project involves the installation of one megawatt battery pack, which requires the extension of electrical utilities to connect the battery pack to the main electrical meter.

Class 11, Accessory Structures (CEQA Guidelines § 15311), consists of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities.

The battery will be an accessory structure to the existing solar and backup battery system at the Pauba Valley Elementary School campus. This accessory structure would not change the nature of use, but would extend use to include emergency use capability. The proposed battery pack and enclosure are accessory structures and meet the criteria for an exemption under CEQA Guidelines § 15311.

A review of the possible exceptions to the exemption, outlined under CEQA Guidelines § 15300.2, determined that no characteristics or circumstances would invalidate findings that the project is exempt from CEQA (see "Supplement to Notice of Exemption").

Class 14, Minor additions to schools. Class 14 consists of minor additions to existing schools within existing school grounds where the addition does not increase original student capacity by more than 25% or ten classrooms, whichever is less. The addition of portable classrooms is included in this exemption.

This item is applicable to schools at which attendance satisfies the requirements of the compulsory education laws of the State of California.

The proposed battery pack and enclosed structure will not increase student capacity now or at any time in the future.

Reasons why project is exempt

Janet Dixon, Director, Facilities Development
Lead Agency Contact Person

(951) 506-7914
Area Code/Telephone/Extension

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption findings
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project Yes No

Signature:


 Signed by Lead Agency

Date:

11/16/22

Title:

Director, Facilities Development

Signed by Applicant

Date Received for Filing at OPR: