

# Notice of Exemption

# Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Deploying Battery-Integrated DCFC in Rural Community Centers Across Southern California  
Project Applicant: FreeWire Technologies  
Project Location – Riverside County and Monterey County

Project Location - 2460 River Road Norco, CA 92860  
78998 Highway 111 La Quinta , CA 92253  
54692 Teresa St, San Lucas, CA 93954 (Corner of Teresa St. and Main St.)  
11160 Speegle, Castroville, CA  
315 El Camino Real, Greenfield, CA

Project Location - County: Riverside and Monterey

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

To install DCFC and L2 chargers in rural communities within Riverside and Monterey County.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: FreeWire Technologies

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 Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15301,15303

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sec. 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 existing or former use, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. This project involves installation of five direct current electric vehicle fast charging stations and five Level 2 charging stations at various sites. All electric vehicle charging stations will be installed in existing paved parking lots, connected to existing electrical panels, and will involve negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Therefore, the project falls within section 15301 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sec. 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 CEQA. This project consists of installation of new small equipment to existing sites. Specifically, the fastcharging equipment to be installed is approximately the size of a pay phone and the Level 2 charging equipment is the size of a parking meter. The equipment will be installed in existing, paved parking lots. Therefore, the project falls within section 15303 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

The project will not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies; 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.

Responsible Agency

Contact Person: Lauren Jansen Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-931-9605

**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:  Date: 2/1/2023 Title: Air Resources Engineer

Signed by Responsible Agency  Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: 2/2/2023

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.