

**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-51  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**Project Applicant:** E & J Gallo Winery

**Project Title:** Gallo Compressor and Condenser System Optimization and Refrigeration System Conversion

**Project Location:**

Address	City	County
5610 E Olive Ave	Fresno 93727	Fresno
18000 River Rd	Livingston 95334	Merced
600 Yosemite Blvd	Modesto 95354	Stanislaus

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The purpose of this project is to replace inefficient refrigeration equipment at the E. & J. Gallo Wineries in Livingston, Fresno, and Modesto, CA. The project will involve replacing existing equipment with commercially available drop-in ready equipment including, a new evaporative condenser, a new chiller, and conversion of refrigerant to a low-GWP refrigerant (e.g., R-513A) that is compliant with the California Air Resources Board’s refrigerant regulations.<sup>1</sup>, and the installation of two new 500 horsepower ammonia compressors. The project will benefit the applicant and California because it will lead to the reduction of onsite greenhouse gas emissions through reductions in annual energy consumption and refrigerant leakage.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** California Energy Commission

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** E & J Gallo Winery

**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 ; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15302
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15061(b)(3))

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

Each exemption is an independent basis for finding the project exempt.

14 C.C.R.;15301. This project will involve minor alteration of existing facilities and mechanical equipment at existing food processing facilities in Livingston, Fresno, and Modesto, CA and will result in negligible or no

<sup>1</sup> [Final Regulation Order \(ca.gov\)](http://www.ca.gov)

expansion of the existing use. The project will replace existing inefficient equipment at existing food processing facility to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The equipment to be replaced in the project includes refrigeration compressors and condensers at the Recipient's wineries. These installations will be minor alterations of existing mechanical equipment with no expansion beyond the existing use of the food processing facility and will not have significant effect on the environment. The project falls under categorical exemption listed in 14 C.C.R.§15301.

14 C.C.R.; 15302. This project involves the replacement of existing mechanical equipment at existing food processing facilities in Livingston, Fresno, and Modesto, CA. This project will replace existing inefficient equipment at existing food processing facilities to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The equipment to be replaced in the project includes refrigeration compressors and condensers at the Recipient's wineries. The new equipment will be located on the same site as the equipment replaced and have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the equipment replaced. The project falls under categorical exemption listed in 14 C.C.R.§ 15302.

This project does not involve impacts on any particularly sensitive environment; 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:** Claire Sweeney **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-776-0817

**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:** Claire Sweeney **Date:** 5/18/2023 **Title:** Associate Energy Specialist

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

**Date received for filing at OPR:** \_\_\_\_\_