

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Responsible Agency:
California Energy Commission
Fuels and Transportation Division
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Renewable Hydrogen Multi-Modal Fueling Station

Project Applicant: Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

Project Location - Specific: Northwest corner of Carol Dr and Amador Ave

Project Location - City: Galt

Project Location - County: Sacramento

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will support the build out of hydrogen refueling infrastructure to support the roll out of fuel cell electric vehicles in California.

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., will develop, install, and operate a multi-use hydrogen refueling station in Galt, California, to demonstrate that hydrogen refueling infrastructure can be deployed at costs that will be attractive in an expected commercial marketplace. The station is intended to provide cost-competitive hydrogen for multi-use vehicles at consumer pricing that can be sustained in the next 3-5 years without government funding programs for infrastructure.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

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: §15303 and §15304
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is to develop a multi-use hydrogen refueling station by installing hydrogen storage and dispensing equipment with an estimated footprint of 1,080 square feet and an estimated excavation area of 1,300 square feet. Estimated trenching will average 140 feet over an area of 420 square feet for the hydrogen storage and dispensing equipment.

The hydrogen refueling station will be installed on an empty, undeveloped lot in Galt, California, adjacent to State Route 99, that is zoned Highway Commercial and is not expected to have any pre-existing environmental sensitivity issues.

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.

Notice of Exemption

The proposed project consists of installation of small new equipment, including hydrogen storage and dispensing equipment, at the site. Therefore, the proposed project falls within section 15303 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 15304 provides that projects which consist of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.

For the installation of the equipment in this project, there will be minimal trenching to connect storage to dispensing equipment. The project site is an empty lot without existing trees. No trees will be removed in the project and the surface will be restored. This reflects exactly the example given in section 15304(f). Therefore, the proposed project falls within section 15304 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: Jane Berner

Area

Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 903-4286

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: Jane Berner Date: 8/10/2023 Title: Air Pollution Specialist

Signed by Responsible Agency Signed By Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____