

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
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Applicant: Association for Energy Affordability, Inc.

Project Title: Harmonized Resilience at Roosevelt Village: A zero-emissions model for supportive housing

Project Location – Specific: 995 E Santa Clara St

Project Location – City: San Jose 95116 **Project Location – County:** Santa Clara

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of this Agreement is to fund a zero-carbon alternate design for an 8-story, 100% affordable housing project that is to supplement a standard full-service design contract for the project executed between David Baker Architects and First Community Housing. The alternate design will be scalable, grid-resilient, and reduce costs and emissions by islanding from the main grid from 4-9 pm and reserving a minimum 20% of the building's peak load to be managed or curtailed in response to grid conditions, while safeguarding resident health and autonomy.

The scope is structured to avoid parallel design work by front-loading detailed peak load and storage, carbon and pricing analysis in order to inform the selection of major systems, and then covering the design development of packages of measures that achieve the zero-emissions design goals.

The proposed research seeks to determine a practical, scalable approach to solve the challenge by incorporating advanced technologies as a pathway to resilience and overcome common constraints that limit equitable access to distributed energy resources (DERs), including space, cost, and constructability. The project will demonstrate the breakthrough potential of energy storage, and load shifting solutions combined with a functional balance of thermal storage and thermal mass, then go a step further to explore the structural and envelope strategies that both streamline construction and reduce loads for a taller mid-rise building. An outcome of the design phase will be to evaluate how these complex, interdependent systems can work together and synthesize findings in design templates that evaluate the feasibility for mid-high rise, low-income multifamily projects to achieve reliability and resilience cost effectively.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Association for Energy Affordability, 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

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

Statutory Exemptions. State code number.

Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

The activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

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:** 7/11/23 **Title:** Associate Energy Specialist

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____