

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 County Clerk, County of _____

From: University of California
Physical & Environmental Planning
1111 Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

Project Title: Switch Station #8 Infrastructure and Old Art Gallery/Powerhouse Seismic Improvements

Project Location: University of California, Berkeley, Campus Park

Project Location – City: Berkeley

Project Location – County: Alameda

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project (Project Description): The project will seismically improve the Old Art Gallery/Powerhouse structure from a Seismic Performance Rating (SPR) of VI to SPR of IV and rehabilitate the structure to house Switch Station #8 as part of the campus's "Clean Energy Campus" initiative. The project includes the installation of infrastructure for Switch Station #8 necessary to distribute current and future electrical loads generated by campus energy systems. The building would include restoration and renewal items consistent with the Integrated Capital Asset Management Program identified needs, including restoration and renewal of roof, gutters and downspouts, exterior doors and walls, skylight, windows, and interior walls.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: University of California, Berkeley

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: University of California, Berkeley

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 Exemptions (15301) and (15331)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:
- Common Sense Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3)).

Reason Why Project is Exempt: The project is categorically exempt under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15301, Class 1 Existing Facilities, as it involves minor alteration of an existing public structure involving no expansion of existing or former use. The project is also categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15331, Class 31 Historical Resource Restoration/Rehabilitation, as it is a rehabilitation project that complies with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, as determined through an analysis conducted by an architectural historian. Therefore, the project will not result in a substantial adverse change to the building such that its historical significance would be impaired. Furthermore, there are no unusual circumstances creating the possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment, pursuant to CEQA Section 15300.2.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brian Harrington

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (510) 587-6116

Signature: _____



Brian Harrington

Title: Director, Physical and Environmental Planning

Date: September 13, 2023

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant