

# Notice of Exemption

# Appendix E

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
 P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044  
  
 County Clerk  
 County of: Kern  
 1115 Truxton Ave  
 Bakersfield CA 93301

**From:** (Public Agency): Panama-Buena Vista Union School District  
4200 Ashe Road  
Bakersfield, CA 93313  
 (Address)

Project Title: SOLAR ENERGY POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN DISTRICT AND SITELOGIQ

Project Applicant: Panama-Buena Vista Union School District

Project Location - Specific:  
Whitley Elementary-2923 McKee Rd and Highgate Elementary- 13401 Pemberley Passage Ave

Project Location - City: Bakersfield Project Location - County: Kern

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

The project will allow for the installation of photovoltaic (PV) solar panels to be used as shade structures on the existing parking lots of the two elementary schools, as well as adding energy efficient LED lighting and HVAC improvements/retrofits. The Project will not increase student capacity or expand the school beyond its current footprint. The replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced. The school will improved energy efficiency and reduce electrical demand while offsetting electricity generated by power plants burning fossil fuels. The project would benefit the school, the District, the community and the region by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Panama-Buena Vista Union School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: same as above

**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: Class 1 Section 15301 (c) and Class 14 Section 15314
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The use of upgrades LED lighting and new HVAC equipment will reduce operational electricity demand at the schools. The use of PV solar panels will generate electricity by renewable solar energy that will reduce the need for electrical energy generated by fossil fuel-driven power plants. This will decrease greenhouse gases emissions and improve the overall air quality in the City and the region. The new lighting and HVAC upgrades will provide increased energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption. The installation of this equipment on the existing public facilities involves no expansion of existing or former use. The solar panels will be constructed on the existing paved parking lot, and the new LED lights and HVAC will replace existing lighting and HVAC equipment.

Lead Agency  
 Contact Person: Paul Johnson- Director Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 661-831-8331 ext. 6280

**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: [Signature] Date: 1.16.24 Title: DIRECTOR

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.