

# 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: n/a

**From: (Public Agency):** California Energy Commission  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

(Address)

Project Title: Multifamily EV Accelerator Initiative 2.0

Project Applicant: Ecology Action of Santa Cruz

Project Location - Specific:

Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin,

Project Location - City: Richmond, Oakland, Fresno, Sacramento, Stockton Project Location - County: Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito, Fresno, Madera, Merced,

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed project will install at least four hundred (400) L2 charging ports and potentially up to one hundred (100) L1 charging ports at multifamily housing communities and providing residents with EV purchase guidance education and charging access support in CEC's Northern California program area. At least 90% of the residential units served will be in disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and/or affordable housing.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Ecology Action of Santa Cruz

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: Cal Code Regs, tit. 14, sec. 15301, 15303, and 15304
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sec. 15301 provides that projects which consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, and which involve negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. This project involves installation of at least 400 Level 2 (L2) charging ports and potentially up to 100 Level 1 (L1) charging ports at existing sites/structures. All L1/L2 chargers will either be installed in existing parking lots and parking structures at multi-family housing properties that already have electrical infrastructure. The L2 charging ports have an approximate size of (12" x 6" x 20") and the L1 charging ports have an approximate size of (9" x 4" x 6"). This project involves negligible or no expansion of existing or former use of the sites. Therefore, the project falls within section 15301 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sec. 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 CEQA. The proposed project will install L1/L2 chargers at existing multi-family housing properties that require minimal construction and/or trenching. At least 400 L2 charging ports with an approximate size (12" x 6" x 20") and potentially up to 100 L1 charging ports with an approximate size (9" x 4" x 6") will be installed at multi-family housing properties. Installation will take place at an existing building in an existing parking lot that already has electrical infrastructure. Therefore, the 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 and agricultural purposes are categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA. This project involves installation of at least 400 L2 charging ports and potentially up to 100 L1 charging ports at existing multi-family housing properties.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Elizabeth Maya Muthirenty Varkey Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 664-6602

**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: Elizabeth Varkey Date: 9/13/2024 Title: Associate Energy Specialist

Signed by Lead Agency      Signed by Applicant

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

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_