

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: SMUD Multi-family EV Charging Community

Project Applicant: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Project Location - Specific:

Within a quarter mile of multi-family housing properties in the Sacramento region.

Project Location - City: Sacramento and surrounding cities Project Location - County: Sacramento

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project will install at least 300 Level 2 charging ports and at least 200 Level 1 charging ports within a quarter mile of multi-family housing properties in the Sacramento region.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

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, §15301, §15303, and §15304
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, Section 15301 Existing Facilities provides that the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment or topographical features which involve negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the responsible agency's determination, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. This project involves installation of at least 300 Level 2 charging ports and at least 200 Level 1 charging ports within a quarter mile of multi-family housing properties throughout the Sacramento region. This project involves negligible or no expansion of existing or former use of the sites. In addition, the electric vehicle charging stations will be installed at existing, paved parking lots. Therefore, this project is exempt under California Code of Regulations, title 14, 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. This project consists of installing at least 500 units of new, small equipment to existing, paved parking lots near multiple multi-family housing properties throughout the Sacramento region. The charging equipment to be installed is small and has a footprint of no more than approximately 18 square inches. 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 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at existing, paved parking lots and the work will not involve the removal of any trees. In this project, minor trenching may be necessary as one of various avenues to source and distribute power to the charging installations. Specifically, trenching of approximately 12 inches wide and 24 inches deep may need to be dug in a currently asphalt-covered area, with no removal of trees. Therefore, this project is exempt under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304.


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.

For these reasons, the proposed work will not have any significant effect on the environment and falls under section 15301, 15303, and 15304.

Lead Agency _____
Contact Person: _____ Area Code/Telephone/Extension: _____

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:  Date: 09/18/2024 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: _____