

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: Zimeno, Inc. dba Monarch Tractor

Project Title: Monarch Electrical Load Distribution (MELD)

Project Location:

<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
12103 W Elkhorn Ave	Riverdale 93656	Fresno
15777 Old Milky Way	Escondido 92027	San Diego
10600 Highland Springs Ave	Cherry Valley 92223	Riverside
72761 Indian Valley Rd	San Miguel 93451	San Luis Obispo
2734 Hogan Dam Rd	Valley Springs 95252	Calaveras

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will deploy Monarch Electric Load Distribution (MELD) systems at five sites across California. The installed systems will replace existing breaker panels at each location to demonstrate improved safety, reliability, and affordability of renewable backup storage integration.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Zimeno, 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
Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15302
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15302 exempts projects that consist of the replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity. This project involves replacing existing breaker panels with Monarch Electrical Load Distribution (MELD) systems, which will not change any purpose or capacity of the facilities. Therefore, this project is categorically exempt under Section 15302.

Additionally, this 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 impacts on any particularly sensitive environment; does not involve any cumulative impacts of successive

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


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.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Sean Dory **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** (916) 244-9821

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:** 10/11/2024 **Title:** Energy Analyst

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____