

**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, MS-48  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Project Applicant:** Western Riverside Council of Governments

**Project Title:** Western Riverside County Municipal Green Zones Pilot Project

**Project Location – Specific:** Multiple (See attached)

**Project Location – City:** Multiple (See attached)

**Project Location – County:** Riverside

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** The proposed project includes the procurement and deployment of Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV) and their supporting charger equipment at five different locations in Riverside County. The project team will deploy ZEVs including sedans, sport utility vehicles, pickup trucks, transit vans, street sweepers, and dump trucks.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** California Energy Commission

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Western Riverside Council of Governments

**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  
CCR section number: Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sec. 15301, 15303
- 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, 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 (CEQA). This project will install at least eight single port Level 2 EV chargers, two single port DCFCs, and two dual port solar powered DCFCs to support 11 ZEVs across four different municipal fleets in Riverside County (City of Banning, City of Moreno Valley, County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency, and County of Riverside Purchasing and Fleet Services). The installations will result in minor alterations to existing fleet facilities and will not have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, this project falls under categorical exemption Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

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

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

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 includes ZEV charger installations that do not exceed 2,500 square feet of space to existing fleet facilities. Therefore, the project falls under categorical exemption Section 15303 of the CEQA guidelines.

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 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: Elizabeth Menchaca-Guhl Area code/Telephone/Ext: +1 (279) 226-1099

**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 Menchaca-Guhl* Date: 11/13/2024 Title: Associate Energy Specialist

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

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

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**Project Locations:**

4293 Orange Street, Riverside, CA

25241 Cottonwood Avenue, CA

3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Riverside, CA

25180 Santiago Drive, Moreno Valley, CA