Print Form

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: (Revised) Central Coast Reliable, Equitable, and Accessible Charging for multi-family Housing

Project Applicant: University of California, Santa Barbara

Project Location - Specific:

Parking lots and structures within a quarter mile of multi-family housing properties in San Luis Obispo, Ventura, and Santa Barbara Counties.

Project Location - City: Varies Project Location - County: Ventura, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Objective of this project is to deploy at least 379 Level 1 or Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) charging ports at Multi-family housing complexes throughout San Luis Obispo, Ventura, and Santa Barbara Counties. The EV chargers will help to increase EV adoption among tenants living in the properties where chargers will be installed and accelerate deployment of EVs in California.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: University of California, Santa Barbara

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, Title 14, Sec. 15301: Existing Facilities.

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 existing or former use are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). All project sites are located on existing facilities. Sites are either located at existing private multi-family housing parking lots or public parking lots. The project involves the installation of at least 379 Level 1 or Level 2 charging ports across Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo counties. The charging equipment to be installed is approximately the size of a pay phone (24.6''x12.6"x6.7''). 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 on existing pavement and will connect to existing electrical infrastructure. Therefore, the project falls within section 15301 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Codes Regs, Title 14 Sec. 15303: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

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 the installation of Level 1 Level 2 charging ports at locations across Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo Counites. and location. The charging equipment to be installed is approximately the size of a pay phone (24.6"x12.6"x6.7")] and will be installed at 67 different existing, paved parking lots and structures. Therefore, the project falls within section 15303 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, Sec. 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. In this project, there will be the installation of 379 Level 1 or Level 2 charging ports in existing paved parking lots and structures, and the work will not involve the removal of any trees. Therefore, the project falls within section 15304 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

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.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Jeff Fletcher (public agency) Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 279-226-1182

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: Jeffrey Fletcher Date: 1/14/2026 Title: ECS II

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: _____