

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: Noya PBC, dba Noya Inc.

Project Title: Integrating Amine-Based DAC Sorbents on Activated Carbon for Energy-Efficient Regeneration by Joule-Heating

Project Location – Specific: 1901 Poplar St

Project Location – City: Oakland 94607

Project Location – County: Alameda

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed Direct Air Capture (DAC) sorbent development project from Noya and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will advance DAC technology by integrating amines with Noya's fully electric system utilizing Joule (ohmic) heating for temperature-swing CO2 regeneration. This is a bench scale lab experiment.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Noya PBC, dba Noya 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: 15301; 15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 provides that projects which consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, and which have negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This project involves the operation of existing laboratory facilities to create a novel amine-based sorbent for use in direct air capture (DAC) facilities. The project consists of bench-scale laboratory development of a high-performing solid sorbent that consists of an amine as an active ingredient on an extruded activated carbon support. In a lab setting the project will include demonstration and validation of sorbent cyclic capacity. Therefore, this project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA under section 15301.

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15306 provides that projects which consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource are categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA. This project involves the operation of a laboratory to conduct data collection, research, and experimental management related to the testing of amine-based sorbents for use in direct air capture facilities. Therefore, this project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA under section 15306.

This project 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

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

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.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Tannis Abdoli **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-461-5460

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: Tannis Abdoli **Date:** 6/2/2025 **Title:** CAM

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____