

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: Enzinc Inc.

Project Title: Advanced Zn electrode to enable rechargeable alkaline zinc batteries for a more resilient grid

Project Location:

Address	City	County
18th St & Mandela Pkwy	Oakland 94607	Alameda
1301 S 46Th St	Richmond 94804	Contra Costa
1084 Columbia Ave	Riverside 92507	Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of this Agreement is to fund the development of an advanced zinc electrode for high performance nickel zinc (NiZn), zinc manganese (ZnMn), and zinc air (Zn-air) batteries to enable a more resilient grid and to demonstrate the technology in simulated grid scenarios within existing facilities.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Enzinc 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, § 15301
- ☐ 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, § 15301 provides that projects which consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alternations of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, and which involve negligible or no expansion of existing or former use at the time of the lead agency's determination, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

This project includes the development, testing, and validation of an advanced electrode for zinc batteries. The development will take place at existing facilities in Oakland, CA and Richmond, CA. Enzinc has permits to operate both sites. Additional testing and

validation will occur at existing facilities at the Center for Environmental Research & Technology at the University of California, Riverside campus. The scope of this project does not introduce any significant changes to the way these sites operate compared to normal course of business and will not create any new waste streams.

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: Bryan Lee **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-776-0786

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: Bryan Lee **Date:** 08/20/2025 **Title:** Mechanical Engineer

☒ **Signed by Public Agency**

☐ **Signed by Applicant**

Date received for filing at OPR: _____