

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): California Energy Commission
715 P Street

County Clerk

Sacramento, CA 95814

County of: N/A

(Address)

Project Title: Ecology Action Multifamily Accelerator 3.0

Project Applicant: Ecology Action of Santa Cruz

Project Location - Specific:

Various locations in Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties

Project Location - City: Pleasant Hill, Fresno, Orange
Cove, Sanger, Bakersfield,
Lamont, McFarland, Stockton,
Menlo Park, Redwood City,
Mountain View, San Jose,
Oakdale, Porterville, Visalia

Project Location - County: Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, San
Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara,
Stanislaus, Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed project will install at least (480) Level 2 charging ports at multifamily housing communities throughout California. At least 80% of the Level 2 charging ports will be installed at affordable multifamily housing and/or multifamily housing serving low- and moderate-income residents within CARB priority communities.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Ecology Action of Santa Cruz

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, sec. 15301, 15303 and 15304
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

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. This project involves installation of at least 480 Level 2 (L2) charging ports at existing sites/structures. All L2 charging ports will either be installed in existing parking lots or parking structures at multi-family housing properties that already have electrical infrastructure. The L2 charging ports have an approximate size of (12" x 5" x 15"). This project involves negligible or no expansion of existing or former use of the sites. Therefore, the project falls within section 15301 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

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. The proposed project will install L2 charging ports at existing multi-family housing properties that require minimal construction and/or trenching. At least 480 L2 charging ports with an approximate size (12" x 5" x 15") will be installed at multi-family housing properties. Installation will take place at an existing building in an existing parking lot that already has electrical infrastructure. Therefore, the project falls within section 15303 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 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. This project involves installation of at least 480 L2 charging ports at existing multi-family housing properties. The L2 charging port installations will be 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.

Additionally, 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: 9/15/2025 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: _____