

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: Chico Area Multi-Family Charging Initiative (CAMCI)

Project Applicant: Brighton Energy Inc.

Project Location - Specific:

Greater Chico Area

Project Location - City: Chico, Paradise Project Location - County: Butte

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will install at least 280 Level 2 charging ports across approximately 24 sites in low-income, disadvantaged, or affordable multi-family housing complexes, providing equitable access to clean energy solutions in Chico and Paradise, CA. The goal is to drive a 10% annual increase in electric vehicle adoption among the target multi-family tenant population, while ensuring that over 70% of project funds stay within Butte County, fueling local economic growth and sustainability.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Brighton Energy Inc.

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 and 15303
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, Section 15301 Existing Facilities provides that the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment or topographical features which involve negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the responsible agency's determination, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. This project will install at least 280 Level 2 (L2) charging ports at or within 0.25 mile of multi-family housing properties throughout the greater Chico Area. Approximately 2 to 20 L2 charging ports will be installed at each location. The electric vehicle charging stations will be installed at existing parking lots or parking structures. Minor trenching and modification of existing electrical panels may be necessary. Therefore, this project is exempt under California Code of Regulations, title 14, 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. This project consists of installation of new, small equipment to existing sites. The charging equipment to be installed is approximately 10" L x 5" W x 14" H for Level 2 charging equipment. In addition, the electric vehicle charging stations will be installed at existing, paved parking spaces. Minor trenching and modification of existing electrical panels may be necessary. Therefore, the project falls within section 15303 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

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Julianne Lea Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 252-9747

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: Julianne Lea Date: 10/13/2025 Title: Associate Energy Specialist

☐ 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: _____