

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: The Regents of the University of California on behalf of the Los Angeles Campus

Project Title: Wildfire Planning Tool for Bidirectional Long-Term Risk Quantification and Management

Project Location:

Address	City	County
404 Westwood Plz	Los Angeles 90095	
75 Starview Way	San Francisco 94131	San Francisco

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of this Agreement is to fund the design and development of a software platform to quantify and manage mid- and long-term bidirectional wildfire risk posed to and by electrical infrastructure, thus enabling the development of strategic plans for grid expansion and wildfire mitigation. This Agreement will deliver ratepayer benefits by improving electricity reliability, reducing long-term costs, and enhancing safety. These benefits will be achieved by enabling utilities to accurately quantify and manage bidirectional wildfire risk while incorporating mid- and long-term climate trends.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: The Regents of the University of California on behalf of the Los Angeles Campus

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, § 15306
- 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, sec. 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 will develop a software-based climate-informed wildfire planning tool, which will involve research and data analysis, data fusion, computer-based numerical modeling and simulations, and software development performed in existing office settings. The project does not require a permit and entails no direct changes to the environment. For these reasons, the proposed project will have no significant effect on the environment and is categorically exempt under CEQA under section 15306.

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

This project does not involve impacts on any particularly sensitive environment; 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; 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 sites are 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: Aryana Sherzai **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-633-0623

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: Aryana Sherzai **Date:** 10/15/2025 **Title:** Commission Agreement Manager

Signed by Public Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____