**Notice of Exemption** **Form D**

**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:** Tandem PV, Inc.

**Project Title:** Establishing Technical Bankability of Perovskite/Silicon Tandem Panels through Comprehensive Durability Testing

**Project Location:**

| Address | City | County |
|---|---|---|
| 3500 Gateway Blvd | Fremont 94538 | Alameda |
| 9500 Gilman Dr | La Jolla 92093 | San Diego |
| 388 Devlin Rd | Napa 94558 | Napa |
| 5200 N Lake Rd | Merced 95343 | Merced |

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**
The purpose of this Agreement is to fund comprehensive testing and validation of high-efficiency perovskite/silicon tandem photovoltaic panels. Efforts include outdoor durability testing, accelerated indoor assessments, and standard compliance testing to enhance technical bankability and support commercialization. Outdoor testing will occur at UC San Diego, UC Merced, Photovoltaic Evolution Labs (PVEL), and Tandem PV's facility in Fremont. All of these facilities have existing outdoor testing capabilities. Indoor testing will occur at PVEL; all indoor test capabilities already exist. The project does not include any installation of new equipment or alterations to any buildings.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** California Energy Commission

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Tandem PV, 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, 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. Work under this project will include: 1) outdoor field testing to establish long-term

outdoor performance data for perovskite/silicon tandem modules, 2) indoor operational accelerated testing to understand the long-term behavior of perovskite/silicon tandem modules in a controlled environment under various applied stressors (e.g., light intensity, temperature, voltage), 3) standardized accelerated testing focused on evaluating the effectiveness of standardized accelerated testing in predicting both early-stage and long-term failure models for perovskite/silicon tandem modules, and 4) paper studies, modeling and laboratory research for perovskite/silicon tandem modules. All work and forms of testing including indoor and outdoor testing will occur at existing facilities with existing testing capabilities already in place. No new equipment will be installed and no alterations to any facilities will occur under this project. For these reasons, this project will have no impact on the environment and fits within section 15301.

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.

**Public Agency**
**Contact Person:** **Michael Ferreira** **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 510-364-8808

**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:** *Michael Ferreira* **Date:** 10/14/2025 **Title:** EGSS I

☒ **Signed by Public Agency**

☐ **Signed by Applicant** **Date received for filing at OPR:** _____

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

Tandem PV, Inc.