Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, Room 113
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Responsible Agency:
California Energy Commission
Fuels and Transportation Division
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Rivian Adventure Network – Tulare, CA

Project Applicant: Rivian, LLC

Project Location - Specific: 1407 Retherford St

Project Location - City: Tulare, CA

Project Location - County: Tulare County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Through this project, Rivian will install 12 DCFC electric vehicle charging ports in one site located in Tulare, CA.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Rivian, LLC

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: 14 CCR §§ 15301, 15303, 15304, 15311
- ☐ 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 12 DCFC electric vehicle charging stations at an existing parking facility. The electric vehicle charging stations will be installed on existing paved parking lots, connected to existing electrical panels, and will involve negligible or no expansion of use. 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. This project involves installation of 12 DCFC electric vehicle charging stations at an existing parking facility. The charging equipment to be installed is approximately 2.27m H x 0.6m D x 0.4m W. These charging stations are new equipment and installed in small structures at an existing commercial parking lot. Thus, the project falls within section 15303 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

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Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, Sec. 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 12 DCFC electric vehicle charging stations at an existing parking facility. These areas currently do not support riparian habitat, federally protected wetlands, or migratory corridors. Additionally, special status plants, animals, or natural communities are not expected to be found within close proximity to the affected facilities. Therefore, the project falls within section 15304 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sec. 15311 provides that projects which consist of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities, including but not limited to: (a) On-premise signs; (b) Small parking lots; (c) Placement of seasonal or temporary use items such as lifeguard towers, mobile food units, portable restrooms, or similar items in generally the same locations from time to time in publicly owned parks, stadiums, or other facilities designed for public use, are categorically exempt from CEQA. This project involves the installation of 12 DCFC electric vehicle charging stations at a parking facility in a commercial area designed for public use. Thus, the project falls within section 15311 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

For these reasons, the proposed work will not have any significant effect on the environment and falls under sections 15301, 15303, 15304, and 15311.

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.

Responsible Agency Contact Person: Rosa Mitsumasu Scotti **Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (916) 314-5192

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: Rosa Mitsumasu Scotti Date: 9/22/2025 Title: Air Pollution Specialist

☐ Signed by Responsible 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

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