

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: Monterey Bay Municipal Fleet Electrification and Workforce Accelerator
Project Applicant: County of Monterey
Project Location - Specific: Various (Please see attached list of addresses)
Project Location - City: Various
Project Location - County: Various

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project scope includes electric vehicle purchases, community engagement, workforce development, data collection, and installation of electric vehicle supply equipment and solar photovoltaic system to support electric vehicle supply equipment across jurisdictions in the Monterey Bay Area.

This project will develop a replicable model for municipal electric vehicle fleet transition, which will help reduce greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions for residents across the Monterey Bay Area.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: County of Monterey

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, § 15301, § 15303
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: California Government Code section 65850.7(b)

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project involves the installation of 195 electric vehicle chargers in the paved parking lots at municipal facilities and the installation of 4 solar photovoltaic systems to support some of these chargers (addresses on the attached sheet). The chargers will be used to power new electric municipal fleet vehicles. This installation constitutes minor alterations to existing facilities, with no expansion beyond their current use, and will not have a significant impact on the environment.

Each site will require trenching to install underground electrical supply. All of the areas to be trenched are located at municipal facilities and are previously disturbed. The trenching will remain within previously disturbed areas and depth will be in compliance with required codes for underground electrical lines. EV chargers will be approximately 6-8 feet tall and 2-4 feet wide. The solar photovoltaic systems will be approximately 30 feet tall on canopy carports or will be placed on rooftops and will remain within previously disturbed municipal facility areas.

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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 electric vehicle chargers and solar photovoltaic systems at existing municipal facilities that are previously disturbed. The electric vehicle chargers will be installed on existing paved parking lots 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 consists of installation of new, small equipment to existing sites. In addition, the electric vehicle charging stations will be installed at existing, paved parking spaces. The solar photovoltaic systems will be on canopy carports or on rooftops and will remain within previously disturbed municipal facility areas. Therefore, the project falls within section 15303 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

The proposed project is also ministerial in nature involving the issuance of a building permit for the installation of electrical utilities infrastructure to support EV charger installation at existing municipal facilities. Under California Government Code section 65850.7(b) "a city, county, or city and county shall administratively approve an application to install electric vehicle charging stations through the issuance of a building permit or similar nondiscretionary permit." As such the proposed project is statutorily exempt from CEQA under 14 CCR section 15268 Ministerial Projects.

Responsible Agency

Contact Person: Miki Crowell

Area

Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 314-3159

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: *Miki Crowell* Date: 02/11/2026 Title: ZEV Infrastructure Specialist

Signed by Responsible Agency Signed By Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____