

Notice of Exemption

2019048361

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: _____

From: (Public Agency): California Energy Commission
Fuels and Transportation Division
1516 9th Street, MS-27, Sacramento, California 95814

(Address)

Project Title: Palo Verde Unified School District Replacement CNG School Buses and CNG Infrastructure

Project Applicant: Palo Verde Unified School District

Project Location - Specific:
440 South Main Street, Blythe, California 92225

Project Location - City: Blythe Project Location - County: Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Palo Verde Unified School District will upgrade existing compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling infrastructure at a fueling site owned by the City of Blythe. This project will add a natural gas compressor and two stacked storage tanks to the existing infrastructure as well as add a shade structure. The upgraded station will allow the school district the ability to more efficiently fuel recently awarded CNG school buses and allow the district to expand its CNG school bus fleet.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Palo Verde Unified School District

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));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15301, 15303
Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project will upgrade existing natural gas fueling infrastructure at a fueling site owned by the City of Blythe. The site is already developed (concrete) land. This project will add a natural gas compressor and two stacked storage tanks to the existing infrastructure and will also add a shade structure. This equipment will be located outdoors and will not expand the footprint of the existing site. The project will involve no trenching, is not located at a hazardous waste site, is not located near any scenic highways, will not cause a change to a historical resource, will not generate noise or odors in excess of permitted levels and will not involve the removal of any trees or vegetation.

Reasons why project is exempt (continued):

This project is therefore categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 as a minor alteration to an existing facility that involves a negligible expansion of an existing use. It is also categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 as the installation of small new equipment in a small structure or as construction of a new small structure. Further, none of the exceptions to exemptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Michelle Vater Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-654-4831

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: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

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: _____

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 17 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE