

2019048392

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk

County of: _____

(Address)

Project Title: Hydrothermal Processing of Wastewater Solids (HYPOWERS) Demonstration Facility

Project Applicant: The Southern California Gas Company

Project Location - Specific:

Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant, 5019 Imhoff Place

Project Location - City: Martinez

Project Location - County: Contra Costa

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) and the project team propose to design, build, and commission HYPOWERS Demonstration Facility located at Central San's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project converts wastewater solids into renewable natural gas and bio-crude oil in less than one hour.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: The Southern California Gas Company

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:

See attached add sheet

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jonathan Bobadilla

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 654-4689

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? [X] Yes [] No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 4/10/2019 Title: Energy Analyst (CEC)

[X] Signed by Lead Agency [] Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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: APR 18 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Notice of Exemption - Attached Sheet – SoCalGas HYPOWERS**Exempt Status – Categorical Exemption. List CCR**

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15301, 15303, 15306

Explain reason why Agreement is exempt under the above section:

This project will design, build and commission a demonstration-scale skid-mounted hydrothermal processing unit to process wastewater solids at an existing wastewater treatment plant. To accommodate the proposed system a concrete pad, a roof, several new pipes and an electrical conduit will likely be installed. There will be also minor grading and trenching to connect to the existing facility and to the utility. The project site is over 1,000 feet from the closest sensitive receptor (a mobile home park) and is not expected to produce any significant increase in noise or odors beyond permitted levels. This project will also involve extensive design documents and data analysis.

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 construction of a new small structure and categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 as basic data collection, research and resource evaluation activities which will not result in any serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. Further, none of the exceptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to this project.