

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
1516 Ninth Street, MS-48
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Applicant: Porifera, Inc.

Project Title: Energy Savings Through Osmotic Concentration for the Food and Beverage Processing Industry

Project Location:

Address	City	County
14631 S. Jack Tone Road	Manteca 95336	San Joaquin
800 Buchanan St	Albany 94710	Alameda

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will demonstrate a commercial-scale forward-osmosis system at a watermelon food and beverage processing plant in California. The system uses an innovative forward osmosis technology to reduce energy, chemicals, and maintenance that is normally required for food and beverage processing concentration.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Porifera, 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, § 15303
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project involves laboratory research, equipment design and assembly, and equipment operation. All proposed activities will take place within existing, fully permitted buildings or facilities, without need for expansion or significant modification of the facilities. The new forward osmosis system will be installed and operated at a warehouse designated for fruit juice production and concentration. The system will be skid-mounted and will use existing infrastructure (plumbing, electrical, water, and sewer). The system has an approximate footprint of 10 feet by 15 feet, and will not impact operations at the facility. Furthermore, the electrical consumption of the system will be less than one percent of the facility's current electrical consumption. Finally, none of the proposed activities will cause a direct or reasonable foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Rachel Salazar **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-445-5316

If filed by applicant:

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

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: Rachel Salazar Date: 4/16/19 Title: Energy Commission Specialist I

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date received for filing at OPR: APR 22 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE