

Notice of Exemption**Form D**

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

From: Fuels and Transportation Division
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street, MS-27
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Advanced Transportation and Logistics Initiative at San Diego Community College District

Project Applicant: San Diego Community College District

Project Location - Specific: Varies

Project Location - City: Statewide Project Location - County: Statewide

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This proposed project will administer to various community colleges' automotive programs by providing funding for alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technology (clean energy) training. The clean fuels market is growing in California, and currently there is a shortage of trained personnel to meet the needs of this market. Training will consist of: train-the trainer support, curriculum development and updates, and specialized equipment purchases specific to the needs of clean fuels market participants. Building a clean fuels energy workforce will support the reduction of greenhouse gases, grow and create new job opportunities, and advance an industry that will have long-term benefits for the state.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Advanced Transportation and Logistics Center at San Diego Miramar College

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 C.C.R. sects. 15301, 15303
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project consists of providing, at community colleges, training in alternative fuel and advanced vehicle technologies; curriculum development; and training for trainers. Some of this project's work will consist of traditional classroom-based instruction which will have no impact on the environment. The remaining work will consist of hands-on training in approximately seven community colleges' existing automotive training centers, which are similar to a typical mechanic's garage. Specialized equipment will be purchased by community colleges to assist with advanced technology training.

Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations, section 15301 ("Existing Facilities") 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 existing or former use, are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.

Training will take place in approximately seven existing California community college classrooms and other community college training areas such as automotive shops. Equipment purchased and used in existing training areas may include small alternatively-fueled vehicles, similar to Nissan Leafs, for students to work on; engine "cut-outs" that have sections removed so that students can view engine interiors; and electronic monitors approximately 5' high by 3' wide by 2' deep which sense engine and transmission performance. Such equipment will sit on tables or roller carts, and is typical of equipment used in training already done in community college training areas, such as vehicles to practice repairs on and model engines. In addition, electric vehicle (EV) charging stations may also be installed near the outside walls of the community colleges' training areas. If installed, EV charging stations would be approximately 4' tall, by 1' deep, 3' wide. This equipment, too, is similar to that already existing in many community colleges' training areas (for example, gasoline tanks and fueling stations may exist at training locations). Therefore, the proposed project consists of minor alterations to existing facilities which involve negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination, is categorically exempt under section 15301, and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, sect. 15303 ("New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures") 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 the California Environmental Quality Act.

This project involves the installation of small new equipment in small structures. The majority of automotive training areas are at which the small equipment described above will be installed are the size of a typical mechanic's garage, similar to the examples of small structures given in section

15303(c) (e.g., a store, motel, office, or restaurant). No hazardous substances will be involved in the work performed under this project. Therefore, the proposed project falls within the ambit of section 15303 and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Lead or Responsible Agency

Contact Person: Tami Haas Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (916) 651-2938

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: *Tami Haas* Date: 6/19/19 Title: Energy Commission Specialist II

- Signed by Responsible Agency
- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUN 20 2019
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE