

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: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Project Title: Electromagnetic and Optical Sensor Technologies for Natural Gas Storage Safety Monitoring

Project Location – Specific: McDonald Island

Project Location – City: Stockton 95219 **Project Location – County:** San Joaquin

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will develop and demonstrate electromagnetic and fiber optic sensors for real time monitoring of natural gas storage borehole operation and integrity. The research will improve natural gas supply reliability and risk management, and minimize methane leaks due to integrity issues.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

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, § 15301 ; Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is exempt under Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15301 because it will only slightly alter an existing borehole at an existing storage facility by installing sensor systems to the borehole. This project will not expand the use of the facility. This project is also exempt under Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15306 as the project will be to collect data within the natural gas storage well in real-time. This project will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Yahui Yang **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-327-2224

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: 4/13/2020

Title: ME

Signed by Responsible Agency

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Signed by Lead Agency

APR 14 2020

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: STATE CLEARINGHOUSE