**Notice of Exemption Form D**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research **From:** California Energy Commission

 PO Box 3044 1516 Ninth Street, MS-48

 1400 Tenth Street, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95814

 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**Project Applicant:** DOE- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

**Project Title:** Cost-Effective Technologies and Strategies to Improve Energy Efficiency and Reduce Emissions of Direct Heating Equipment in California with Health Benefits
 (AMENDED Notice of Exemption)

**Project Location:**

 **Address City County**

1 Cyclotron Rd Bldg 90 Berkeley 94720 Alameda

1 Cyclotron Rd Bldg 70 Berkeley 94720 Alameda

7927 Terrace Dr El Cerrito 94530 Contra Costa

26329 Hickory Ave Hayward 94544 Alameda

24740 Jefferson Ave Apt 408 Murrieta 92562 Riverside

1955 Center Rd Novato 94947 Marin

1426 Chestnut St Oakland 94607 Alameda

2211 E 27Th St Oakland 94606 Alameda

18 Rio Vista Way Petaluma 94952 Sonoma

1729 G St Apt 2 Sacramento 95811 Sacramento

834 Florida St San Francisco 94110 San Francisco

131 Concord St San Francisco 94112 San Francisco

63 Woodward St Unit A San Francisco 94103 San Francisco

1426 Via Coralla San Lorenzo 94580 Alameda

4322 Clairemont Dr San Diego 92117 San Diego

520 E 5Th St Stockton 95206 San Joaquin

24740 Jefferson Ave Apt 406 Murrieta 92562 Riverside

2100 27Th St Apt 3 Sacramento 95818 Sacramento

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The purpose of this Agreement is to fund the development of cost-effective strategies to reduce natural gas use, environmental impacts, and safety and health risks of direct heating equipment (DHE) in California These strategies will be based on market assessment of this equipment in the state, laboratory and field evaluations, as well as policy and program modeling and analysis This project is to test DHE in the laboratory, and in the field at twelve household test sites by replacing existing equipment. This project will result in no new construction and consists only of basic data collection, research and experimental management activities which will result in no disturbance to an environmental resource.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** California Energy Commission

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** DOE- 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));

 X 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:**

Cal. Code Regs., Title 14 Section 15301 provides a CEQA exemption for existing facilities. The project involves minor alteration of existing facilities and mechanical equipment. New higher efficiency DHE will be installed in the lab and existing homes, replacing older DHE. The project will not involve expansion of the existing use and will not have significant effect on the environment.

Cal. Code Regs., Title 14 Section 15306 provides a CEQA exemption for information collection. The project will involve basic data collection and research. DHE will be tested in the lab and in existing homes to complete a policy & program modeling and analysis. The research includes basic data collection with no serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource under class 6, since the work includes testing in a lab facility. The project is strictly for information gathering purposes.

The Energy Commission made CEQA findings pertaining to this project, including finding that it was categorically exempt under Title 14 CCR 15301 and 15306 when grant agreement PIR-18-006 for this project was originally approved by the Commission on June 12, 2019. The currently proposed changes through this amendment involve changing the location of the test sites. These changes will not result in any environmental impacts beyond those already considered by the Commission and do not change the applicability of the categorical exemption under 14 CCR 15301 and 15306. Therefore, both CEQA categorical exemption can independently exempt all activities for this project.

This amended Notice of Exemption provides documentation of the test site changes and the CEC’s analysis regarding CEQA.

**Lead Agency**

**Contact Person:** **Jackson Thach Area code/Telephone/Ext:**  916-776-0818

**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 Responsible Agency**

**X Signed by Lead Agency**

 **Signed by Applicant Date received for filing at OPR:**