

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Community Services Department

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN(s): N/A **Case No.:** N/A

Location: Santa Barbary County

Project Title: Feasibility Study Service and Non-Disclosure Agreements for the Community Choice Energy Program

Project Description: The Community Choice Energy (CCE) program is a Tri-County (Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo) effort led by Santa Barbara County that would have the potential to give customers a choice in their energy provider and is among over 20 consortiums of local agencies that are in the process of investigating or forming a CCE in California. Most prospective programs begin with a feasibility evaluation, which entails detailed load data analysis, and all prospective programs are required to complete necessary load data analysis in order to register a CCE implementation plan with the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC).

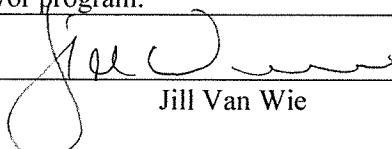
Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect [§15061(b,3)]
- Other

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section: 15262; Feasibility and Planning Studies.

Reasons to support exemption findings (attach additional material, if necessary):

Approval of the Agreements does not result in direct physical impacts to the environment. A project involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the Board has not approved, adopted or funded does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Review or Negative Declaration, but does require consideration of environmental factors.. When individual projects and programs contained within these documents proceed to implementation, they may be subject to environmental review under NEPA and/or CEQA for possible impacts which are unique to that particular project and/or program.

Department/Division Representative  Date April 25, 2016
Jill Van Wie

Note: A copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval and posted by the Clerk of the Board for a period of 30 days.

Copies to: File

Date File of Counter Clerks