

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: General Services (Lead Agency)

Based on a preliminary review of the project the following activity 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.

LOCATION: 105 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, California.

PROJECT TITLE Maintenance of the County Administration Building's Main Electrical Equipment.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project will replace the Main Electrical Equipment in the Santa Barbara County Government Administration Building located at 105 East Anapamu Street in Santa Barbara California. The existing equipment is in the basement of this building and the new equipment will also be in the basement of this building.

EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption (15301(a))**
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section: §15301(a), Existing Facilities: Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. Examples include but are not limited to . . . Interior or exterior alterations involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances.

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

The project is exempt because it is repair and maintenance of the existing electrical equipment inside the basement of a County-owned facility. The installation of the new equipment involves no expansion of an existing use.

The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

- (a) **Location.** Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

CEQA Guidelines §15301 is a Class 1 exemption. This exception does not apply.

- (b) **Cumulative Impact.** All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

This project is to maintain existing electrical systems. There is no possibility of a cumulative impact. This exception does not apply.

- (c) **Significant Effect.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

This project is to maintain existing electrical systems. There is no possibility that this project will have a significant effect on the environment, and nothing about this project distinguishes it from others in the exempt class and might establish an unusual circumstance. This exception does not apply.

- (d) **Scenic Highways.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.


This project will occur completely within a County building. This exception does not apply.

- (e) **Hazardous Waste Sites.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

The site has not been designated a hazardous waste site. This exception does not apply.

- (f) **Historical Resources.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

This project will not cause an adverse change to the significance of any historical resources. This exception does not apply.

Department/Division Representative:  Date: 06/01/2016
Roy Hapman, County Energy Manager

NOTE: A copy must be posted DERC at least 6 days prior to consideration of the activity by the decision-makers to comply with County CEQA guidelines and a copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.