

Attachment B

CEQA Notice of Exemption

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Anne Almy, Supervising Planner, Planning and Development

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: n/a **Case No.:** n/a

Location: Countywide

Project Title: emPowerSBC Funding Opportunities

Project Description:

Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute the Agreement to Deliver the 2012 County of Santa Barbara American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Financing Program (the "Agreement") between County and Southern California Gas Company made available through California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) 2012 funding cycle; additionally, subject to concurrence by the Auditor Controller, County Counsel, and Risk Management, approve and authorize the County Executive Officer or designee to execute all follow on approvals; and Direct emPowerSBC staff to seek additional funding opportunities including, but not limited to, remaining American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds made available by the California Energy Commission (CEC) through Los Angeles County to explore building upon the emPower model in the Tri-County region consisting of Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties, and 2013-2014 CPUC funding to sustain and enhance program activities through 2014.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Community Services Department

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- Other

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(4).

Reasons to support exemption findings:

The proposal is not a project under CEQA pursuant to Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) which states that the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment is not a project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Herman Parker

Phone #: 568-2457

Department/Division Representative: _____



Date: 9/23/12

Acceptance Date: _____

distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____

7