

ATTACHMENT 2

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING)
AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 11,)
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (GHG), OF)
THE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL)
THRESHOLDS AND GUIDELINES MANUAL,)
TO ADOPT INTERIM THRESHOLDS OF) RESOLUTION NO.: 21 – ____
SIGNIFICANCE AND COMPLY WITH THE)
STATE GUIDELINES FOR THE)
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CALIFORNIA)
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA).)

WITH REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING:

- A. The *Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA Guidelines)* encourage each public agency to develop, publish, and adopt thresholds of significance that the agency uses to determine the significance of environmental effects (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.7(b)).
- B. On September 15, 2020, the Board of Supervisors revised and adopted the *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual*. The County prepared the manual, “to assist the public, the applicant, environmental consulting firms, and County decision makers in understanding the use and application of various environmental impact thresholds” (page 1, Chapter 1.0, Introduction). Chapter 11, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, defines a threshold of significance for industrial stationary source projects, but not for other land use projects and plans.
- C. In January, 2020, the County Planning and Development Department (P&D) hired Ascent Environmental to help develop interim GHG emissions thresholds of significance, to apply to non-industrial stationary source projects and plans until the Board of Supervisors adopts the 2030 Climate Action Plan.
- D. The interim GHG emissions thresholds will be refined and adopted as final CEQA thresholds in partnership with adoption of the 2030 Climate Action Plan, expected to occur in 2022.
- E. Establishing interim GHG emissions thresholds of significance will assist the County in achieving the 2030 GHG emission reduction target set by the Board of Supervisors on July 7,

2020, which is to reduce GHG emissions in unincorporated county areas 50 percent by the year 2030, based on 2007 levels.

- F. The *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual* defines a process by which County decision makers may amend the *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual*, which includes one hearing before the County Planning Commission, and transmittal of the County Planning Commission's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.
- G. The Governor of California declared an emergency on March 4, 2020, based on COVID-19 and issued Stay-at-Home Executive Order N-33-20 on March 19, 2020, to protect the health and well-being of all Californians and to slow the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- H. The Governor of California issued Executive Order N-29-20 on March 17, 2020, which authorized local legislative bodies to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and to make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe and to address the local legislative body; and such a body need not make available any physical location from which members of the public may observe the meeting and offer public comment.
- I. The County Planning Commission held one noticed public hearing online on November 4, 2020, in compliance with the Governor's executive orders, at which time County staff explained the proposed amendment to the *Environmental Guidelines and Thresholds Manual*, and the County Planning Commission invited comments from participants of the hearing and recommended adoption to the Board of Supervisors.
- J. The proposed amendments are consistent with the policies of the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan (including the Coastal Land Use Plan) and Chapter 35, Zoning, of the Santa Barbara County Code, as described in the County Planning Commission staff report dated October 27, 2020.
- K. The Board of Supervisors now finds that it is in the public interest to amend the *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual* by revising Chapter 11, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, as written in Exhibit 1 to this Resolution, for consistency with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.4, Determining the Significance of Impacts from Greenhouse Gas Emissions.
- L. The Board of Supervisors held a duly noticed public hearing online on January 26, 2021, in compliance with the Governor's executive orders, at which hearing the proposed amendment was explained and comments were invited from the attendees of the hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED as follows:

1. The above recitations are true and correct.
2. In compliance with the County Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA, Section VI.F.3.b (Process for thresholds amendment and adoption), the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, approves and adopts the amendment to Chapter 11, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, of the *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual* reflected in Exhibit 1.
3. The Chair of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized and directed to sign and certify all documents and other materials in accordance with this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

BOB NELSON, CHAIR
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

ATTEST:

MONA MIYASATO, COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CLERK OF THE BOARD

By _____
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MICHAEL GHIZZONI
COUNTY COUNSEL

By


Deputy County Counsel

EXHIBIT:

1. Amended Chapter 11, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, of the *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual*
2. Clean copy of amended Chapter 11, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, of the *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual*