

ATTACHMENT A
CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Katie Hentrich, 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: Central Coast Alternative Fuel Ecosystem Project

Project Description: Planning and Development is seeking authorization from the Board of Supervisors to accept grant funding from the California Energy Commission for the Central Coast Alternative Fuel Ecosystem Project. The project implements the policies in the Energy and Climate Action which is anticipated to be presented to the Board of Supervisors for adoption during Winter 2014. . The resolution authorizing acceptance of the grant also authorizes the Director of Santa Barbara County Planning and Development to enter into a contract to accept a grant from the California Energy Commission in compliance with the California Energy Commission requirements.

Name of Person or Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County

Exempt Status: (Check one)

Ministerial

Statutory Exemption

Categorical Exemption

Emergency Project

Declared Emergency

No Possibility of Significant Effect (CEQA Section 15061(b)(3))

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: 15262 – A project involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the agency, board, or commission has not approved, adopted, or funded does not require the preparation of an EIR or Negative Declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors. This section does not apply to the adoption of a plan that will have a legally binding effect on later activities. Additionally, CEQA Section 15061(b)(3) states that “the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to project which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The grant funds for data collection and development of an Alternative Fuels Readiness Plan qualifies for an exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 as the project involves planning studies for identification of possible future actions that have not been approved, adopted, or funded by the County. Furthermore, the project provides no possibility to have a significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Katie Hentrich Phone #: (805) 884-6836

Department/Division Representative: _____ Date: _____

Acceptance Date: _____

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____

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