

ATTACHMENT 1
CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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ATTACHMENT 1: NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Katie Hentrich, Planning and Development

The project 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.:** 14GPA-00000-00005 **Location:** Countywide

Project Title: Santa Barbara County Green Building Program Amendments

Project Description: The project proposes to eliminate text in Comprehensive Plan Energy Element Policy 2.1, Policy 2.4, and Policy 6.1 that specifically describes the Innovative Building Review Program’s (IBRP) tiers. The IBRP is a voluntary, free program that allows interested parties to be advised on how to make their developments more energy efficient and environmentally friendly. These developments will be subject to environmental review on a case-by-case basis. The Program provides incentives to participants for meeting certain building standards and energy reduction measures. The amendment eliminates the need to make Comprehensive Plan amendments every time the tiers shift, thereby allowing County staff to make administrative changes to these tiers.

Name of Person or Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County Planning and Development

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: CEQA Section 15061(b)(3) states that “the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA”.

Reasons to support exemption findings: Santa Barbara County’s Green Building Program is a voluntary program that encourages energy efficient development; participants’ building plans are reviewed by a committee who assign points to buildings that utilize green building techniques. This is not related to any development projects, and there is no possibility that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment. Participating projects will be subject to compliance with CEQA. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this project may 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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