Notice of Exemption

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, California 95814

FROM: California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Project Title: Adoption of revisions to the Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook

Project Location: 1516 9th Street, Sacramento, Sacramento County, California 95814

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The purpose of this activity is to revise guidelines previously adopted by the California Energy Commission to govern the certification of eligible renewable energy resources for the state's Renewables Portfolio Standard pursuant to Public Resources Code section 25740 et seq. and Public Utilities Code section 399.11 et seq. The guidelines were revised to address changes in law as a result of Senate Bill X1-2 (2011), Assembly Bill 1954 (2010), and Assembly Bill 920 (2009) and decisions of the California Public Utilities Commission, and to clarify the guidelines based on lessons learned and stakeholder input. The California Energy Commission, operators and developers of eligible renewable energy resources, and electric utilities benefit from the adoption of revisions to these guidelines.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Energy Commission

Exempt Status: (Check One)

__ Ministerial (Sec. 21080 (b)(1); 15268);
__ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
__ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
__ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: ______
__ Statutory Exemption. State code number: ______
__ X Other: Activity is not a "project" under Sec. 15378(b)(2) and (4).

Reasons why project is exempt: Activity is not a project under Sec. 15378(b)(2) and (4), because it deals with the continuation of administrative and maintenance activities related to general policy and procedure making and the creation of governmental funding mechanisms which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. In addition, elements of the guidelines are exempt under Sec. 15308, in that these guidelines can be seen as action by a regulatory agency authorized by the state to protect the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Gabriel Herrera
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California Energy Commission
(916) 654-5141

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 5-30-12 Title: Staff Counsel IV

Signed by the Lead Agency Date received for filing by OPR: RECD. MAY 31 2012

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