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

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

Project Title: Adoption of revisions to the New Solar Homes Partnership Guidebook

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

<u>Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:</u> The purpose of this activity is to revise guidelines previously adopted by the California Energy Commission to govern the general administration of its New Solar Homes Partnership Program ("NSHP") pursuant to Public Resources Code section 25780 et seq. The Guidelines are being revised to add program requirements that allow for leases or power purchase agreements (PPAs) where the home builder/developer is an interim lessee or interim signatory to a PPA, pending transfer of the lease or PPA to the homeowner as the end-use customer, and to make other clarifying and non-substantive changes. The California Energy Commission, utilities, applicants to the NSHP, and solar retailers and installers will benefit from the adoption of these guidelines.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission California Energy Commission Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Energy Commission DOCKETED 6-NSHP-1 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), and falls within the common sense exception under Sec. 15061(b)(3). Reasons why project is exempt: Activity is not a project under Sec. 15378(b)(2) and (4), because it pertains 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, the activity is exempt under Sec. 15061(b)(3), in that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment. Lead Agency Contact Person: Christa Salo Office of Chief Counsel California Energy Commission (916) 651-2935 Signature: Close Stool Date: 4-15-13 Title: Staff Counsel Date received for filing by OPR: APR 15 2013 Signed by the Lead Agency