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: Appliance Efficiency Standards Rulemaking for Computers and Light-Emitting Diode Lamps.

Project Location: Statewide.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Rulemaking to modify existing appliance efficiency regulations for computers and light-emitting diode (LED) lamps to:

1) Create a new allowance for a discrete graphics processing unit that is packaged on the same substrate as the central processing unit, which is a new and innovative feature or functionality that was not considered at the time of the original rulemaking and requires additional consideration in the efficiency levels for computers. The new energy allowance provides computer manufacturers adequate flexibility for compliant design of the computer. The proposed changes do not have a significant impact on the environment because they do not change projected energy savings or significantly impact material usage or waste.

2) Make minor modifications adjusting two definitions to better represent computers available in the market that were intended to be covered as mobile gaming systems or mobile workstations in the original rulemaking. These proposed changes do not impact the environment because the total number of mobile workstations and mobile gaming systems sold and the projected energy savings are not expected to change.

3) Allow manufacturers of LED lamps to report estimated lamp lifetime pending completion of lifetime testing for state-regulated LED lamps and the LED versions of state-regulated small diameter directional lamps (SDDL), in alignment with the Code of Federal Regulations. Manufacturers will be able to introduce those products into the California market five to seven months sooner than would be allowed under the existing regulations which require lifetime testing to be completed prior to mandatory reporting. These proposed regulations do not impact the environment because there are no expected changes to the total number of LED lamps sold, the projected energy savings, or material usage or waste.

These proposed regulations benefit manufacturers by increasing their flexibility to manufacture and sell products that comply with the regulations. They benefit consumers and businesses by allowing them to purchase a broader range of compliant products while ensuring that there is no change to the underlying costs or energy savings expected from the existing regulations.

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:______
☒ Other: Adoption of the Guidelines is exempt from CEQA requirements pursuant to the “common sense” exemption (CEQA Guidelines, § 15061, subd. (b)(3)).
Reasons why project is exempt: The amendments to sections 1602, 1605.3, and 1606 of Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations do not change the energy savings expected from the existing regulations. There is no possibility that the adoption of these amendments would have a significant effect on the environment or result in a physical change to the environment. Accordingly, these amendments are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act because of the “common sense” exemption under section 15061(b)(3) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

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Signature: ______________________  Date: 11/08/2017  Title: Senior Electrical Engineer

[ ] Signed by the Lead Agency Date received for filing by OPR: __________

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.