Notice of Exemption

To: Marin County Clerk
   Recorder's Office
   3501 Civic Center Dr. #232
   San Rafael, CA 94903
   Office of Planning and Research
   1400 10th Street
   Sacramento CA, 95814
   Via CEQSubmit/CEQAnet

From: San Rafael City Schools
   310 Nova Albion Way
   San Rafael, CA 94903
   Room 505

Project Title: Venetia Valley Elementary School Solar Photovoltaic Array Project

Project Location - Specific: Venetia Valley Elementary School
   177 N. San Pedro Road, San Rafael, CA 94901

Project Location - City: San Rafael          Project Location - County: Marin

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: This project consists of the construction of a new solar photovoltaic (PV) shade structure at Venetia Valley Elementary School. The new solar shade structure will be located in the center of the campus between the field and emergency access route, with the preliminary home run route extending from the main electrical service on the west side of campus through the blacktop to the shade structure. With a combined module count of approximately 449; the estimated PV modular area will be approximately 12,120 square feet, creating a total estimated shade area of approximately 12,120 square feet. The Project will also include upgrades, extensions, relocation, and/or replacement of existing utilities and other utility work, as necessary, including electrical; site work, including demolition, earthwork, minor grading, trenching, backfill, and related site work; and associated equipment and other improvements appurtenant thereto. This project will serve the greater sustainability drive of the District, and will generate power to help offset Venetia Valley Elementary School’s current electrical usage, resulting in energy savings for the District. Construction is anticipated to commence in the Summer of 2023. This Project would benefit District staff, students, and the local community.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Rafael City Schools

Name of Agency Carrying Out Project: San Rafael City Schools

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: Class 1: Sec. 15301; Class 3: Sec. 15303; Class 4: Sec. 15304; Class 11: Sec. 15311; and Class 14: Sec. 15314
☐ Statutory Exemptions.
☒ Other. Common Sense Exemption: Sec. 15061(b)(3)

Reasons Why Project Is Exempt: Class 1: Operation, repair, maintenance, or minor exterior alterations to existing public structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving no or negligible expansion of use. Class 3: Construction and location of limited number of small, new facilities or structures and reasonable electrical power and other utility extensions. Class 4: Consists of minor public alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. Class 11: The Project consists of the construction of minor structures accessory to the existing facilities. Class 14: Minor additions to an existing school site. Common Sense Exemption: It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed project involves any activity that may have a significant effect on the environment. District will be improving an already developed property, with no increased capacity.

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21138, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:  

POSTED 10/11/22 TO 11/11/22