

Attachment No. 1

**Letter to the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
Requesting Withdrawal and Decertification**



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

5961 SOUTH MOONEY BLVD
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| | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aaron R. Bock | Economic Development and Planning |
| Reed Schenke | Public Works |
| Sherman Dix | Fiscal Services |

REED SCHENKE, DIRECTOR

MICHAEL WASHAM, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 12, 2024
To: Tulare County Clerk
Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
From: Gary Mills, Chief Environmental Planner
Subject: Withdrawal of NOE, SCH# 2024010948

To Whom It May Concern:

Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA) respectfully requests that the Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the Golden State Hydrogen Plant Pixley, Tulare County, California (SCH# 2024010948) be removed from the Tulare County Clerk's postings and withdrawn from the State Clearinghouse CEQAnet. RMA submitted the NOE to the Tulare County Clerk on January 30, 2024, and uploaded it to the State's CEQAnet on January 31, 2024. Since then, RMA has become aware that the applicant has withdrawn application and is no longer pursuing the project. As such, RMA wishes to withdraw and decertify the NOE. If the proposed project moves forward, RMA staff will file the appropriate environmental documentation with the County Clerk and the CEQAnet.

Thank you.

Gary Mills
Chief Planner
Environmental Planning Division
Economic Development and Planning Branch
Tulare County Resource Management Agency

Cc: file

Attachment No. 2

Copy of Resolution No. 2024-0097

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF Golden State
Hydrogen Plant Project CEQ 23-013,
Pixley

)
) Resolution No. 2024-0097
)
)
)


UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TOWNSEND, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR
SHUKLIAN, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 30, 2024, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: SUPERVISORS MICARI, VANDER POEL, SHUKLIAN, VALERO AND
TOWNSEND
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE



ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY:


Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

1. Approved the Notice of Exemption for CEQ 23-013 - Golden State Hydrogen Plant Project ("Project"). The proposed Project site is approximately 150 acres located at the southwest corner of Avenue 120 and Road 120, within the Pixley Urban Development Boundary (UDB).
2. Found that the Project is statutorily exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines as an approved use based on the Light Manufacturing (M-1) zoning designation and that the building permits are ministerial under 14 CCR Sections 21080(b)(1) & 15268.
3. Authorized the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk and the State of California's Office of Planning and Research.

Attachment No. 3

Copy of CEQ 23-013 Posted Notice of Exemption

**ASSESSOR/CLERK-RECORDER
COUNTY OF TULARE
County Civic Center – Room 103
Visalia, California 93291-4593**

March 19, 2024

TCRMA



SUBJECT: Posting of Environmental Notices

NOTICE OF: EXEMPT


RECEIPT # 24-54-01302024-041

PROJECT TITLE: Notice of Exemption No, CEQ 23-013-Golden State
Hydrogen Plant Pixley

DATE POSTED: 01/30/2024.

DATE REMOVED: 03/05/2024.

IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS REGARDING THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT,
PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE (559) 636-5051.

by, 
Deputy

Enc
Clerk Division
559-636-5051

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: ☒ Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov
jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Proteum Energy, LLC
120 N. 44th Street Suite 400
Tulare, CA 93274
(480) 319-2879

Project Title: Notice of Exemption No., CEQ 23-013 – Golden State Hydrogen Plant Pixley

Project Location - Specific: On the southwest corner of Avenue 120 and Road 120 within the Pixley Urban Development Boundary (APN: 295-010-006, 007, 008, and 009)

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 19, Township 22S, Range 25E

Project Location - City: Pixley **Project Location - County:** Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Proteum Energy, LLC (Proteum) is proposing the Golden State Hydrogen Project (Project), a renewable clean hydrogen production hub that would provide regional renewable hydrogen production, liquefaction, storage, distribution and refueling infrastructure to support the local economy within Tulare County within the M-1 (Light Manufacturing) Zone within the Pixley Urban Development Boundary (UDB). The project will include a 104-acre, 23-megawatt peak (MWp) solar array with a 20 megawatt per hour (MWhr) storage that will supplement 20MW of power generated on site. The facility would generate 30 metric tons per day of low/negative carbon intensity fuel cell grade renewable clean hydrogen for transportation. Clean hydrogen will be liquefied on site, stored, and trucked to refueling stations and fleets throughout California. The hydrogen plant will also produce at least 1,800 MMBtu/day of renewable natural gas, which will be delivered to a Southern California Gas natural gas distribution line near the site.

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));
- ☐ Common Sense Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3);
- ☐ Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Class 32 Section 15332 In-Fill Development
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions:


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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>FILED TULARE COUNTY</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">JAN 30 2024</p> <p>ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER BY: <i>[Signature]</i></p> | <p><i>OC</i></p> <p><i>4:49pm</i></p> <p><i>mm</i></p> |
| <small>DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE</small> | |


Reasons why the project is exempt: The proposed hydrogen plant / solar project is an allowed use in the M-1 zone and only requires the issuance of building permits, which are ministerial permits and statutorily exempt under CEQA.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare County Resource Management Agency

Project Planner/Representative: Gary Mills

Telephone: (559) 624-7000

Signature:  Date: 1/23/2024 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Gary A. Mills

Signature:  Date: 1/30/24 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

☒ Signed by Lead Agency