Option 1: Zero Threshold

Is the activity a “project” under CEQA?

No

Project EXEMPT from CEQA?

No

Are GHG emissions from the project less than the bright line significance threshold of zero MTCO2e/yr?

No

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT
GHG emissions (direct and indirect) have been quantified and the project will result in no net increase in GHG emissions as documented in the CEQA document (e.g. Negative Declaration or Exemption).

Yes

POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT

Yes

No Further Analysis

No

Notice of Exemption may be filed.
Is the activity a “project” under CEQA?

No

Project EXEMPT from CEQA?

No

Are GHG emissions from the project less than the bright line significance threshold of 10,000 MTCO2e/yr?

No

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT
GHG emissions (direct and indirect) have been quantified and the project will emit less than 10,000 MTCO2e/yr as documented in the CEQA document (e.g. Negative Declaration or Exemption).

No Further Analysis

Yes

Notice of Exemption may be filed.

Yes

POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT
Is the activity a “project” under CEQA?

Yes

Notice of Exemption may be filed.

No

Project EXEMPT from CEQA?

Yes

Are GHG emissions from the project less than the bright line significance threshold of 10,000 MTCO2e/yr?

Yes

Does the project comply with District-approved performance-based measure that includes a 15.3/35% reduction aligned with Scoping Plan 2020/post-2020 goals?

Yes

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT
GHG emissions (direct and indirect) have been quantified and the project will emit less than 10,000 MTCO2e/yr as documented in the CEQA document (e.g. Negative Declaration or Exemption).

No

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT
GHG emissions (direct and indirect) have been quantified and the CEQA document (e.g. Exemption, (Mitigated) Negative Declaration, or EIR) demonstrates how the project meets the performance-based measures and percent reduction aligned with Scoping Plan 2020/post-2020 goals.

No

POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT

No Further Analysis

SBCAPCD December 2014
Mechanics of Threshold Application

**Option 4: Percent Reduction from BAU Threshold**

1. **Is the activity a “project” under CEQA?**
   - Yes → **Project EXEMPT from CEQA?**
     - Yes → **Does the project comply with an adopted statewide, regional, or local plan for the reduction or mitigation of GHGs, including Cap-and-Trade?**
       - No → Notice of Exemption may be filed.
       - Yes → **Are GHG emissions from the project less than the bright line significance threshold of 10,000 MTCO2e/yr?**
         - No → **Does the project show consistency with AB 32 Scoping Plan by achieving a 15.3/35% reduction from business-as-usual emissions?**
           - No → LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT
           - Yes → **LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT**
             - GHG emissions (direct and indirect) have been quantified and the project will emit less than 10,000 MTCO2e/yr as documented in the CEQA document (e.g. Negative Declaration or Exemption).
             - LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT
               - GHG emissions (direct and indirect) have been quantified and the CEQA document (e.g. Exemption, (Mitigated) Negative Declaration, or EIR) demonstrates how the project achieves an overall reduction from BAU emissions estimate consistent with Scoping Plan 2020/post-2020 goals.
         - Yes → **LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT**
           - GHG emissions (direct and indirect) have been quantified and the CEQA document (e.g. Exemption, (Mitigated) Negative Declaration, or EIR) demonstrates how the project achieves an overall reduction from BAU emissions estimate consistent with Scoping Plan 2020/post-2020 goals.
   - No → LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT
     - Project complies with CEQA Guidelines §15183.5. A Notice of Exemption may be filed.

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