December 6, 2001

State of California
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Physics-Geology Building Fifth Floor Addition
Project Location: University of California, Davis
County: Yolo

Project Description

The UC Davis campus (the campus) proposes to add approximately 4,721 gross square feet (4,527 assignable square feet) to the fifth floor of the existing Physics-Geology Building. The addition would provide office, dry lab workroom, and computer lab space for the UC Davis Physics Department.

The existing Physics-Geology Building is located in the central campus, east of the Crocker Nuclear Laboratory, north of the Physical Plant, west of Parking Lot 3, and south of Roessler Hall. The north wing of the building is a five-story structure with only 60 percent of the fifth floor built out. A previous structural feasibility study confirmed that a light steel-framed structure could be constructed on the remaining fifth floor area.

The Physics Department is currently operating under severe space deficit constraints. The proposed fifth floor addition would provide needed space to alleviate current constraints and accommodate planned growth. The project would accommodate 13 new staff and 12 new graduate students. In addition, approximately five existing staff would be relocated to the new space, serving to decompress existing offices.

The project is determined generally exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Title 14 California Administrative Code Section 15061 (b)(3), and categorically exempt under Section 15301 (Existing Facilities). The project is covered by the general rule that CEQA does not apply to activities where there is no possibility that a significant effect on the environment could occur (Section 15061). The project is categorically exempt because it would add less than 10,000 square feet to an existing structure, would be located in an area where all public services and facilities are available, and would not be located in an environmentally sensitive area (Section 15301).
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In accordance with State Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA and the University of California Procedures for Implementation of CEQA, the campus hereby approves the Physics-Geology Building Fifth Floor Addition project on November 16, 2001. Please contact Sid England, Environmental Planner, at (530) 752-2432 if you have any questions about this project.

Sincerely,

John A. Meyer
Vice Chancellor - Resource Management and Planning
University of California, Davis
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