

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE  
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

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**To:** County Clerk for the County of San Bernardino;  
and Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
– State Clearinghouse

**From:** South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

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**Project Title/Facility Name:** Linde Inc. Hydrogen Production Electrolyzer Project Application Numbers (A/Ns 640712 and 640713)

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**Project Proponent/Applicant:** Linde Inc. **South Coast AQMD Facility ID Number:** 42630

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**Project/Equipment Location:** 5705 E. Airport Dr, Ontario, CA 91761

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Los Angeles County       Orange County       Riverside County       San Bernardino County

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The project proponent/applicant, Linde Inc., is a facility that produces hydrogen gas for distribution and sale to its customers via an existing hydrogen production plant which includes a steam methane reactor, reformers, compressors, adsorbers, separators, and storage tanks. Linde Inc. submitted applications (A/Ns 640712 and 640713) seeking a permit from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) to install and operate a new hydrogen electrolyzer which will be connected to the aforementioned existing hydrogen production system infrastructure. The new hydrogen electrolyzer is pre-fabricated and will occupy a relatively small footprint outdoors within the facility's property lines such that minimal construction will be needed for its installation and connection to the associated piping/plumbing and electrical systems. The new hydrogen electrolyzer is estimated to produce 2.4 tons per day of hydrogen gas which can be sold as a fuel for use in alternative fueled vehicles. The benefit of the proposed project will help provide an additional amount of hydrogen, an essential alternative fuel which is expected to play an important role in the strategy to reach attainment of ambient air quality standards within South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction.

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**Date of Project Approval/Permit Issue Date:** February 16, 2023      **Permit to Construct/Operate Number:** G71223

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**Public Agency Approving Project:** South Coast AQMD      **Applicant or Person Carrying Out Project:** Linde Inc. (Facility ID Number 42630)

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**Exempt Status:** CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption

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**Reasons why project is exempt:** The South Coast AQMD has reviewed the proposed project, including the permit application and supplemental materials provided by the project proponent, pursuant to: 1) CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(k) – General Concepts, the three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA; and 2) CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 – Review for Exemption, procedures for determining if a project is exempt from CEQA. The review concluded that no significant environmental impacts are expected to occur with construction or operation of the electrolyzer equipment. Thus, it can be seen with certainty that implementing the proposed project would not cause a significant adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption.

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<b>South Coast AQMD CEQA Contact Person:</b>	<b>Phone Number:</b>	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>
Kevin Ni	(909) 396-2462	<a href="mailto:kni@aqmd.gov">kni@aqmd.gov</a>	(909) 396-3982

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<b>South Coast AQMD Engineering &amp; Permitting Contact Person:</b>	<b>Phone Number:</b>	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>
Christopher Gill	(909) 396-2419	<a href="mailto:cgill@aqmd.gov">cgill@aqmd.gov</a>	(909) 396-3982

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<b>Project Proponent/Facility Contact Person:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>
Jose Galindo	(909) 974-5133	<a href="mailto:jose.a.galindo@linde.com">jose.a.galindo@linde.com</a>	N/A

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**Date Received for Filing:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

 February 17, 2023

Barbara Radlein  
Program Supervisor, CEQA  
Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation