

NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION

Ventura County proposes to carry out the following project. Pursuant to provisions of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, it has been determined that this project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

Project Title: Adoption of an Ordinance amending the Ventura County Building Code (VCBC)

Lead Agency/County Agency of Filing: Ventura County

Project Proponent (Applicant): Ventura County Building and Safety Division

Project Location: Countywide

Date of Approval:

Exemption Filed With: Ventura County Clerk of the Board

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project is adoption of specified portions of the California Building Standards Codes known as Title 24, Parts 2, 2.5, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11; and

The model codes referenced by the California Building Standards Code and the model codes adopted by reference in the VCBC:

- 1) The International Building Code, 2015 Edition.
- 2) The International Residential Code, 2015 Edition.
- 3) The National Electrical Code, 2014 Edition.
- 4) The Uniform Mechanical Code, 2015 Edition.
- 5) The Uniform Plumbing Code, 2015 Edition.
- 6) The International Existing Building Code, 2015 Edition.
- 7) The Uniform Housing Code, 1997 Edition.
- 8) The Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings, 1997 Edition; and

The amendments contained in the VCBC to the above referenced codes are broken down into three categories:

1. Editorial changes that either update references, section numbers, chapter and section titles, or add highlighting of definitions, or make grammatical corrections and clarifying language revisions. These are found in various places throughout the Draft 2016 VCBC.
2. Administrative changes that modify permit processes or requirements or other administrative provisions in the VCBC. For the most part, the administrative provisions are very similar to the 2013 VCBC provisions. As with the 2013 VCBC, we have continued to include Straw Bale buildings and Limited Density Owner-Built Dwellings.

3. Technical changes or “building standards” which affect the specific design and approval of a structure. Some previous local amendments dealing with “building standards” have been reduced or eliminated as they are no longer necessary or that minimum State standards may have changed.

Finally, other important changes have been made to the various state and model codes with regard to definitions, foundations, shear walls, as well as sewage disposal systems. 2013 VCBC Appendix J Grading has been carried forward into the 2016 VCBC in its entirety.

REASON WHY THIS PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment.

This Notice of Exemption is filed pursuant to the provisions of Section 15062 of the State CEQA Guidelines.