

AUDITS & RETRO-COMMISSIONING (A/RCX) EXEMPTION MATRIX

Please be aware that a California licensed engineer or architect must personally attest, under penalty of perjury, by way of signing in wet ink a declaration generated by LADBS' A/RCx system, that the exemptions submitted are specified in Division 97 of the LAMC, factual, and applicable to the building for which the exemption is requested.

The following matrix, created by the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), provides the section reference within Division 97 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) and Exemption Verbiage from the code section for which each exemption applies. Only one exemption can be submitted for each type of request and the Required Proof must be supplied at the time the exemption is requested. Selecting an exemption related to 91.9706.1.3.5 (Energy) and 91.9706.2.3.2 (Water) requires that the sub-items also be submitted as instructed at the time the exemption is requested.

Notes:

1. "Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption." in the Required Proof column means that the exemption requires a Yes or No response in the A/RCx online system, the requestor has selected "Yes" and will attest in a signed declaration that the reason for exemption is factual.

2. The phrase "during the five-year compliance cycle being reported" refers to the five years prior to the compliance due date for the building. Compliance due dates are established by Section 91.9708 of the LAMC and are always December 1st of the Compliance Year. The Compliance Year is based on the LADBS Building ID which is printed on every Notice to Comply and is the same building ID used for Benchmarking. Refer to Table in 91.9708.2 of the LAMC for a schedule of all compliance due dates.

3. Required Proofs for a permit number and permit finalized date include a reference to the relevant LAMC code section and cycles when a permit was required for the measure performed. Relevant code cycles are as follows: "2014" covers years 2014 to 2016; "2017" covers years 2017 to 2019; and "2020" covers years 2020 to 2022.

EXEMPTION TYPE & CODE SECTION	EXEMPTION VERBIAGE FROM THE A/RCX REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION SCREEN	REQUIRED PROOF
ENERGY EXEMPTIONS		
91.9706.1.3.1	The building has received ENERGY STAR® Certification from the EPA for the year of the building's compliance due date in Section 91.9708.	The Certification must've been issued during but not later than 12/1 of the Compliance Year for which the exemption is being requested.
91.9706.1.3.2	The building has received ENERGY STAR® Certification from the EPA for two of the three years preceding the building's compliance due date in Section 91.9708.	Using Compliance Year 2021 as an example, Certifications that were issued in 2 of the the following years: 2018, 2019 or 2020.

EXEMPTION TYPE & CODE SECTION	EXEMPTION VERBIAGE FROM THE A/RCX REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION SCREEN	REQUIRED PROOF
91.9706.1.3.3	The building was not eligible to receive an ENERGY STAR® score, but I, a California licensed engineer or architect, certify that the energy performance of the building was at least 25% better than the median energy performance of similar buildings by comparing against the national source energy data provided in the Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS) conducted by the U.S. Energy Information Administration or other relevant national data set as approved by the Department effective at the time of reporting.	Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption.
91.9706.1.3.4	I, a California licensed engineer or architect, certify that the building has reduced its weather normalized source energy use intensity as calculated by the benchmarking tool by 15%, when compared to five years preceding the building's compliance due date in Section 91.9708.	Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption.
91.9706.1.3.5	A building which does not have a central cooling system and where four of the six measures provided in Subsections (a) through (f) of Section 91.9706.1.3 of the LAMC have been installed within five years of the due date in Section 91,9708 of the LAMC. I, a California licensed engineer or architect certified that the measures were done as indicated below and provided a report to the building owner detailing the measures performed:	
	<p>(a) Common area and exterior lighting. Common area (lighting outside of tenant spaces) and exterior lighting fixtures have been installed in accordance with the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) in effect at any time during the five-year compliance cycle being reported.</p> <p>Note: To claim this exemption, the inspection signoff date must have occurred during the 5-year period prior the Compliance Due Date specified in Table 9708.2 of the LAMC.</p>	<p>Electrical permit number and permit finalized date.</p> <p>Reference: Section 93.0202 of the LA City Electrical Code, effective in the 2014, 2017, and 2020 code cycles.</p> <p>Also, for nonresidential projects (including apartment buildings), plan check for Title 24 (Part 6) energy code is required per LA City Electrical code sections 93.0206(b)(7) & (10).</p>

EXEMPTION TYPE & CODE SECTION	EXEMPTION VERBIAGE FROM THE A/RCX REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION SCREEN	REQUIRED PROOF
	(b) Pipe insulation. All exposed pipes that are used to convey heat or hot water have been insulated in accordance with the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) in effect at any time during the five-year compliance cycle being reported.	Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption.
	(c) Cool roof. A cool roof has been installed in accordance with the Los Angeles Green Building Code and the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) in effect at any time during the five-year compliance cycle being reported. <i>Note: To claim this exemption, the inspection signoff date must have occurred during the 5-year period prior the Compliance Due Date specified in Table 9708.2 of the LAMC.</i>	Building permit number and permit finaled date. Reference: Section 99.04.106.5 of the LA Green Building Codes, effective in the 2014, 2017, and 2020 code cycles.
	(d) Demand response. The building owner has committed to participate in a utility sponsored demand response program.	Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption and the Demand Response Account Number.
	(e) Solar thermal. A solar water heating system has been installed. <i>Note: To claim this exemption, the inspection signoff date must have occurred during the 5-year period prior the Compliance Due Date specified in Table 9708.2 of the LAMC.</i>	Plumbing permit number and permit finaled date. Reference: Section 94.502.1 of the LA Plumbing Code, effective in the 2014, 2017,
	(f) Domestic hot water. A new water heater has been installed in accordance with the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) in effect at any time during the five-year compliance cycle being reported. <i>Note: To claim this exemption, the inspection signoff date must have occurred during the 5-year period prior the Compliance Due Date specified in Table 9708.2 of the LAMC.</i>	Plumbing permit number and permit finaled date. Reference: Section 94.502.1 of the LA Plumbing Code, effective in the 2014, 2017, and 2020 code cycles.
91.9706.1.3.6	The building is new and has been occupied for less than five years from its first due date, based on its Temporary Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Occupancy.	Certificate or Temporary Certificate of Occupancy and issue date.

EXEMPTION TYPE & CODE SECTION	EXEMPTION VERBIAGE FROM THE A/RCX REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION SCREEN	REQUIRED PROOF
WATER EXEMPTIONS		
91.9706.2.3.1	I, a California licensed engineer or architect certify that the building has reduced its water use intensity by at least 20% when compared to the five years preceding the building's due date for compliance.	Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption.
91.9706.2.3.2	A building with a cooling system which does not operate by the consumption of water as part of the cooling process and where two of the three following measures were installed within five years of the due date in Section 91.9708 of the LAMC. I, a California licensed engineer or architect certify that the measures were done as indicated below and a report was provided to the owner detailing the measures performed:	
(a)	Low flow faucets and shower heads. All faucets and showerheads within the building have been replaced and meet the Los Angeles Municipal Code and the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) in effect at any time during the five-year compliance cycle being reported.	Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption.
(b)	Washing machines. Front loading clothes washing machines have been installed in all common laundry facilities.	Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption.
(c)	Water closets and urinals. All water closets and urinals within the building have been replaced and meet the Los Angeles Municipal Code and the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) in effect at any time during the five-year compliance cycle being reported.	Plumbing permit number and permit finalized date. Reference: Section 94.103.1 of the LA Plumbing Code, effective in the 2014, 2017, and 2020 code cycles.
Note: To claim this exemption, the inspection signoff date must have occurred during the 5-year period prior the Compliance Due Date specified in Table 9708.2 of the LAMC.		

EXEMPTION TYPE & CODE SECTION	EXEMPTION VERBIAGE FROM THE A/RCX REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION SCREEN	REQUIRED PROOF
91.9706.2.3.3	I, a California licensed engineer or architect, certify that the building's water use conforms to the requirements of the Los Angeles Municipal Code and the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) in effect at any time during the five-year compliance cycle being reported.	Licensed professional's signature attesting to this exemption.
91.9706.2.3.4	The building is new and has been occupied for less than five years from its first due date, based on its Temporary Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Occupancy.	Certificate or Temporary Certificate of Occupancy permit number and issue date.