



Building Energy Benchmarking Ordinance Reporting Exemptions

Automatic Exemptions

Certain building types are exempt from the requirements of the City's ordinance *and do not need to submit an exemption request*. Automatically exempt buildings include:

- Buildings where more than half of the gross floor area is used for scientific experiments requiring controlled environments, or for manufacturing or industrial purposes.
- Condominium projects

Additionally, disclosable buildings owned by any of the following are not required to report to the City of San Diego:

- County of San Diego;
- State of California;
- United States of America;
- Metropolitan Transit Service; or
- San Diego Unified School District.

Please note, that even if you are exempted by the City of San Diego based on building ownership, certain buildings (such as County buildings, schools and universities) will still be required to report to the California Energy Commission. Learn more at energy.ca.gov/benchmarking.

Exemptions Requiring City Approval

Additionally, other building owners can file an exemption request from reporting if one of the following conditions are met:

- The owner did not have a Certificate of Occupancy or temporary Certificate of Occupancy for the disclosable building, in accordance with San Diego Municipal Code sections 129.0113 through 129.0118, for more than six months of the calendar year being benchmarked;
- The owner has begun demolition work on the disclosable building and it is no longer possible to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy or temporary Certificate of Occupancy prior to June 1;
- The City Manager determines in his or her sole discretion that disclosure of the owner's energy use data would result in the release of proprietary information that can be characterized as a trade secret; or
- The owner of a disclosable building cannot collect sufficient information to complete a benchmarking submission. The owner shall provide written or electronic proof of a submission request for data from the utility and tenants and proof that the request was either denied by the utility or the tenants, or no response was received from the tenants.

Submitting an Exemption Request

Exemption requests must be emailed to energybenchmarking@sandiego.gov and include any documentation required to substantiate the exemption request. All buildings exempted under this procedure must still submit a report that will include basic details about their property.

Exemption requests must be submitted annually. **The exemption request deadline for calendar year 2018 reporting is June 1, 2019.**