

## County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

February 23, 2018

State Clearinghouse
Office of Planning and Research
Attn: Sheila Brown, Administrative Assistant
1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Brown:

Subject: State Clearinghouse Review of Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for

Initial Study Application No. 7318 (Conditional Use Permit Application No. 3580)

Enclosed please find the following documents

1. Reviewing Agencies Checklist; and

- 2. Notice of Completion and Environmental Document Transmittal; and
- 3. Fifteen hard copies and one electronic copy of the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration which is comprised of:
  - a. Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
  - b. Initial Study Checklist; and
  - c. Evaluation of Environmental Impacts.

We request that you distribute the documents to appropriate State Agencies for review as provided for in Section 15073 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, and that the review be completed within the normal 30-day review period. Please transmit any comments to my attention at the below listed address or to cmonfette@co.fresno.ca.us

Sincerely,

Chrissy Monfette, Planner

**Development Services Division** 

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**Enclosures** 

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Appendix C

### **Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal**

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613

SCH# For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 Project Title: Initial Study No. 7318 and Conditional Use Permit Application No. 3580 Lead Agency: County of Fresno Contact Person: Chrissy Monfette Mailing Address: 2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor Phone: 559-600-4245 County: Fresno City: Fresno Project Location: County:Fresno City/Nearest Community: Kerman Cross Streets: Whitesbridge Avenue and Sonoma Avenue Zip Code: Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): \_\_\_\_\_° "N/\_\_ "W Total Acres: Assessor's Parcel No.: 015-100-21S Section: 9 Twp.: 14 Range: 16E State Hwy #: Highway 180 Within 2 Miles: Waterways: Airports: Railways: **Document Type:** Draft EIR CEQA: NOP NEPA: \_\_ NOI Other: ☐ Joint Document ☐ Early Cons☐ Neg Dec ☐ Supplement/Subsequent EIR EA Final Document (Prior SCH No.) Draft EIS Other: Mit Neg Dec **FONSI** Local Action Type: ☐ General Plan Update ☐ Specific Plan Rezone Annexation General Plan Amendment Master Plan Prezone Redevelopment General Plan Element ➤ Use Permit ☐ Planned Unit Development Coastal Permit ☐ Community Plan Site Plan Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) Other: **Development Type:** Residential: Units Office: Sq.ft. Employees\_ Transportation: Type Acres\_ Commercial:Sq.ft. Acres 6.93 Employees\_\_\_ Mining: Mineral Industrial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_ Acres\_\_\_\_ Power: Employees\_ MW Type \_\_\_ Educational: ☐ Waste Treatment: Type MGD Recreational: ☐ Hazardous Waste: Type Water Facilities:Type \_ **Project Issues Discussed in Document:**  ★ Aesthetic/Visual ☐ Fiscal ➤ Recreation/Parks Vegetation ▼ Flood Plain/Flooding ★ Agricultural Land Schools/Universities ➤ Water Ouality ★ Air Quality ➤ Forest Land/Fire Hazard Septic Systems ➤ Water Supply/Groundwater ★ Archeological/Historical ▼ Geologic/Seismic ■ Sewer Capacity ➤ Wetland/Riparian ➤ Biological Resources × Minerals ■ Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading □ Growth Inducement ☐ Coastal Zone | Noise ➤ Solid Waste X Land Use ➤ Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous ▼ Cumulative Effects Economic/Jobs ➤ Public Services/Facilities ▼ Traffic/Circulation Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation: Dairy/Exclusive Agricultural, 20-acre minimum parcel size/Agriculture Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary) Allow an anaerobic digester for the collection of methane to be constructed on a 6.93-acre portion of an existing dairy facility; allow an increase to the herd size to a maximum of 10,839 milking cows and 20,616 non-milking animals due to a transfer of

animals from the Bar 20 Dairy No. 3; and construct two new free-stall barns to house said animals

#### **Reviewing Agencies Checklist** Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with and "X". If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S". Air Resources Board Office of Historic Preservation Boating & Waterways, Department of Office of Public School Construction California Emergency Management Agency Parks & Recreation, Department of \_\_\_\_\_ California Highway Patrol Pesticide Regulation, Department of Caltrans District # Public Utilities Commission Caltrans Division of Aeronautics Regional WQCB #\_\_\_\_\_ Resources Agency Caltrans Planning Central Valley Flood Protection Board Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. \_\_\_\_ Coastal Commission San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy \_\_\_\_ Colorado River Board San Joaquin River Conservancy Conservation, Department of Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy \_\_\_\_ Corrections, Department of State Lands Commission Delta Protection Commission SWRCB: Clean Water Grants Education, Department of SWRCB: Water Quality **Energy Commission** SWRCB: Water Rights Fish & Game Region # Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Food & Agriculture, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of Water Resources, Department of General Services, Department of Health Services, Department of Other: Housing & Community Development Other: Native American Heritage Commission Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency) Starting Date February 27, 2018 Ending Date March 29, 2018 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lead Agency (Complete if applicable): Consulting Firm: \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: Address: City/State/Zip: City/State/Zip: Contact: Phone:

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: <u>2/22/2</u>018



## County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN F WHITE DIRECTOR



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

For County Clerk's Stamp

Notice is hereby given that the County of Fresno has prepared Initial Study Application (IS) No. 7318 pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act for the following proposed project:

INITIAL STUDY APPLICATION NO. 7318 and UNCLASSIFIED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. 3580 filed by STEPHEN SHEHADEY, proposing to allow an anaerobic digester for the collection of methane to be constructed on a 6.93-acre portion of an existing dairy facility; allow an increase to the herd size to a maximum of 10,839 milking cows and 20,616 non-milking animals due to a transfer of animals from the Bar 20 Dairy No. 3; and construct two new free-stall barns to house said animals on a 324.66-acre parcel in the AE-20 (Exclusive Agricultural, 20-acre minimum parcel size) Zone District. The subject parcel is located on the south side of Whitesbridge Avenue, between San Mateo Avenue and James Road, addressed as 24387 W. Whitesbridge Avenue, Kerman (Sup. Dist.1) (APN 015-100-21S). Adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for Initial Study Application No. 7318 and take action on Unclassified Conditional Use Permit No. 3580 with Findings and Conditions.

(hereafter, the "Proposed Project")

The County of Fresno has determined that it is appropriate to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Proposed Project. The purpose of this Notice is to (1) provide notice of the availability of IS Application No. 7318 and the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration, and request written comments thereon; and (2) provide notice of the public hearing regarding the Proposed Project.

#### **Public Comment Period**

The County of Fresno will receive written comments on the Proposed Project and Mitigated Negative Declaration from February 27, 2018 to March 29, 2018.

Email written comments to cmonfette@co.fresno.ca.us, or mail comments to:

Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning Development Services and Capital Projects Division Attn: Chrissy Monfette 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A Fresno, CA 93721 IS Application No. 7318 and the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration may be viewed at the above address Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (except holidays), or at <a href="https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/initialstudies">www.co.fresno.ca.us/initialstudies</a>. An electronic copy of the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Proposed Project may be obtained from Chrissy Monfette at the addresses above.

#### **Public Hearing**

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider approving the Proposed Project and the Mitigated Negative Declaration on March 29, 2018, at 8:45 a.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, in Room 301, Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare Street, Fresno, California 93721. Interested persons are invited to appear at the hearing and comment on the Proposed Project and draft Mitigated Negative Declaration.

For questions please call Chrissy Monfette (559) 600-4245.

Published: February 19, 2018



# County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

#### NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To:	☐ Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814	
From:	and Capital Projects	e and "M") Suite "A", Fresno, CA 93721
Subject:	Filing of Notice of Determination in a Resource Code	compliance with Section 21152 of the Public
Project:	Initial Study Application No. 7318, U Application No. 3580	nclassified Conditional Use Permit
Location:		south side of Whitesbridge Avenue, between d, addressed as 24387 W. Whitesbridge l 015-100-21S)
Description	6.93-acre portion of an existing dair a maximum of 10,839 milking cows	collection of methane to be constructed on a y facility; allow an increase to the herd size to and 20,616 non-milking animals due to a Dairy No. 3; and construct two new free-stall
	advise that the County of Fresno (⊠ Lea described project on March 29, 2018, ar	d Agency  Responsible Agency) has approved not have made the following determination:
1. The p	roject $\square$ $\underline{will}$ $\boxtimes$ $\underline{will}$ $not$ have a significa	nt effect on the environment.
provis		s not prepared for this project pursuant to the e Declaration was prepared for this project
3. Mitiga	ition Measures ⊠ <u>were</u> □ <u>were not</u> ma	de a condition of approval for the project.
4. A stat	ement of Overriding Consideration 🗌 w	as 🗵 was not adopted for this project.
approval is	certify that the Initial Study with comment is available to the General Public at Fresr 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A, Corner of Tu	no County Department of Public Works and
•	onfette, Planner	Date
(၁၁५) 600-	4245 /EMAIL cmonfette@co.fresno.ca.u	S

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File original and one co	pv with:	S	pace Below	For County	Clerk Only	V	
Fresno County	•		pace Below	r or County	Olerk Ollig	y.	
2221 Kern Stre							
Fresno, Califor							
Agency File No:			LK-2046.00 E0 AGENCY	04-73 R00-00		Clerk File No:	
IS 7318	R	PROPOSED		ED	1	CIEIR FIIE NO.	
		NEGATIVE DI	ECLARAT	rion	E-		
Responsible Agency (N	·	Address (Stree		ox):	l	City:	Zip Code:
Fresno County Agency Contact Person		20 Tulare St. Sixth		a Code:		resno one Number:	93721 Extension:
Chrissy Monfette	(Name and The).		559		600-42		N/A
Planner			00.	,	000-42	243	IVA
	ephen Sheh	adey	Project Tit	<sup>le:</sup> Cor	ditiona	I Use Permit Applic	ation No. 3580
						constructed on a 6.93-	
						maximum of 10,839 m	
						ne Bar 20 Dairy No. 3; are parcel in the AE-20 (	
		icre minimum parce				c parocrar are / L zo (	LACIDSIVE
Justification for Negative	e Declaration:						
D							
will not have a sign	tial Study prep	ared for Conditiona  n the environment	II Use Per	mit Appli en deterr	cation No	o 3580, staff has concl at there would be no im	uded that the project
Land Use and Plan	ining, Mineral I	Resources, Populat	tion and H	lousina. I	Public Se	ervices, Recreation, and	ipacis io Aesinelics,
Transportation/Tra	ffic.			3,		,	
Potential impacts r	olated to Agrico	ulturo Air Quolitu (	Saalaayi a	nd Coile	Croonb	Can Frainciana II	
						ouse Gas Emissions, H vice Systems have bee	
less than significan		,				and Gyotollio Have See	sa determined to be
Datastistissassis	-1						
compliance with the	elating to Biolo e noted Mitigat	gical Resources, ai ion Measures	nd Cultura	il Resour	ces have	e determined to be less	than significant with
compliance with the	o noted witigat	ion weasures.					
ENIDAG		***		***************************************	***************************************		
FINDING:							
The proposed proje	ect will not have	e a significant impa	ict on the	environm	ent.		
Newspaper and Date of	Publication:			Rev	iew Date I	Deadline:	
Fresno Business Jo		-		Pla		ommission – March 29	, 2018
Date:	Type or Print Si	gnature:			Submitte	d by (Signature):	
	Marianne Mo	ollring, Senior Planr	ner		Chrissy	Monfette, Planner	

LOCAL AGENCY
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

County Clerk File No.:\_\_\_\_\_

State 15083, 15085



## County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

## INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

1. Project title:

Bar 20 Dairy #2: Conditional Use Permit Application no. 3580 and Initial Study No. 7318

2. Lead agency name and address:

County of Fresno 2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor Fresno, CA 93721

3. Contact person and phone number:

Chrissy Monfette - (559) 600-4245

4. Project location:

24387 W. Whitesbridge Avenue, Kerman, CA 93630

5. Project Applicant's name and address:

Stephen Shehadey P.O. Box 1231 Fresno, CA 93715

6. General Plan designation:

Agriculture

7. Zoning:

AE-20 (Exclusive Agricultural, 20-acre minimum parcel size)

8. Description of project: (Describe the whole action involved, including, but not limited to, later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation. Attach additional sheets if necessary.)

Allow an anaerobic digester for the collection of methane to be constructed on a 6.93-acre portion of an existing dairy facility; allow an increase to the herd size to a maximum of 10,839 milking cows and 20,616 non-milking animals due to a transfer of animals from the Bar 20 Dairy No. 3; and construct two new free-stall barns to house said animals on a 324.66-acre parcel

9. Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings:

The parcel is located in an area of agricultural development: grazing lands, field crops, and orchards. Parcels to the north, south, and west are restricted by a Williamson Act Contract.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist	
Aesthetics	Agriculture and Forestry Resources
Air Quality	Biological Resources
Cultural Resources	Geology/Soils
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	Hydrology/Water Quality
Land Use/Planning	Mineral Resources
Noise	Population/Housing
Public Services	Recreation
Transportation/Traffic	Utilities/Service Systems
Mandatory Findings of Significance	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
DETERMINATION OF REQUIRED ENVIRONMENTAL DOCU	JMENT:
On the basis of this initial evaluation:	
I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a signing DECLARATION WILL BE PREPARED.	ficant effect on the environment. A NEGATIVE
I find that although the proposed project could have a sign a significant effect in this case because the Mitigation Me added to the project. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLA	asures described on the attached sheet have been
I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect of IMPACT REPORT is required	on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL
I find that as a result of the proposed project, no new effe be required that have not been addressed within the score	
PERFORMED BY:	REVIEWED BY:
Chrissy Monfette, Planner	Marianne Mollring, Senior Planner
Date: 2/22/2018	Date: 2-22-18

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## INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

(Initial Study Application No. 6950 and Classified Conditional Use Permit Application No. 3489)

The following checklist is used to determine if the proposed project could potentially have a significant effect on the environment. Explanations and information regarding each question follow the checklist.

- 1 = No Impact
- 2 = Less Than Significant Impact
- 3 = Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated
- 4 = Potentially Significant Impact

#### AESTHETICS

#### Would the project:

- 1 a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?
- b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?
- \_\_\_\_\_\_ c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?
- d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

#### II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

#### Would the project:

- a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?
- 2 b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?
- \_\_\_\_\_\_ c) Conflict with existing zoning for forest land, timberland or timberland zoned Timberland Production?
- \_\_\_\_\_d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?
- e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

#### III. AIR QUALITY

#### Would the project:

- 2 a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Plan?
- \_2 b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?
- 2 c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under applicable Federal or State ambient air quality standards (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?
- d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?
- \_\_\_\_ e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

#### IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

#### Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- \_2 b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- 2 c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally-protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?
- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?
- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

#### V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

#### Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 15064.5?
- \_3 b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 15064.5?
- 3 c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature?
- \_3 d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?
- e) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074?

#### VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

#### Would the project:

- Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
- 2 i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?
- \_1 ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?
- 1 iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?
- \_1 iv) Landslides?
- 1 b) Result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil?
- \_1 c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

_1_	d)	Be located on expansive soil as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	_1_	e)	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted
1	e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of	4	•	runoff?
		septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste	1	•	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality? Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as
VII.	GF	water? REENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS	_1_	g)	mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?
	d th	e project:	_2_	h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?
_2_	•	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	_2_	i)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?
_2_	<u>b</u> )	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse	_1_	j)	Cause inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?
······································		gases?	X.	LA	ND USE AND PLANNING
		ZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	Wou	ld the	e project:
Woul	d the	e project:	_1_	a)	Physically divide an established community?
_1_		Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	_1_	b)	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the General Plan, Specific Plan, local coastal program, or Zoning Ordinance) adopted for the
_1_	D)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident			purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?
		conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	_1_	c)	Conflict with any applicable Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan?
_1_	c)	Create hazardous emissions or utilize hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-	XI.	MII	NERAL RESOURCES
		quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	Wou	ld the	e project:
_1_	d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant	_1_	a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?
2	e)	hazard to the public or the environment?  Result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area for a project located within an Airport Land	_1_	b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local General Plan, Specific Plan or other land use plan?
		Use Plan or, where such a Plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport?	XII.	NC	NSE
_2_	f)	Result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in	Wou	ld the	e project:
4	\	the project area for a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip?	_1_	a)	Expose persons to or generate noise levels in excess of standards established in the local General Plan or Noise Ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?
_1_	g)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted Emergency Response Plan or Emergency Evacuation Plan?	_1_	b)	Expose persons to or generate excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?
_1_	h)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	_1_	c)	Create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?
IX.	LIV		1	d)	Create a substantial temporary or periodic increase in
		DROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY			ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?
vvoui		e project:	_2_	e)	Expose people residing or working in the project area to
1		Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			excessive noise levels, for a project located within an Airport Land Use Plan or, where such a Plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport?
_1_	u)	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would	_2_	f)	Expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels, for a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip?
		not support existing land uses or planned uses for which	XIII.	PO	PULATION AND HOUSING
		permits have been granted)?	Woul	ld the	e project:

elsewhere?

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either

directly (for example, by proposing new homes and

necessitating the construction of replacement housing

roads or other infrastructure)?

1 b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing,

businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of

1 c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or

1 d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or

erosion or siltation on or off site?

on or off site?

area, including through the alteration of the course of a

area, including through the alteration of the course of a

stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount

stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial

_1_ XIV		Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?  JBLIC SERVICES	<u>1</u> <u>1</u>		Result in inadequate emergency access?  Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise
		e project:			decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?
v v Out		e project. esult in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with	XVII	UT	TLITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS
	the	e provision of new or physically-altered governmental facilities,	Wou	ld th	e project:
	the	the need for new or physically-altered governmental facilities, e construction of which could cause significant environmental pacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response	_1_	a)	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicabl Regional Water Quality Control Board?
	ser	nes or other performance objectives for any of the public rvices:	_1_	b)	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant
		Fire protection?			environmental effects?
<u>1</u> 1	•	± =	_1_	c)	Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the
1	•	Parks?			construction of which could cause significant environmental
_1_	e)	Other public facilities?	1	۹,	effects?  Have sufficient water supplies available to service the
XV.	RE	CREATION		u)	project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new
Would	d the	e project:			or expanded entitlements needed?
1_	a)	Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	_1_	e)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?
_1_	b)	Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an	_1_	f)	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?
		adverse physical effect on the environment?	_1_	g)	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?
XVI.	TR	ANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC	XVIII	. MA	ANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE
		e project:	<del></del>		e project:
_1_		Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including, but not limited to, intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	_1_		Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
_1_	נט	Conflict with an applicable Congestion Management Program including, but not limited to, level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the County congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	_1_	b)	Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the
1_	c)	Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location, which results in substantial safety risks?	_1_	c)	effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)  Have environmental effects which will cause substantial
1_	d)	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

#### **Documents Referenced:**

This Initial Study is referenced by the documents listed below. These documents are available for public review at the County of Fresno, Department of Public Works and Planning, Development Services and Capital Projects Division, 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A, Fresno, California (corner of M & Tulare Streets).

Fresno County General Plan, Policy Document. Background Report and Final EIR Fresno County Zoning Ordinance Important Farmland 2014 Map, State Department of Conservation National Wetlands Inventory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Regulatory Maps, Department of Conservation

#### СММ



## County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

### EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

APPLICANT:

Stephen Shehadev

**APPLICATION NOS.:** 

Initial Study Application No. 7318 and Unclassified

Conditional Use Permit Application No. 3580

**DESCRIPTION:** 

Allow an anaerobic digester for the collection of methane to be constructed on a 6.93-acre portion of an existing dairy facility; allow an increase to the herd size to a maximum of 10,839 milking cows and 20,616 non-milking animals due to a transfer of animals from the Bar 20 Dairy No. 3; and construct two new free-stall barns to house said animals on a 324.66-acre parcel in the AE-20 (Exclusive Agricultural,

20-acre minimum parcel size) Zone District.

LOCATION:

The subject parcel is located on the south side of Whitesbridge Avenue, between San Mateo Avenue and James Road, addressed as 24387 W. Whitesbridge Avenue,

Kerman (Sup. Dist.1) (APN 015-100-21S)

#### I. AESTHETICS

- A. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista; or
- B. Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway; or
- C. Would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings; or
- D. Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The proposed digester will be located more than 3,000 feet south of the nearest roadway, Highway 180. The main covered area of the digester will be only slightly above-grade and is not likely to impact the view. The above-ground portions of the digester, such as the mechanical pad and associated equipment will meet all development standards without the need for a variance. There are no new sources of

lighting proposed as part of this application; however, existing exterior lights are present at the site.

#### II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

A. Would the project convert prime or unique farmlands or farmland of state-wide importance to non-agricultural use?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

This parcel has been designated by the Fresno County 2014 Important Farmlands map as Confined Animal Agriculture (CI). In Fresno County, this is considered Farmland of Local Importance. Therefore, there will be no impact to prime farmlands, unique farmlands, or farmland of state-wide importance.

B. Would the project conflict with existing agricultural zoning or Williamson Act Contracts?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The entire parcel was restricted by Williamson Act Contract No. 262; however, when a digester is used to produce and sell energy (as opposed to producing energy for use at the site), then the use is not considered to be compatible with the Williamson Act. On September 19, 2017, a notice of partial non-renewal was recorded to remove the 6.93-acre portion of the parcel from the existing Williamson Act Contract. Approximately 318 acres of this parcel remain under contract. Due to the extensive acreage remaining under contract and the nature of the digester to support the agricultural use, impacts to the Contract will be less than significant.

This parcel is zoned AE-20 (Exclusive Agricultural, 20-acre minimum parcel size). The proposed herd increase and anaerobic digester are allowed under this zoning through the approval of an Unclassified Conditional Use Permit. There are no conflicts with the existing zoning.

- C. Would the project conflict with existing zoning for or cause rezoning of forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production; or
- Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to nonforest use; or
- E. Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural uses or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The subject parcel is not located near any forestland or other land zoned for timberland production and therefore will have no impacts upon such lands. The nature of this project to install a digester and increase the herd size at an existing dairy will not result in the

conversion of adjacent agricultural lands. The two portions of this parcel that were removed from the Williamson Act Contract are located more than 1,000 feet from the closest property line. Therefore, Williamson Act Contract No. 262 continues to provide a buffer of agricultural uses to the surrounding properties. Further, while the digester is not considered to be a use compatible with Williamson Act Contract, it benefits agricultural activities in the area and therefore will not result in the conversion of other land.

#### III. AIR QUALITY

- A. Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Plan; or
- B. Would the project violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation; or
- C. Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under a Federal or State ambient air quality standard?

### FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The project site is in an area of nonattainment for Ozone, PM2.5 and PM10 (particulate matter <2.5 mm and <10mm); however, the proposed increase in herd size will be due to a transfer of animals from another permitted dairy located on the opposite corner of Highway 180 and S. Sonoma Avenue from the subject parcel. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District currently regulates these two dairies as a single source; however, they operate under separate authorizations through the County of Fresno because they were developed at different times. The transfer will move these animals from their current open-lot corrals to new free-stall barns, which will result in an anticipated decrease of PM10 emissions by approximately 6.69 lbs/hd-yr.

It is further anticipated that this transfer of these animals will reduce emissions by reducing employee and delivery trips, since employees will not need to travel to two sites and the milk may be transferred alongside existing deliveries.

The following activities are anticipated during construction: minimal grading of the existing pond (the proposed digester), minimal grading at the location of the free-stall barns, construction of the mechanical pad for digester engines, and lining and covering of the digester pond. Combined estimated emissions in tons per year from construction are: 4.32 NOx (nitrogen oxides), 0.21 ROG (reactive organic gas), 0.22 PM10, 5.40 ozone, and 0.01 SOx (Sulfur dioxide). The demolition of the north facility, where the transferred animals are sourced, is a reasonable expansion of impacts from this project. Said demolition is anticipated to release (in tons/year) 3.55 NOx, 0.17 ROG, 0.19 PM10, 4.52 CO, and 0.01 SOx. The Air District's review of these estimations confirmed that they are anticipated to remain below significance thresholds for increases to criteria pollutants.

- D. Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; or
- E. Would the project create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Sensitive receptors include hospitals, schools, elderly housing, and some residential developments. The area in the vicinity of the project site does not contain any such locations; the surrounding area is agricultural in nature. The nearest residence is approximately 2,400 feet from the nearest property line and not likely to be impacted by the estimated level of emissions.

Following construction, all manure and wastewater on the site will be treated by an anaerobic digester, which will reduce the amount of methane in the air, thereby reducing objectionable odors from manure.

#### IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

A. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any candidate, sensitive, or special-status species?

FINDING: LESS THEN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

The existing conditions at the project site consist of an established dairy with open lot corrals, weaning pens, and calf barns in the southwestern portion of the parcel; freestall barns, a vet barn, and a milk barn in the northwestern two-thirds; two feed storage slabs, hay storage, and a commodity barn in the northeastern portion; and two wastewater retention ponds in the southeastern portion. The area around these structures has been cleared of debris and landscaping. To the west is undeveloped land comprised of annual grassland, which could provide habitat for numerous special-status species, according to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Therefore, the potential exists for such species to be present at the project site. In order to reduce impacts to these species, the applicant shall first perform site-specific, habitat assessment surveys, then shall follow appropriate mitigation as identified below:

### \* Mitigation Measures

- 1. Prior to ground-disturbing activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a habitat assessment for the following species: blunt-nosed leopard lizard, San Joaquin kit fox, Fresno kangaroo rat, tricolored blackbird, burrowing owl, American badger, western spadefoot, and the coast horned lizard. If habitat for such species is determined to be present, additional studies will be necessary to determine the actual presence of special-status species and further mitigation may be required.
- 2. In order to reduce impacts to the blunt-nosed leopard lizard (BNLL), if suitable habitat is present, the applicant shall implement the following measures:
  - Prior to ground-disturbing activities, but not more than one year in advance of such work, surveys shall be conducted in the areas of the proposed digester

- and free-stall barns in accordance with the "Approved Survey Methodology for the Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard" (CDFG 2004).
- b. If the presence of BNLL is detected, the applicant shall consult with CDFW to determine how to implement ground-disturbing activities to avoid take.
- 3. In order to reduce impact to the San Joaquin Kit Fox (SJKF), if suitable habitat is present, the applicant shall implement the following measures:
  - a. Not more than 30 days prior to and not less than 14 days earlier than the start of ground-disturbing activities, a qualified biologist shall assess the presence or absence of SJKF by conducting surveys following US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) "Standardized Recommen-=dations for Protection of the San Joaquin Kit Fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance" (2011).
  - b. If SJKF is determined to be present at the site, the applicant shall consult with CDFW to determine how to avoid take, or if avoidance is not feasible, shall acquire an Incidental Take Permit prior to ground-disturbing activities.
- 4. In order to reduce impacts to the Fresno Kangaroo Rat (FKR), if suitable habitat is present, the applicant shall implement the following measures:
  - a. Focused protocol-level trapping surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist in accordance with USFWS's "Survey Protocol for Determining Presence of San Joaquin Kangaroo Rats" (2013).
  - b. If FKR is detected, the applicant shall consult with CDFW to discuss avoidance measures.
- 5. In order to reduce impacts to the Tricolored Blackbird (TRBL), the following measures shall be implemented:
  - a. If construction occurs outside normal breeding season (February 1 through September 14), no additional mitigation is necessary to avoid impacts.
  - b. If construction occurs during normal breeding season, a qualified wildlife biologist shall conduct surveys for nesting TRBL no more than 10 days prior to the start of implementation.
  - c. If pre-construction surveys indicate the presence of an active TRBL nesting colony, a minimum 300-foot no-disturbance buffer shall be established, in accordance with CDFW's "Staff Guidance Regarding Avoidance of Impacts to Tricolored Blackbird Breeding Colonies on Agricultural Fields" (2015). Prior to removal of the buffer, a qualified biologist must determine that nesting has ceased or the birds have fledged. The buffers may be removed once the nesting season has ended.
  - d. If pre-construction surveys indicate the presence of TRBL, the applicant shall consult with CDFW to avoid take, or shall obtain an Incidental Take Permit.
- 6. In order to reduce impacts to the Burrowing Owl (BUOW), if suitable habitat is present, the following measures shall be implemented:
  - a. Surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to determine the presence or absence of BUOW at the project site and within a 500-foot buffer of the project site. These surveys shall follow the California Burrowing Owl

- Consortium's "Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines" (1993) and CDFW's "Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012).
- b. If BUOW is determined to be present at the project site, no-disturbance buffers as outlined in the "Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation" (CDFG 2012) shall be implemented prior to and during all ground-disturbing activities. The buffer zones recommended by the "Staff Report" shall be implemented unless a qualified biologist, approved by CDFW, verifies through non-invasive methods that either: the birds have not begun egg-laying and incubation; or that the juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival.
- c. If it is not feasible to implement buffers as outlined by the "Staff Report", a qualified biologist may perform burrow exclusion to remove BUOW from the project site. Burrow exclusion shall occur only during the non-breeding season, before breeding behavior is exhibited and after the burrow is confirmed empty through non-invasive methods. Artificial burrows shall be created at a 1:1 ratio for each exclusion.
- 7. In order to reduce impacts to the American Badger, the western spadefoot, and the coast horned lizard, if suitable habitat is present, the following measures shall be implemented:
  - a. Surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to determine if species are present.
  - b. 50-foot no-disturbance buffers shall be implemented around any identified burrows and dens.
- B. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); or
- C. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on federally-protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption or other means?

#### FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wetlands Mapper shows several wetlands which occur on the project site; however, no seasonal flooding occurs on site due to the existing grading and drainage plan. All open lot corrals are maintained with minimum slopes for property drainage to the wastewater retention ponds, or to local low spots where water is manually pumped to the wastewater ponds. This project is exempt from a Section 404 review under Section 404(f)(1) of the Clean Water Act (established farming, ranching, or silviculture activities).
- D. Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites; or

- E. Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance; or
- F. Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

There are no migratory corridors that run through or adjacent to the project site. The anaerobic digester is proposed in an undeveloped area of the parcel within the existing dairy and which is not subject to a Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan or other local, regional, or state plan.

### V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

- A. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5; or
- B. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5; or
- C. Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature; or
- D. Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries; or
- E. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

Under the provisions of Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), this project was routed to Table Mountain Rancheria, Santa Rosa Rancheria, Dumna Wo Wah, and the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians. Both Table Mountain Rancheria and Picayune Rancheria responded within 30 days and declined to consult, but requested to be notified in the event that cultural resources are uncovered. The Dumna Wo Wah and Santa Rosa Rancheria Tribal Governments did not respond within the deadline and therefore declined consultation.

While no Tribal Entity identified a resource on this parcel, there remains the possibility of uncovering previously unknown cultural resources. Therefore, during construction of the anaerobic digester and free-stall barns, the applicant will be required to halt all work if a resource is uncovered. Appropriate disposition of the find is detailed in the mitigation measure below, including means by which to contact the tribes.

### \* Mitigation Measure

1. In the event that cultural resources are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, all work shall be halted in the area of the find. An Archeologist shall be called to evaluate the findings and make any necessary mitigation recommendations. If human remains are unearthed during ground-disturbing activities, no further disturbance is to occur until the Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition. All normal evidence procedures should be follow by photos, reports, videos, etc. If such remains are determined to be Native American, the Sheriff-Coroner must notify the Native American Commission within 24 hours. The applicant must notify the Table Mountain Rancheria Tribal Government by email at <a href="mailto:rpennell@tmr.org">rpennell@tmr.org</a> and the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians by email at <a href="mailto:THarter@chukchansi-nsn.gov">THarter@chukchansi-nsn.gov</a> of any archeological finds.

#### VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- A. Would the project expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including risk of loss, injury or death involving:
  - 1. Rupture of a known earthquake?
  - 2. Strong seismic ground shaking?
  - 3. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?
  - 4. Landslides?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The subject parcel is located near two pre-quarternary faults located at the border of Madera and Fresno Counties. These faults are more than 1.6 million years old and have not been active in the modern period. Therefore, impacts from these faults on the project site are unlikely. Additionally, there is no increase in the number of employees proposed as part of this application. Further, Figure 9-5 of the Fresno County General Plan Background Report (FCGPBR) indicates that this parcel is located in an area at low risk of seismic hazards.

- B. Would the project result in substantial erosion or loss of topsoil; or
- C. Would the project result in on-site or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse; or
- E. Would the project be located on expansive soils, creating substantial risks to life or property?

The subject parcel is not likely to result in substantial erosion or loss of topsoil because a water management plan is in place which channels runoff water into the wastewater retention ponds. The site is not located in an area of steep slopes or landslide hazards (Figure 9-6, FCGPBR) or areas where expansive soils are common (Figure 7-1).

F. Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative disposal systems where sewers are not available for wastewater disposal?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

There are no new septic or wastewater facilities proposed with this application. The increase in herd size is not anticipated to increase the use of septic systems on site and therefore the existing systems will be adequate. Review of the system by the Fresno County Department of Public Health did not identify any concerns with the capacity of the existing septic system.

### VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

- A. Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment; or
- B. Would the project conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

Review of the estimated emissions (discussed more completely in Section III) by the Air District determined that with compliance to existing regulations, this project would not generate greenhouse gases that could have a significant effect on the environment and will not be in violation of any plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. The proposed herd increase results from a transfer of animals from a nearby dairy, and this transfer will place them in free-stall barns, which are more protective of air quality than their existing open lots.

## VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- A. Would the project create a significant public hazard through routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials; or
- B. Would the project create a significant public hazard involving accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment?

The new anaerobic digester will not create a public hazard through the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. This project authorizes the transfer (increase) in herd at the project site and the operation of the anaerobic digester.

C. Would the project create hazardous emissions or utilize hazardous materials, substances or waste within one quarter-mile of a school?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The subject parcel is not located within one quarter-mile of a school. The nearest schools are Tranquillity High School and Tranquillity Elementary School, both of which are more than five miles south of the project site.

D. Would the project be located on a hazardous materials site?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The subject parcel is not located on a hazardous materials site or any Brownfields, Superfund, Toxic Inventory Release, or RCRA facility.

- E. Would a project located within an airport land use plan or, absent such a plan, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area; or
- F. Would a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The subject parcel is not located in the vicinity of a public or private airport. Review of aerial photographs (Google Earth, August 7, 2017) identified one private airstrip, located west of the subject parcel and just north of the Southern Pacific Railroad. This project is not anticipated to create a safety hazard for people residing or working in the area because the project site is generally located more than 2,000 feet from this location and all development will be within typical development standards. The improvements will be adjacent to and of similar height to existing improvements on the site. The airstrip operates under County Conditional Use Permit No. 2284, which includes a condition that the airstrip will not be operated in a manner to cause a nuisance. Further, the position and orientation of the strip does not encourage flight over the project site.

- G. Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted Emergency Response Plan or Emergency Evacuation Plan; or
- H. Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

Approval of this application will not impair the implementation of an Emergency Response Plan or Emergency Evacuation Plan. The subject parcel and other parcels in the vicinity have been determined to be within a non-wildland/non-urban classification of risk for Wildfire and not within an area of state responsibility.

#### IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

A. Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise degrade water quality?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

This project will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. Wastewater from the project site will be processed through the digester then applied to Dairy-owned fields. There is no increase to the amount of fields watered in this manner.

- B. Would the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge so that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table; or
- C. Would the project substantially alter existing drainage patterns, including alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site: or
- D. Would the project substantially alter existing drainage patterns, including alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in flooding on or off site; or
- E. Would the project create or contribute run-off which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted run-off; or
- F. Would the project otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

All grading on site will be done in compliance with existing County regulations; as part of the permitting process, the applicant will be required to prepare an engineered grading and drainage plan to show how additional runoff generated by the proposed development will be handled without adversely impacting adjacent properties. There are no streams, rivers, or canals running through the project site. Further, total water usage is likely to decrease as a result of the consolidation of the subject dairy and the dairy across the street, from where the herd increase will be transferred.

G. Would the project place housing within a 100-year floodplain?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

There is no housing proposed as part of this application.

- H. Would the project place structures within a 100-year flood hazard area that would impede or redirect flood flows; or
- I. Would the project expose persons or structures to levee or dam failure?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

According to FEMA Firm Panel 2050H, a large portion of the property is found to be under Flood Zone A which is subject to flooding from the 100-year storm. Any work within the designated flood zones shall conform to provisions established in Chapter 15.48 (Flood Hazard Areas) of the Fresno County Ordinance. No import is allowed for grading associated with development within the flood zone; any dirt material used must be obtained within the designated flood area as to not cause an impact to the determined area of flood. A FEMA Elevation Certificate is required for every structure proposed to be constructed within the flood zone.

The project site is located in an area at risk of inundation due to dam failure; however, compliance to the above-identified regulations (Chapter 15) will reduce these impacts to less than significant. Further, persons and animals at the project site will have been transferred from the adjacent dairy, which is at similar risk.

J. Would the project cause inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The project site is not located near a body of water large enough to produce seiche or tsunami. The lack of steep slopes in the vicinity preclude inundation by mudflow.

#### X. LAND USE AND PLANNING

- A. Will the project physically divide an established community; or
- B. Will the project conflict with any Land Use Plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project; or
- C. Will the project conflict with any applicable Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

This project will be completely within the existing properly lines of the subject parcel and will not impact any nearby communities. Surrounding parcels are improved with dairies

and agricultural uses and do not represent an established community. The increased allowed herd numbers and new digester do not conflict with any land use plan or agency ordinances. There are no Habitat Conservation Plans or Natural Community Conservation Plans applicable to the project.

#### XI. MINERAL RESOURCES

- A. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource; or
- B. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site designated on a General Plan?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

According to Figure 7-7 (FCGPBR), the subject parcel is not located in an area where known mineral resources are located.

### XII. NOISE

- A. Would the project result in exposure of people to severe noise levels; or
- B. Would the project result in exposure of people to or generate excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels; or
- C. Would the project cause a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity; or
- D. Would the project result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The operation of a commercial digester and transfer of herd are not anticipated to increase noise levels in the vicinity of the project. As noted earlier, the animals will be transferred from a dairy across the street and therefore increased cow population is not expected to result in significant increase to noise at the site.

- E. Would the project expose people to excessive noise levels associated with a location near an airport or a private airstrip; or
- F. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

There is a private airstrip located on the parcel west of the subject parcel; however, the project does not propose an increase to the number of employees present on the site. Currently, those employees work between both dairies and approval of this project

would remove the need to travel to the other site. The airstrip is operating under Conditional Use Permit No. 2284, which includes a condition of approval requiring that the airstrip be operated in such a manner as to avoid creating a noise nuisance on surrounding properties. The strip is used to apply necessary treatments to surrounding agricultural developments and was determined to be in an appropriate location (distant from residential uses) at the time of approval. Trips may vary between five and twenty trips per day during the peak season.

#### XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING

- A. Would the project induce substantial population growth either directly or indirectly; or
- B. Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing housing; or
- C. Would the project displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of housing elsewhere?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The scope of this project is limited to an increase in herd size, the building of new stalls to house those animals and the installation/operation of an anaerobic digester. These activities will not induce substantial population growth.

The location of the digester and corrals are proposed within the existing dairy operation and will not displace any existing housing.

#### XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES

- A. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically-altered public facilities in the following areas:
  - 1. Fire protection:
  - 2. Police protection:
  - 3. Schools:
  - 4. Parks; or
  - 5. Other public facilities?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

There will be no impacts to public services. The subject parcel is located close enough to the other dairy from which the animals will be transferred that fire and police services will not be impacts. This project will not increase the attendance at local schools or increase the use of public parks or other facilities.

#### XV. RECREATION

- A. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks; or
- B. Would the project require the construction of or expansion of recreational facilities?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The increase in herd size and the installation of the digester do not have the potential to increase the use of existing parks or other recreational facilities. The energy generated by the digester will be sold to the power company and will help to reduce the amount of coal-produced energy.

#### XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

- A. Would the project conflict with any applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation; or
- B. Would the project conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to, level of service standards and travel demands measures; or
- C. Would the project result in a change in air traffic patterns; or
- D. Would the project substantially increase traffic hazards due to design features; or
- E. Would the project result in inadequate emergency access; or
- F. Would the project conflict with adopted plans, policies or programs regarding public transit, bicycle or pedestrian facilities or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

FINDING: NO IMPACT:

The increase to the herd size will not result in additional traffic because the additional animals will be transferred from the dairy directly to the northwest of the project site. Due to the proximity of the two dairies, there will be no effective increase in traffic. No traffic will be generated by the proposal to produce energy for sale.

#### XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

- A. Would the project exceed wastewater treatment requirements; or
- B. Would the project require construction of or the expansion of new water or wastewater treatment facilities; or
- C. Would the project require or result in the construction or expansion of new storm water drainage facilities; or

- D. Would the project have sufficient water supplies available from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed; or
- E. Would the project result in a determination of inadequate wastewater treatment capacity to serve project demand; or
- F. Would the project be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity; or
- G. Would the project comply with federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

#### FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The existing dairy operates under a waste management plan, which indicates which parcels may receive manure and process wastewater from the dairy operations. Adherence to this plan is required by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB). Wastewater is currently piped to either a recovery tank or a storage lagoon. When the digester is installed, the wastewater drain lines will be rerouted so that all wastewater travels through the anaerobic digester prior to entering the existing retention ponds. Following processing in the digester, remaining water will be applied to dairy-owned fields as irrigation.

Review of this application by the CVRWQCB determined that the proposed increase in head would require the operators to file a new Report of Waste Discharge, due to the increased volume of discharge; however, the Water Resources Division of the Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning indicated that water usage is likely to decrease as the proposed increase to herd size is due to a complete transfer of animals from a nearby dairy, which will cease operations.

There is sufficient capacity proposed to accommodate all waste generated by the proposed increase in herd. No additional landfill material will be produced in the typical operation of this parcel. Some waste may be produced during construction and demolition of the source facility and such waste will be delivered to a landfill with sufficient capacity. The project will be required to obtain a permit to operate a Solid Waste Facility from the County of Fresno, Environmental Health Division acting as the Local Enforcement Agency.

#### XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

A. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California prehistory or history? FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has identified the project sites as unique areas of undisturbed land within the highly developed agricultural landscape. Several special-status species are known to occur in this area, including: the blunt-nosed leopard lizard, the San Joaquin kit fox, the tricolored blackbird, the Fresno kangaroo rat, burrowing owl, American badger, western spadefoot, and coast horned lizard. With the Mitigation Measures identified in Section IV.A, which require habitat surveys, then species-specific surveys and specific avoidance measures, impacts will be less than significant.

### \* <u>Mitigation Measures</u>

See Section IV.A

- B. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable; or
- C. Does the project have environmental impacts which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

FINDING: LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

In general, this project will reduce cumulative effects because the proposed increase to the herd size relates to the consolidation of two existing dairies onto this site. This will result in less driving, less wear on road, and more efficient herd management. Further, the proposed digester is expected to reduce the amount of methane released into the air.

#### CONCLUSION/SUMMARY

Based upon the Initial Study prepared for Conditional Use Permit Application No. 3580, staff has concluded that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. It has been determined that there would be no impacts to Aesthetics, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, and Transportation/Traffic.

Potential impacts related to Agriculture, Air Quality, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, and Utilities and Service Systems have been determined to be less than significant.

Potential impacts relating to Biological Resources, and Cultural Resources have determined to be less than significant with compliance with the noted Mitigation Measures.

A Mitigated Negative Declaration/Negative Declaration is recommended and is subject to approval by the decision-making body. The Initial Study is available for review at 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A, Street Level, located on the southeast corner of Tulare and "M" Street, Fresno, California.

CMM



## County of Fresno

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

DATE: January 29, 2018

TO: Department of Public Works and Planning, Attn: Steven E. White, Director

Department of Public Works and Planning, Attn: Bernard Jimenez, Deputy Director

Department of Public Works and Planning, Attn: Steve Son, Deputy Director

Development Services, Attn: William M. Kettler, Division Manager

Development Services, Principal Planner, Attn: Chris Motta

Development Services, Policy Planning, ALCC, Attn: Mohammad Khorsand Development Services, Water/Geology/Natural Resources, Attn: Glenn Allen Development Services, Zoning & Permit Review, Attn: Tawanda Mtunga

Development Services, Site Plan Review, Attn: Hector Luna

Development Services, Building & Safety/Plan Check, Attn: Chuck Jonas

Resources Division, Solid Waste, Attn: John R. Thompson

Development Engineering, Attn: Jennifer Parks, Grading/Mapping

Road Maintenance and Operations, Attn: Randy Ishii/Frank Daniele/Nadia Lopez Design Division, Transportation Planning, Attn: Mohammad Alimi/Dale Siemer Fresno County Health Officer, Dept. of Public Health, Attn: Ken Bird, M.D.

Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division, Attn: Glenn Allen/Janet Gardner/Kevin Tsuda

Agricultural Commissioner, Attn: Les Wright

Sheriff's Office, Attn: Captain Greg Gularte, Captain John Zanoni, Lt. John Reynolds, Lt. Louie Hernandez, Lt. Kathy Curtice, Lt. Ryan Hushaw

U.S. Department of Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Division, Attn: Patricia Cole

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Air Division, <u>Air Planning</u> Office, Region 9, Attn: Dawn Richmond

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ground Water Office, <u>Sole Source Aquifer</u>, Region 9, Attn: Leslie Greenberg

CA Regional Water Quality Control Board, Attn: Dale Harvey

CALTRANS, Attn: Dave Padilla

CALTRANS, San Joaquin Environmental Branch, Attn: Shane Gunn

CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Attn: Steve Hulbert

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, Fresno District, Attn: Carl Carlucci, Jose Robeldo

CA Department of Toxic Substance Control (CEQA unit), Attn: Dave Kereazis

CA Department of Water Resources, Attn: Kevin Faulkenberry

CA Dept. of Food & Agriculture, Meat and Poultry Insp., Attn: Dr. Narmara Garbaba

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (PIC-CEQA Division)

Mid Valley Water District, Attn: Rick Besecker

Kings River Conservation District, Attn: Rick Hoelzel

Fresno Westside Mosquito Abatement District, Attn: Elizabeth Cline West Fresno County Red Scale Protective District, Attn: Josh Marshall

Fresno County Fire Protection District, Attn: Chris Christopherson, Battalion Chief

FROM: Chrissy Monfette, Planner

**Development Services Division** 

SUBJECT: REVISED: Initial Study Application No. 7318 and Classified Conditional Use Permit

Application No. 3580

APPLICANT: Stephen Shehadey

DUE DATE: February 13, 2018

The Department of Public Works and Planning, Development Services Division is reviewing the subject applications proposing to allow the installation and operation of an anaerobic digester on an existing dairy facility. This project has been revised to include the transfer of all milking cows from Bar 20 Dairy #3 to the subject property, and to include the construction of two additional freestall barns to house the additional animals. Proposed Animal Totals: 10,839 milk cows and 20,616 non-milking cows.

The Department is also reviewing for environmental effects, as mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and for conformity with plans and policies of the County.

Based upon this review, a determination will be made regarding conditions to be imposed on the project, including necessary on-site and off-site improvements.

We must have your comments by <u>February 13, 2018</u>. Any comments received after this date may not be used. If your previous comments remain unchanged by the revised project description, we would appreciate such confirmation by the deadline.

Please address any correspondence or questions related to environmental and/or policy/design issues to me, Chrissy Monfette, Planner, Development Services Division, Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, 2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor, Fresno, CA 93721, or call (559) 600-4245 or email cmonfette@co.fresno.ca.us.

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Activity Code (Internal Review):2381

**Enclosures** 

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## Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning

Date Received:

CUP 3580

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Zone District:

Parcel Size:

# Date Received: 1/26/18 Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning

CUP 3580-R

1836 O 1856 O 1856 O	MAILING ADDRESS: Department of Public Work Development Services Divis 2220 Tulare St., 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor Fresno, Ca. 93721		So Sti Fre	OCATION: outhwest corner of Tulare & "M reet Level esno Phone: (559) 600-4497 oll Free: 1-800-742-1011	
APPLICATION FOR:				ESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED US	
☐ Pre-Application (Type)			F-		
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☐ General Plan Amendme	nt/Specific Plan/SP Amendment)		—  а	nimals.	
☐ Time Extension for			L		
CEQA DOCUMENTATION:	☐ Initial Study ☐ PER	□ N/A	********		
PLEASE USE FILL-IN FORM	-		complete	ely. Attach required site plans,	forms, statements,
and deeds as specified on	the Pre-Application Review.	Attach Copy of D	eed, incl	uding Legal Description.	,
LOCATION OF PROPERTY:		Whitesbridge Ave			
	between San Mateo Avenue			James Road	
	Street address: 24387 W. W				
APN: 015-100-21s				ection(s)-Twp/Rg: S 9 - T	14 s/g 16 F
ADDITIONAL APN(s): See				conon(s) 144p/1181 51	
I, My M the above described prop	(signature erty and that the application	and attached doc	uments a	ner, or authorized representat are in all respects true and corr	ive of the owner, of ect to the best of m
	declaration is made under p	enalty of perjury.			
Stephen Shehadey	PO Box 1	231	Fresn		559-824-6587
Owner (Print or Type) Same as Owner	Address		City	Zip	Phone
Applicant (Print or Type)	Address		City	Zip	Phone
Kyle Parreira, EIT		nta Fe, Suite A	Visalia	•	559-802-3052
Representative (Print or Type)	Address		City	Zip	Phone
CONTACT EMAIL: kyle.pa	rreira@4-creeks.com				
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Ag Department Review:		Fee: \$			
Health Department Review	N:	Fee:\$ @	54	Agency:	
Received By: CMM	Invoice No.: 104 98	_		<u> </u>	

Related Application(s):

STAFF DETERMINATION: This permit is sought under Ordinance Section:

Sect-Twp/Rg: \_\_\_\_ - T\_\_\_\_ S /R\_\_\_

APN# \_\_\_ - \_\_\_-APN# \_\_\_ - \_\_\_-

APN#

APN # \_\_\_\_ -

Development MAIL THE See AH-Adwerd Pre-Application Review
Department of Public Works and Planning
Matt R@ 4-Creeks. COMBER: 39164
APPLICANT: BAR 20 Daily
PROPERTY LOCATION: 24387 W. Whitesbelder (50) 802-3052
APN: 05- 10 - 215 ALCC: No @s#10261 VIOLATION NO. NO
CNEL: Noveyes (Tevel) LOW WATER: Noveyes WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF CITY: Noveyes Yes ZONE DISTRICT: AE 20; SRA: Novey Yes HOMESITE DECLARATION REQ'D.: Noveyes Yes LOT STATUS:
Zoning: () Conforms; () Legal Non-Conforming lot; () Deed Review Req'd (see Form #236)  Merger: May be subject to merger: NoYesZM#o Infliated In process
Map Act: ( ) Lot of Rec. Map; ( ) On '72 rolls: ( ) Other ( ) Deeds Req'd (see Form #236) SCHOOL FEES: NO Yes DISTRICT: COLLEN VIALUS PERMIT JACKET: No Yes
PROPOSAL CUP Dutside () District No.: FLOOD PRONE: NOW YES, PROPOSAL CUP TO HOW EXPANSION OF EXESTING TO LIVE THE MICHIGAN
Approved CUP-# 3215; INCREASE of Dairy CH+He and Additioned
Third Stractures.

ORD. SECTION(S): <b>S\b.</b> :	3 X	BY:	/V /A	DATE: _	4/11/17
GENERAL PLAN POLICIES:			<u> PROCEDUR</u>	ES AND FEI	<u> </u>
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			Filing F	ee:\$	9,555.00
COMMENTS:			Pre-Application F	ee:	- \$247.00
		100	Total County Filin		9,308.00

### FILING REQUIREMENTS:

### OTHER FILING FEES!

TILING IXEQUITERENTS.	OTTEKT IEINGT LEG.
<ul> <li>(χ) Land Use Applications and Fees</li> <li>(χ) This Pre-Application Review form</li> <li>(χ) Copy of Deed / Legal Description</li> <li>(χ) Photographs</li> <li>() Letter Verifying Deed Review</li> <li>(χ) IS Application and Fees* * Upon rev</li> <li>(χ) Site Plans - 4 copies (folded to 8.5"x1</li> <li>() Floor Plan &amp; Elevations - 4 copies (fo</li> <li>(κ) Project Description / Operational State</li> </ul>	lded to 8.5"X11") + 1 - 8.5"x11" reduction
<ul> <li>( ) Statement of Variance Findings</li> <li>( ) Statement of Intended Use (ALCC)</li> <li>( ) Dependency Relationship Statement</li> <li>( ) Resolution/Letter of Release from Cit</li> </ul>	PLU # 113 Fee: \$247.00  Note: This fee will apply to the application fee if the application is submitted within six (6)

DATE: <u>6/17/2017</u> BY: Chr. 654 Monfette PHONE NUMBER: (559) 600 - 4245

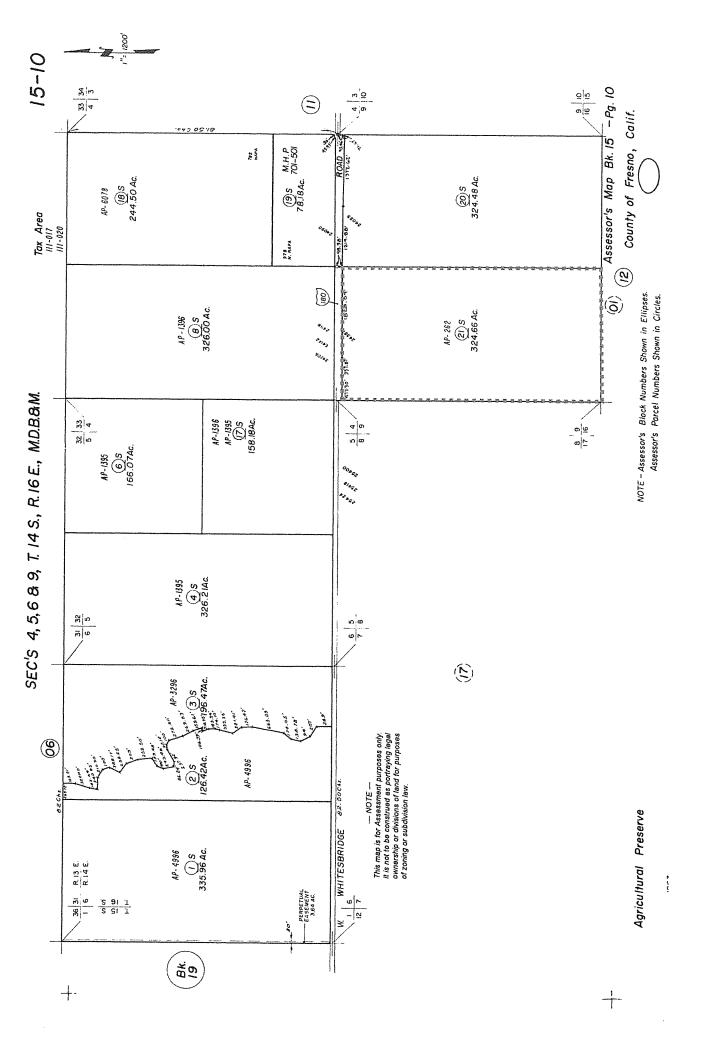
Referral Letter #

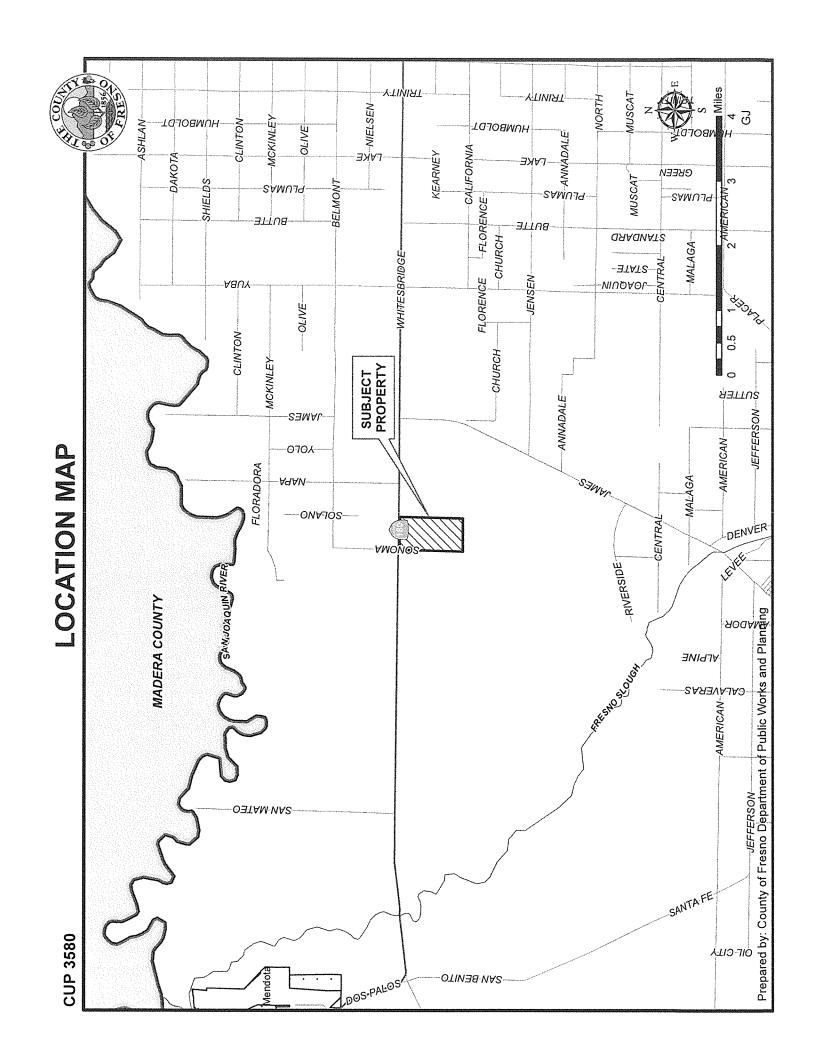
NOTE: THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS MAY ALSO APPLY: (K) SITE PLAN REVIEW ) COVENANT ( x) BUILDING PLANS ) MAP CERTIFICATE

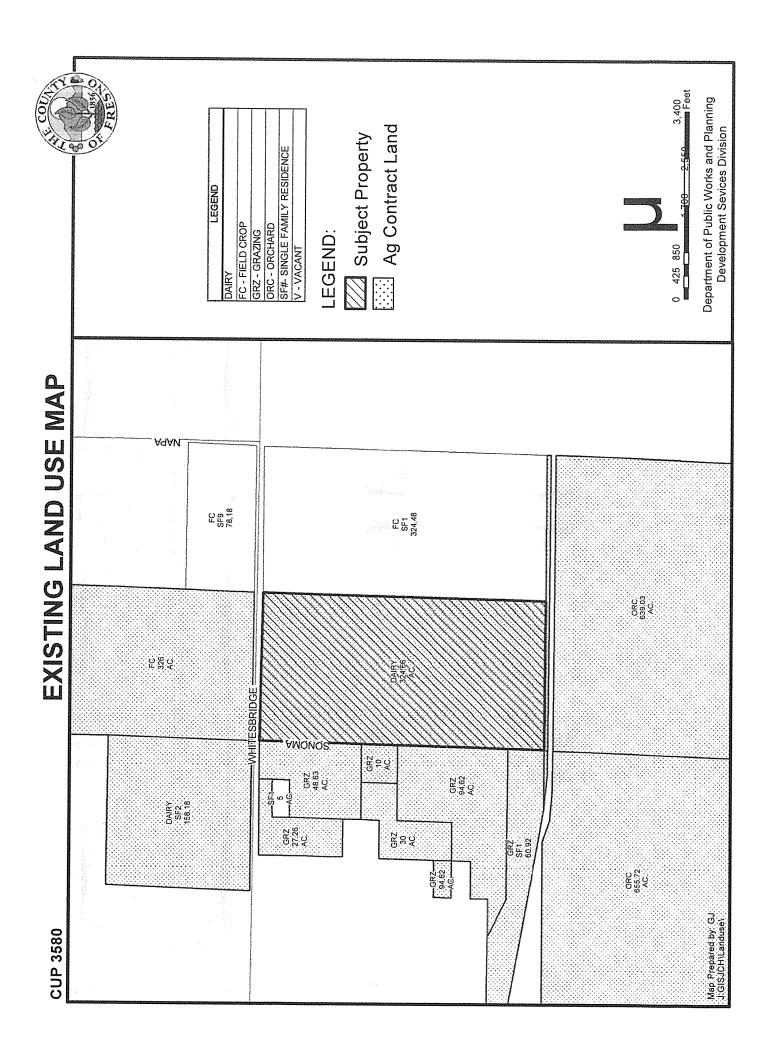
(⊀) BUILDING PERMITS ( ) PARCEL MAP ( ) WASTE FACILITIES PERMIT ) FINAL MAP

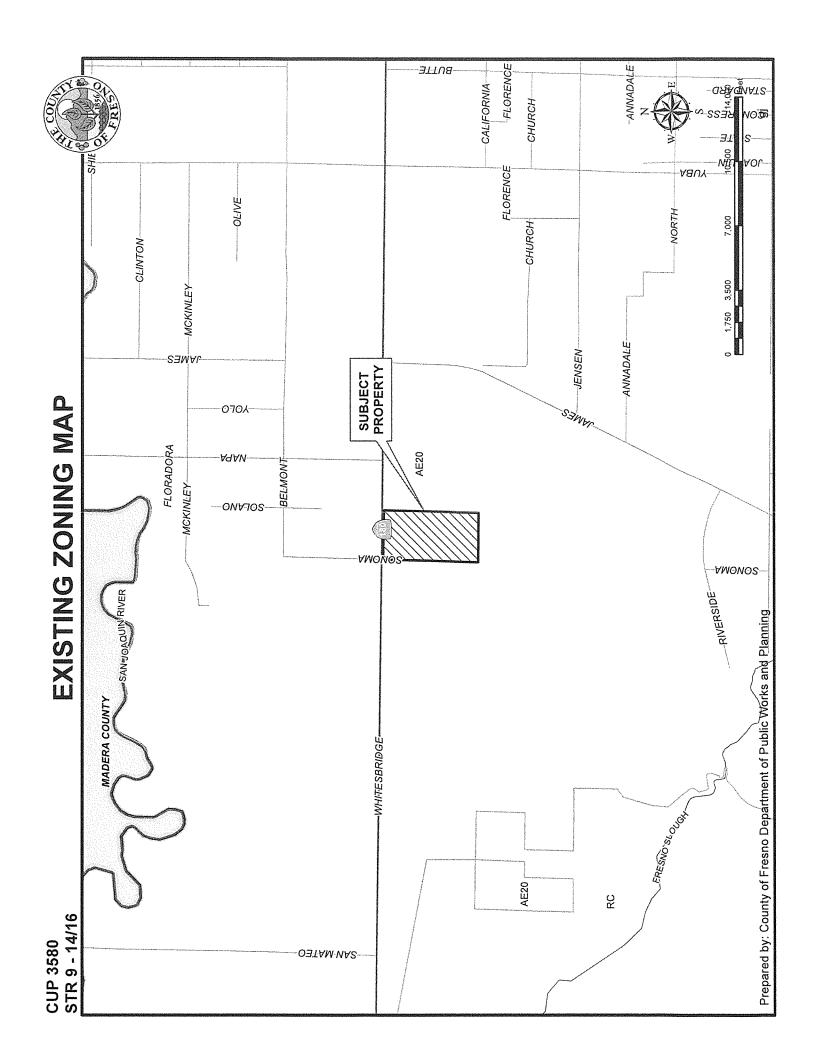
(X) SCHOOL FEES ) FMFCD FEES ( ) ALUC or ALCC ( ) OTHER (see reverse side)

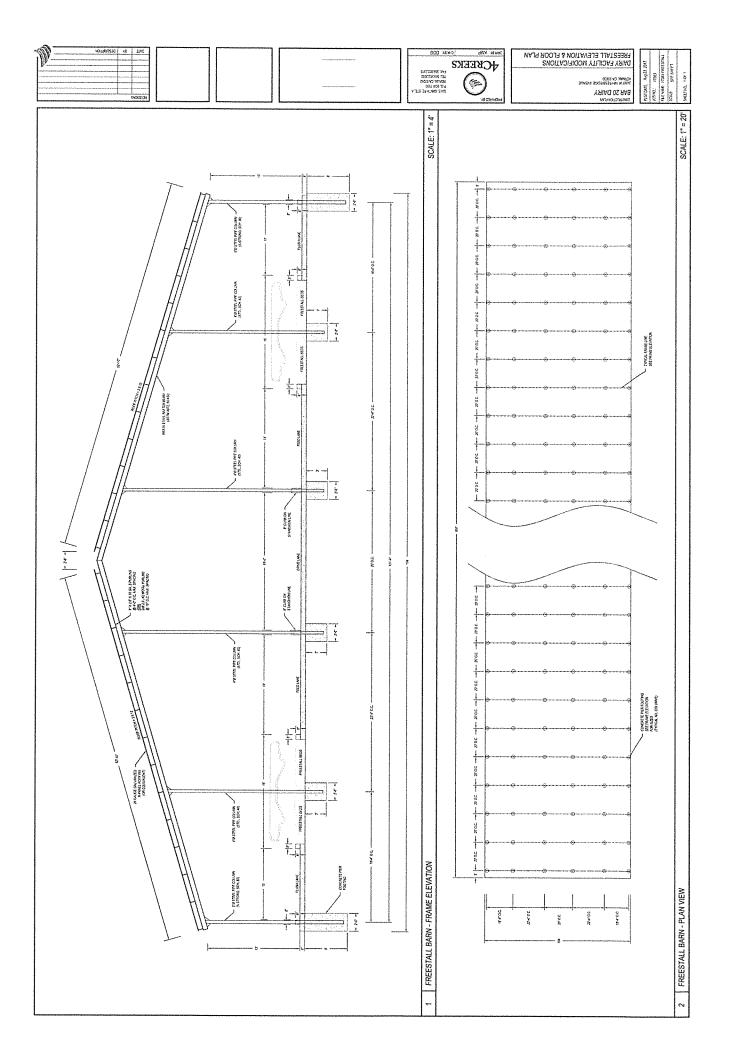
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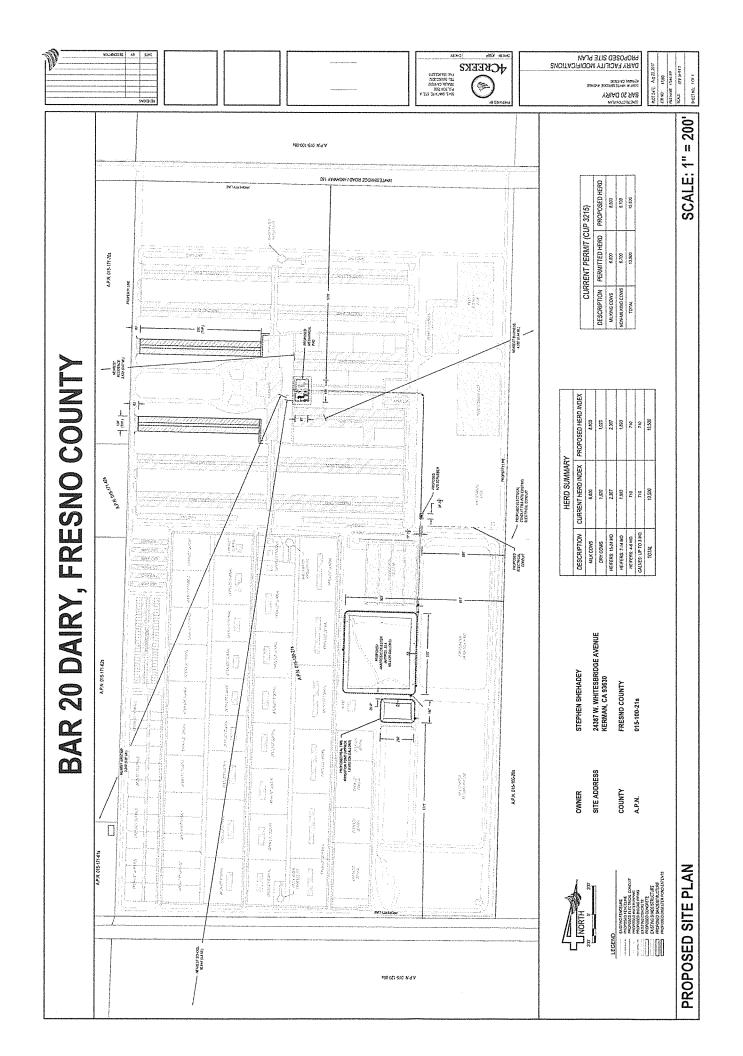


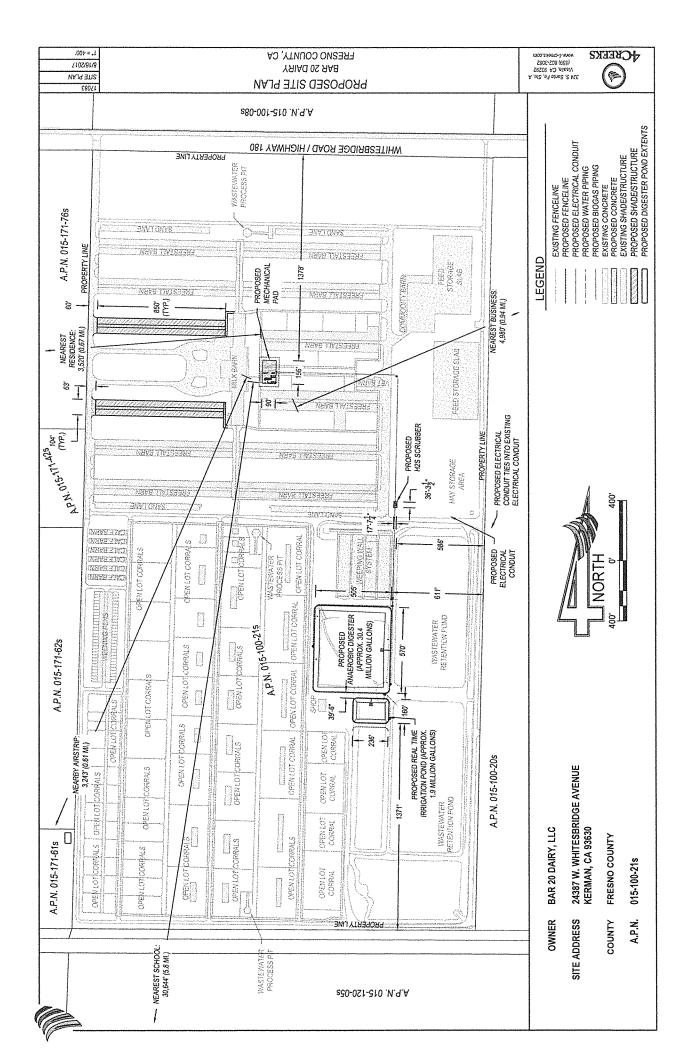














anaerobic digester will be utilized for land application to associated farmland, at agronomic rates in accordance with the facility's Nutrient Management Plan.

Lastly, by moving the animals to the south production area, these animals will be fed, milked, and managed along with the rest of the current milking herd. This will reduce the number of trips on-site for employees, as they will conduct more work at one production area rather than traveling to both every day. This will also reduce the number of milk trucks to drive to and from the facility, as the milk from these animals will be delivered with that of the rest of the herd.

Please consider each of these items moving forward when analyzing the air quality impacts of the proposed Project. In the following are the applicant's responses to each of the comment items provided by the District, respectively:

### Emission Analysis

- Comment: At the federal level for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), the District is currently designated as extreme nonattainment for the 8-hour ozone standards; nonattainment for the PM2.5 standards; and attainment for the 1-Hour ozone, PM10 and CO standards. At the state level, the District is currently designated as nonattainment for the 8-hour ozone, PM10, and PM2.5 California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS).
  - Response: The applicant is aware of these standards, and aims to continue with the project in accordance with all requirements of such.
- 2) Comment: The District has reviewed the information provided by the County and concludes that the project, if not sufficiently mitigated, may have a significant impact on air quality. The District recommends that the County conduct a more detailed investigation of the project specific impacts on air quality.
  - <u>Response:</u> The goal of this response letter is to provide adequate information for the District and County to deem the project sufficiently mitigated in terms of air quality.
- The District recommends that the assessment include the following impacts:
  - a) <u>Comment:</u> Construction Emissions: Construction emissions are short-term emissions and should be evaluated separate from operational emissions. The District recommends preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) if annual construction emissions cannot be reduced or mitigated to below the following levels of significance: 10 tons per year of oxides of nitrogen (NOx), 10 tons per year of reactive organic gases (ROG), or 15 tons per year particulate matter of 10 microns or less in size (PM10).

Response: For clarity, the construction of the project will include the following activities:

- i. Minimal grading of existing (proposed digester) pond
- ii. Minimal grading at location of proposed freestall barns
- iii. Construction of mechanical pad (to house digester engines)
- iv. Line and cover digester pond

The following table displays the estimated vehicle diesel usage and emissions during the construction phase of the project:

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		FREEST/	ALL & DIGESTER CO	INSTRUCTION	N			
		Vehicle Information			Total Er	nissions (t	on/year)	
Make	Model	Description	Gallons	NOx	ROG	PM10	co	SOx
Caterpillar	637	Scraper	28,800	1.61	0.07	0.11	2.19	0.00
Caterpillar	D6	Bulldozer	3,600	0.17	0.01	0.01	0.27	0.00
Caterpillar	14G	Motorgrader (Blade)	3,600	0.17	0.01	0.01	0.27	0.00
Peterbilt	348	Water Truck	336	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
Caterpillar	230	Excavator	33,152	1.57	0.08	0.06	1.77	0.00
Caterpillar	950	Loader	16,576	0.78	0.04	0.03	0.88	0.00
1.	TOT	ALS	86,064	4.32	0.21	0.22	5.40	0.01
	milita ( de 11 e este rep e este secuencia	The state of the s	to the state of th	< 10	<10	<15		
		DEM	OUTION OF NORT	H FACILITY				
		Vehicle Information			Total Er	nissions (t	on/year)	
Make	Model	Description	Gallons	NOx	ROG	PM10	co	SOx
Caterpillar	230	Excavator	22,400	1.61	0.07	0.11	2.19	0.00
Caterpillar	950	Loader	3,600	0.17	0.01	0.01	0.27	0.00
Impactor	2000	Concrete destroyer	3,600	0.17	0.01	0.01	0.27	0.00
John Deere	8300	Tractor	336	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
Peterbilt	348	Water Truck	33,152	1.57	0.08	0.06	1.77	0.00
	TOT.	ALS .	63,088	3,55	0.17	0.19	4.52	0.01
	The latest the state of the sta	the street of the Artist Control to Artist A	APP of the Park and the Park of the Park o	<10	<10	<15		State State at the State and Construction
1		TC	TAL PROJECT EMI	SSIONS		1		
	TOTA	ALS	149,153	7.87	0.38	0.41	9,93	0,01
		1		<10	<10	<15		

Additionally, as a Condition of Approval, it is proposed that a Dust Control Plan may be prepared and submitted for approval, if deemed necessary, prior to construction and/or demolition to describe all dust control measures to be implemented before, during, and after any dust generating activity. This will be completed and followed to ensure that the threshold of 15 tons of PM10 per year will not be exceeded during the project. Construction activities shall be halted until the Dust Control Plan has been approved.

- i) Comment: Recommended Mitigation: To reduce impacts from construction related exhaust emissions, the District recommends feasible mitigation for the project to utilize off-road construction fleets that can achieve fleet average emissions equal to or cleaner than the Tier II emission standards, as set forth in §2423 of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, and Part 89 of Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations. This can be achieved through any combination of uncontrolled engines and engines complying with Tier II and above engine standards.

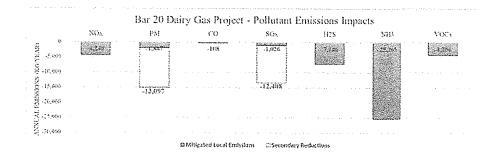
  Response: All construction contracts shall be written so that only contractors operating of least 50% clean fleets may conduct work on the proposed project. It shall also be written and ensured that each construction fleet can average emissions equal to or cleaner than the Tier II emission standards as set forth by the standards and regulations referenced above.
- b) Comment: Operational Emissions: Operational Emissions: Permitted (stationary sources) and non-permitted (mobile sources) sources should be analyzed separately. The District recommends preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) if the sum of annual permitted and the sum of the annual non-permitted emissions each cannot be reduced or mitigated to below the following levels of significance: 10 tons per year of oxides of nitrogen (NOx), 10 tons per year of reactive organic gases (ROG), or 15 tons per year particulate matter of 10 microns or less in size (PM10).

  Response: The following graph displays the calculated change in emissions from current operations to that anticipated after completion of the proposed Project:

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c) Comment: Recommended Model: Project related criteria pollutant emissions should be identified and quantified. Emissions analysis should be performed using CalEEMod (California Emission Estimator Model), which uses the most recent approved version of relevant Air Resources Board (ARB) emissions models and emission factors. CalEEMod is available to the public and can be downloaded from the CalEEMod website at: www.caleemod.com.

Response: After attempting to run the CalEEMod for emission analysis, it was determined that this model is not applicable to this project. The Land Use Type options are listed in the following:

- Commercial
- Educational
- Industrial
- Parking
- Recreational
- Residential
- Retail

The property / project is located within Agricultural Land Use Zoning, and the proposed facility modifications are consistent with such. After exploring each of these "Land Use Types," no applicable "Land Use Subtypes" were found either, thus deeming this model not applicable to this project.

d) Comment: Nuisance Odors: The project should be evaluated to determine the likelihood that the project would result in nuisance odors. Nuisance orders are subjective, thus the District has not established thresholds of significance for nuisance odors. Nuisance odors may be assessed qualitatively taking into consideration of project design elements and proximity to off-site receptors that potentially would be exposed objectionable odors.

Response: Currently, all manure and wastewater is pumped or diverted into the weeping wall system to separate the solid manure from the wastewater. From here, the wastewater is currently allowed into the wastewater retention ponds to settle solids, and utilize for associated farmland production. As mentioned, after completion of the proposed Project, all manure and wastewater on-site will be treated by an anaerobic digester prior to entering the wastewater ponds. By removing/reducing key constituents in these materials and capturing the gas for energy generation, the amount of methane allowed into the air will significantly decrease, thus reducing the Nuisance Odors caused by the operations of the facility.

e) <u>Comment:</u> Health Impacts: Project related health impacts should be evaluated to determine if emissions of toxic air contaminants (TAC) will pose a significant health risk to nearby sensitive receptors. TACs are defined as air pollutants that which may

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cause or contribute to an increase in mortality or serious illness, or which may pose a hazard to human health. The most common source of TACs can be attributed to diesel exhaust fumes that are emitted from both stationary and mobile sources. Health impacts may require a detailed health risk assessment (HRA).

Response: The Project will incur no additional use of mobile or stationary diesel engines. Further, due to the reduction in trips for feeding and milk trucks, the diesel exhaust emissions from operations will substantially decrease. It is estimated that feeding trips will decrease by 10% while trips for milk trucks will decrease by 15%.

- 4) Comment: As a reference, the District's Guidance for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts (GAMAQI) provides uniform procedures for assessing potential air quality impacts of proposed projects and for preparing the air quality section of environmental documents. The District's GAMAQI is available and should be used as guidance for the review of proposed projects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) within the boundaries of the District. It is available on the District's website at <a href="http://www.valleyair.org/transportation/GAMAQI">http://www.valleyair.org/transportation/GAMAQI</a> 3-19-15.pdf.
  Response: The GAMAQI has been reviewed and considered while conducting the analysis as listed in this response letter.
- 5) <u>Comment:</u> If preliminary review indicates that an EIR should be prepared, the District recommends that the EIR include the following elements, in addition to the effects identified above.

Response: Based on the above information, an EIR is not required for the proposed Project, as the facility modifications of the Project provide the facility with cleaner and more efficient operations than that of current.

### **District Rules and Regulations**

6) Comment: The District has determined that this project is subject to District Rule 2201 (New and Modified Stationary Source Review Rule) or District Rule 2010 (Pemits Required). The District has received an Authority to Construct (ATC) application for the construction of an anaerobic digester on the existing Bar 20 Dairy. The construction of the two (2) freestyle barns and increase in animal herd size by 2,000 milking cows require a permit. If an ATC has not been submitted yet, the project proponent is to submit to the District an application for an ATC for this addition. For further information or assistance, the project proponent may contact the District's Small Business Assistance (SBA) Office at (559) 230-5888.

Response: An ATC for the proposed freestall barns was submitted on January 9, 2018. However, ATC for the animal herd is not necessary as these animals are simply to be relocated within the currently permitted Dairy Facility. No increase in herd size is proposed.

- 7) Comment: The proposed project may be subject to the following District rules: Regulation VIII (Fugitive PM10 Prohibitions), Rule 4102 (Nuisance), Rule 4601 (Architectural Coatings), and Rule 4641 (Cutback, Slow Cure, and Emulsified Asphalt, Paving and Maintenance Operations). In the event an existing building will be renovated, partially demolished or removed, the project may be subject to District Rule 4002 (National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants). The following rules are specific to confined animal operations:
  - Rule 4102 (Nuisance) This rule applies to any source operation that emits or may emit air contaminants or other materials. In the event that the project or

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- construction of the project creates a public nuisance, it could be in violation and be subject to District enforcement action.
- Rule 4550 (Conservation Management Practices) The purpose of this rule is to limit fugitive dust emissions from agricultural operation sites. These sites include areas of crop production, animal feeding operations and unpaved roads/equipment areas. The District's CMP handbook can be found online at the District's website at:

http://www.valleyair.org/farmpermits/updates/cmp\_handbook.pdf

Rule 4570 (Confined Animal Facilities) – District Rule 4570 was adopted by the District's Governing Board on June 15, 2006. Dairies with greater than or equal to 500 milk cows are subject to the requirements of District Rule 4570. Therefore, a Rule 4570 application shall also be submitted to the District.

Response: All of these Rules and Regulations will be addressed prior to construction, and it is proposed that these shall be listed as Conditions of Approval for the Building Permits by Fresno County.

Please consider this information during analysis, and as full response to the District's comments to the Conditional Use Permit Application submitted to the County of Fresno, Department of Public Works and Planning. If you should have any questions, concerns, or comments regarding this letter or the proposed Project, please feel free to contact me directly by phone at (559) 802-3052 or via e-mail at kyle.parreira@4-creeks.com.

Respectfully,

Kyle Parreira, EIT

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# County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

### INITIAL STUDY APPLICATION

### INSTRUCTIONS

Answer all questions completely. An incomplete form may delay processing of your application. Use additional paper if necessary and attach any supplemental information to this form. Attach an operational statement if appropriate. This application will be distributed to several agencies and persons to determine the potential environmental effects of your proposal. Please complete the form in a legible and reproducible manner (i.e., USE BLACK INK OR TYPE).

OFFICE USE ONLY
IS No. 7318
Project No(s). <u>COP 35 80</u>
Application Rec'd.: Revised 1/26/2018

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Property Owner: Stephen Shenadey		Phone/Fax_559-824-6587
Mailing Address: PO Box 1231	Fresno	CA 93715
Street	City	State/Zip
Applicant: Same as Owner		Phone/Fax:
Mailing Address:		
Street	City	State/Zip
Representative: Kyle Parreira, EIT - 40	Creeks	Phone/Fax: 559-802-3052
Mailing Address: 324 S. Santa Fe, Suite A Street	Visalia	CA 93292
Street	City	State/Zip
Proposed Project: To construct, install, and operate	an anaerobic diges	ster on existing Bar 20 Dairy #3 (Subject Property).
Also, to transfer all animals from Bar 20 Dairy #2 (255		
10,839 Milk Cows and/or 20,616 Non-milking animals.	Also, to construct t	wo (2) freestall barns to house additional animals.
Project Location: South of Whitesbridge and James Road	ge Avenue b	etween San Mateo Avenue
Project Address: 24387 W. Whitesbridge	Avenue, Kerr	man, CA 93630
Section/Township/Range: 9 /145	_16E	Parcel Size: 324.66 Acres
Assessor's Parcel No. 015-100-21s		

10.	Land Conservation Contract No. (If applicable):							
11.	What other agencies will you need to get permits or authorization from:							
	LAFCo (annexation or extension of services)       ✓       SJVUAPCD (Air Pollution Control District)         CALTRANS       Reclamation Board         Division of Aeronautics       Department of Energy         ✓       Water Quality Control Board       Airport Land Use Commission         Other							
12.	Will the project utilize Federal funds or require other Federal authorization subject to the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969? Yes $\times$ No							
	If so, please provide a copy of all related grant and/or funding documents, related information and environmental review requirements.							
13.	Existing Zone District <sup>1</sup> : AE - 20							
14.	Existing General Plan Land Use Designation <sup>1</sup> : Agriculture							
<u>EN</u>	VIRONMENTAL INFORMATION							
15.	Present land use: Existing Dairy Facility  Describe existing physical improvements including buildings, water (wells) and sewage facilities, roads, and lighting. Include a site plan or map showing these improvements:  Please see attached site plan and operational statement for all details regarding existing and proposed buildings,							
	facilities, improvements, etc.							
	Describe the major vegetative cover:_ N/A							
	Any perennial or intermittent water courses? If so, show on map: None							
	Is property in a flood-prone area? Describe:  1% Annual Flood Hazard							
	FEMA Panel #06019C2050H, Zone A							
16.	Describe surrounding land uses (e.g., commercial, agricultural, residential, school, etc.):  North: Agricultural - Dairy and Row Crops							
	South: Agricultural - Permanent Crops							
	East: Agricultural - Row Crops							
	West: Agricultural - Open Land							

What land use(s) in the area may impact your project?: None									
Transportatio	n:								
NOTE: The may	information below will be used in determining traffic impacts from this project. The dat also show the need for a Traffic Impact Study (TIS) for the project.								
	litional driveways from the proposed project site be necessary to access public roads?  Yes <u>×</u> No								
B. Daily tra	uffic generation:								
I.	Residential - Number of UnitsNIA Lot Size Single Family Apartments								
II.	Commercial - Number of Employees 80 Number of Salesmen 15 Number of Delivery Trucks 8 Total Square Footage of Building 325-Ac. Parcel								
III.	Describe and quantify other traffic generation activities: A minor amount of limited additional								
	maintenance and service vehicles will visit the site, but only a few times per month.								
Describe any s	source(s) of noise from your project that may affect the surrounding area: None								
***************************************									
Describe any s	ource(s) of noise in the area that may affect your project: None								
	robable source(s) of air pollution from your project: Air quality will improve due to the methane								
captured by the ana	perobic digester, rather than allowing it to release into the atmosphere.								

24.	Anticipated volume of water to be used (gallons per day) <sup>2</sup> : 233,490 gallons per day (as current)
25.	Proposed method of liquid waste disposal: (x) septic system/individual ( ) community system³-name
26.	Estimated volume of liquid waste (gallons per day) <sup>2</sup> : Same as current
27.	Anticipated type(s) of liquid waste: Animal wastewater to be land applied (as current)
	Anticipated type(s) of hazardous wastes <sup>2</sup> : Same as current
	Anticipated volume of hazardous wastes <sup>2</sup> : Same as current
	Proposed method of hazurdous waste disposal <sup>2</sup> : Same as current
	Anticipated type(s) of solid waste: Solid animal waste to be land applied (as current)
	Anticipated amount of solid waste (tons or cubic yards per day): Same as current
	Anticipated amount of waste that will be recycled (tons or cubic yards per day): Same as current
	Proposed method of solid waste disposal: Solid animal waste to be land applied (as current)
	Fire protection district(s) serving this area: Fresno County Fire Protection District
	Has a previous application been processed on this site? If so, list title and date: CUP 3215, 1/24/2008
<i>37</i> .	Do you have any underground storage tanks (except septic tanks)? Yes No_X
38.	If yes, are they currently in use? Yes No_ X
	THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS TRUE.
	0
$^{2}Fo$	fer to Development Services Conference Checklist r assistance, contact Environmental Health System, (559) 600-3357 r County Service Areas or Waterworks Districts, contact the Resources Division, (559) 600-4259
ro	r County Nervice Afrin or Waterworks Histrian, condict the Kenources Hivinion, (339) 000-4239

(Revised 5/2/16)

### NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

### INDEMNIFICATION AND DEFENSE

The Board of Supervisors has adopted a policy that applicants should be made aware that they may be responsible for participating in the defense of the County in the event a lawsuit is filed resulting from the County's action on your project. You may be required to enter into an agreement to indemnify and defend the County if it appears likely that litigation could result from the County's action. The agreement would require that you deposit an appropriate security upon notice that a lawsuit has been filed. In the event that you fail to comply with the provisions of the agreement, the County may rescind its approval of the project.

### STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE FEE

State law requires that specified fees (effective January 1, 2017: \$3,078.25 for an EIR; \$2,216.25 for a (Mitigated/Negative Declaration) be paid to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for projects which must be reviewed for potential adverse effect on wildlife resources. The County is required to collect the fees on behalf of CDFW. A \$50.00 handling fee will also be charged, as provided for in the legislation, to defray a portion of the County's costs for collecting the fees.

The following projects are exempt from the fees:

- 1. All projects statutorily exempt from the provisions of CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act).
- 2. All projects categorically exempt by regulations of the Secretary of Resources (State of California) from the requirement to prepare environmental documents.

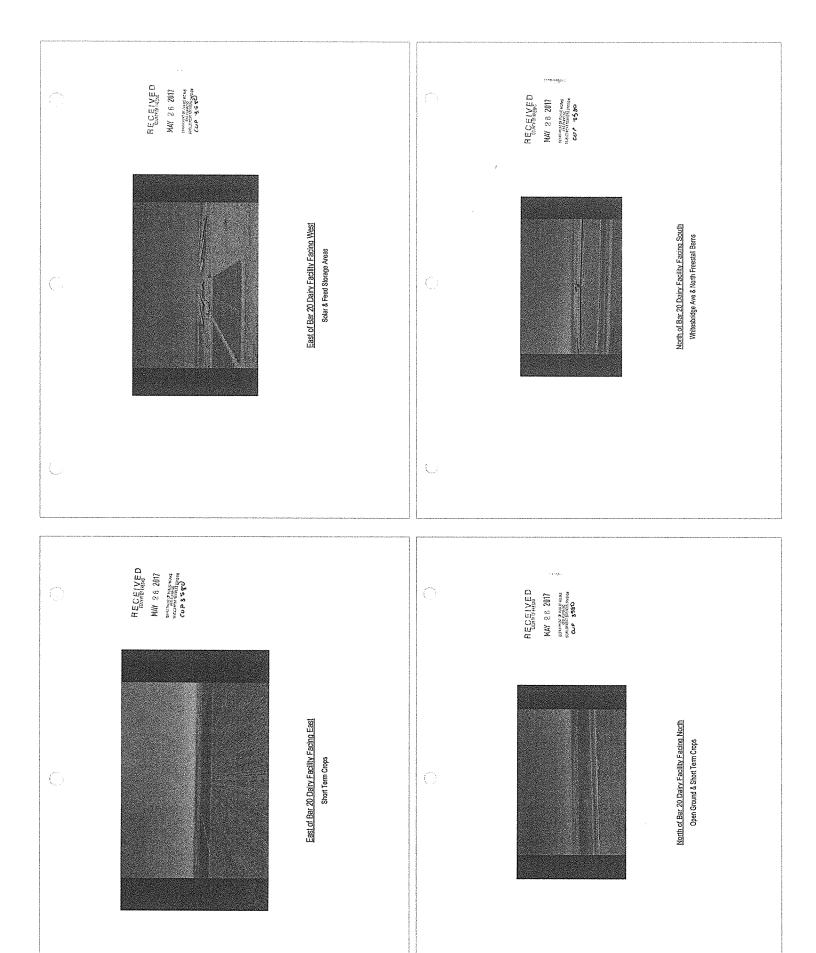
A fee exemption may be issued by CDFW for eligible projects determined by that agency to have "no effect on wildlife." That determination must be provided in advance from CDFW to the County at the request of the applicant. You may wish to call the local office of CDFW at (559) 222-3761 if you need more information.

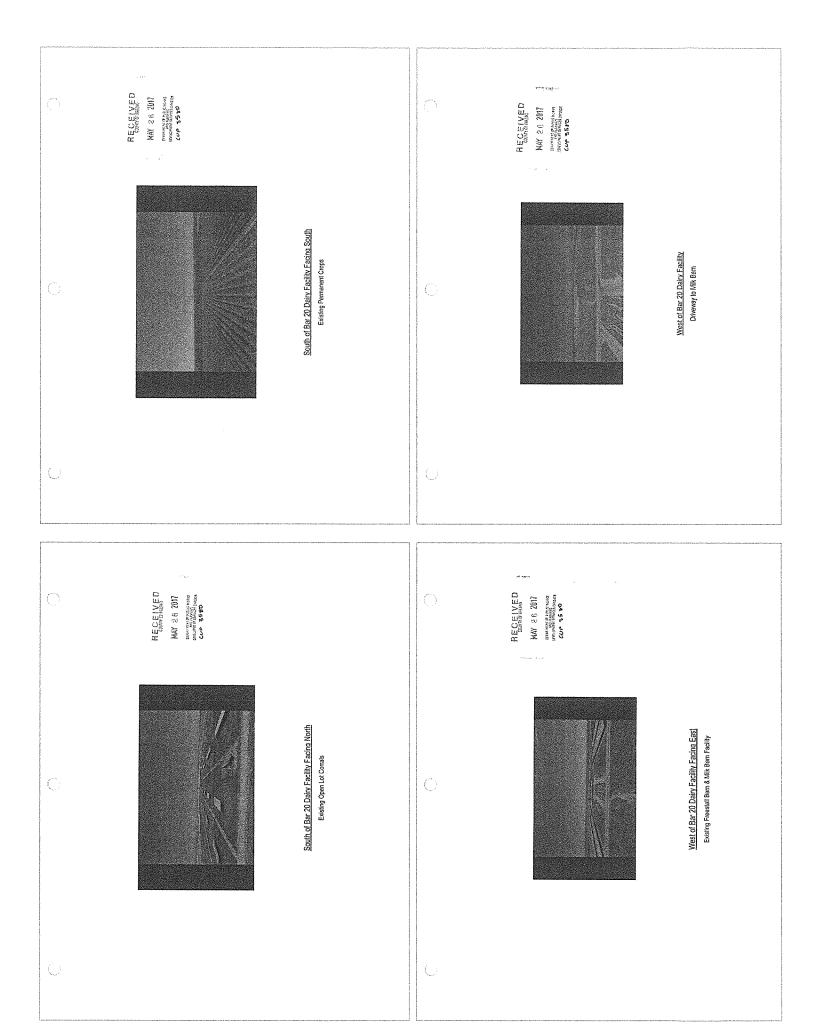
Upon completion of the Initial Study you will be notified of the applicable fee. Payment of the fee will be required before your project will be forwarded to the project analyst for scheduling of any required hearings and final processing. The fee will be refunded if the project should be denied by the County.

Applicant's Signature ( SIZ211)

Date

C:\USERS\PUBLIC\DOCUMENTS\INITIAL STUDY APP.DOCX







# FRESNO COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE

# **TECHNICAL REPORT**

**FOR** 

**BAR 20 DAIRY** 

RECEIVED COUNTY OF FRESHO

MAY 26 2017

DEPAREMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION CUP 3580

**MAY 2017** 

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JAN 26 2018

Bar 20 Dairy **Technical Report** 

### 1. INTRODUCTION

DEPARTMENT OF FUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

CUP 3580

This Technical Report has been prepared for the installation and operation of an anaerobic digester to Bar 20 Dairy. The following studies, plans and programs were prepared per the requirements outlined within the Fresno County Zoning Ordinance.

The existing facility is located within Fresno County as described below. Floor plans, elevation plans, and a site plan of the proposed expansion are provided in Project Description.

Address: 24387 Whitesbridge Avenue, Kerman, CA 93630

Facility APN's: 015-100-21s

Owned Land Application APN's: 015-006-014s, 015-006-046s, 015-006-052s, 015-010-002s, 015-010-003s,

015-010-004s, 015-010-006s, 015-010-008s, 015-010-016s, 015-010-020s. 015-011-026s, 015-011-027s, 015-060-012s, 015-060-019s, 015-060-040s. 015-060-041s, 015-060-042s, 015-060-048s, 015-060-053s, 015-060-055s,

015-100-001s, 015-190-010s, 015-190-041s, 020-027-001s

Township, Range, Section:

Township 14 South, Range 16 East, Section 9

Baseline Meridian:

Mount Diablo Base and Meridian

Zoning:

AG-20 AE-20

FEMA Flood Designation:

Zone A

The existing permitted facility consists of a herd level of 13,300 Holstein bovines. The existing permitted herd level consists of 6,600 milk cows in freestall barns and scraped corrals, and 6,700 non-milking cows in scraped corrals.

The proposed modification includes the consolidation of another dairy (Bar 20 Dairy #3, located north of the subject property) to the Facility. These animals are to be transferred from. This modification will bring the total permitted herd level 31,455 Holstein bovines, consisting of 10,839 milk cows in freestall barns and scraped corrals, and 20,616 non-milking cows in scraped corrals. The proposed modification will not increase the Facility footprint.

The proposed Facility modifications will also include the construction of an anaerobic digester and additional structures. The new construction includes one (1) mechanical pad, one (1) H2S scrubber pad, and one (1) anaerobic digester located on undeveloped land within the Facility footprint. The purpose of the project is to generate electricity using the bio-gas created by the animals while reducing methane emissions. The footprint of the Facility will remain approximately 325 acres (See Project Description).

In order to comply with the Fresno County Fire Protection District minimum standards for dairy developments, Bar 20 Dairy will follow all applicable and most recent fire code set forth by the District by providing adequate fire suppressants in the vicinity of proposed mechanical building, H2S Scrubber pad, and anaerobic digester and all proposed additions to the facility will be accessible by the Fresno County Fire Department.

The facility will be both flushed and scraped for milk cows, while scraped for dry cows and young stock. The milk cows will be housed in flushed freestall barns and scraped open lot corrals, while the rest of the animals will be housed in scraped open lot corrals. All of the solid waste will be exported off-site. All process wastewater and flush water will be separated by the weeping wall separation system. The process water and flush water are stored within the retention ponds prior to land application. Any wastewater generated from a rain event, including the 25 year, 24 hour event, will be stored within the existing retention pond. From the retention pond, the wastewater is applied over approximately 2,356 gross acres (See Appendix F).



Following is a brief summary of the additional studies and reports prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 869.3 of the Fresno County Zoning Ordinance, most of which are included within the Appendices to this report.

# 2. LAGOON AND RETENTION POND REQUIREMENTS

The proposed expansion of the existing dairy facility includes the construction of two (2) wastewater retention ponds. Both ponds will be constructed with Tier 1 liners, conforming to the California Code of Regulations, Title 27, Section 22562, together with additional requirements in General Order No. R5-2013-0122 (General Order) of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Section B (General Specifications).

Plans for the design, structure, and maintenance of the retention ponds will be designed and signed by a California Registered Civil Engineer, and submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board. These ponds will have markers on the inside slope which to clearly indicate the design volume and the minimum freeboard necessary to allow for the 25-year, 24-hour rainfall event. A minimum of two (2) feet of freeboard is required at all times.

A flow meter and associated plumbing will be installed on the effluent line from the retention pond.

All retention ponds are surrounded by lanes at least twelve feet in width and nothing (i.e. trees, calf pens, hay stacks, silage, tires, equipment, etc.) shall be placed around the holding ponds that would prevent passage or use of vector control equipment. No fencing is proposed to surround the new retention ponds.

The wastewater system design includes a solids separation system. All drainage lines of the facility run through the solids separation system, prior to entering the ponds. All drainage lines are sufficiently graded to prevent solids accumulation in the holding ponds. Details of the waste management and solids separation system are described in the Waste Management Plan (See *Appendix F*).

Bar 20 Dairy is responsible for keeping vegetative growth from all areas of the wastewater and solids separation ponds. This includes access lanes, interior pond embankments and any weed growth that might become established as floating mats on the pond surface. The owner will also ensure that floatage of any solid substance that could harbor immature mosquito species will be kept out of the wastewater holding ponds.

### 3. FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS

This proposed project complies with the effluent limitations established by the Federal Clean Water Act and any applicable terms of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit. The project adheres to the provisions set under the California Code of Regulations, Title 27, Division 2, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Article 1, the requirements set by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the rules and regulations of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJQAPCD).

### 4. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

### 4.1 Department of Public Works & Planning Documents

This application packet for the Classified Conditional Use Permit has been submitted pursuant to the requirements specified by the Department of Public Works and Planning Pre-Application Review process.



in addition to requirements specified in Section 869.2.E.1 of the Fresno County Zoning Ordinance. These items include the following:

### Application Forms:

- Application Form
- Initial Study Application
- Pre-Application Review Application

### Project Description:

- Operational Statement
- Photographs
- Legal Description / Grant Deeds
- Site Plans, Floor Plans, and Elevations

All of these required documents for the Planning Department have been prepared in accordance with the provided requirements. Each of these documents can be found in their respective files as listed above.

### 4.2 Operational Management Plan

Bar 20 Dairy will implement operational methods and practices to control nuisances such as flies, dust, and odors. In example, dairy wastewater discharged for irrigation purposes shall be managed so that it does not stand for more than three days. Other necessary methods and practices are described in the following subsections:

### 4.2.1 Emergency Action Plan

The purpose of the Emergency Action Plan is to establish procedures for safely and effectively managing an emergency event for Bar 20 Dairy. All employees, supervisors, and managers are expected to follow the procedures outlined in the plan to ensure that all persons on the production area are protected from any further harm during an emergency situation. The Emergency Action Plan is prepared in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Sections 3220, 3203, 6184, and NFPA 1 Uniform Code, Section 10.9. The site-specific Emergency Action Plan for Bar 20 Dairy is included in *Appendix A*.

### 4.2.2 Odor Management Plan

Bar 20 Dairy will make reasonable efforts to reduce the potential for odor impacts to any nearby receptors. The following are the standard operating procedures for livestock handling, and manure collection, treatment, storage, and land application:

### A. Manure Collection Areas

- The corrals will be cleaned out and scraped a minimum of every 90 days to minimize odors.
- The animals at the facility will be kept as dry as feasible by corral shades. In addition, the
  facility is maintained to divert any run-off to the wastewater retention pond within 72 hours
  of a rain event to minimize any ponding on-site that could produce odors.

### B. Manure Treatment and Application

 Minimize the moisture levels in stockpile manure during storage. If possible, the manure will be exported off-site at the time it is scraped. The stockpiled manure will be stored on



- graded areas that divert the wastewater from the piles away from the manure to the wastewater retention ponds.
- Well irrigation water will be mixed with wastewater at the time of application, per rates identified in the Nutrient Management Plan, to minimize odors and maintain appropriate nutrient content in the effluent.
- Apply process water containing ammonia so that it minimizes exposure to air.
- Clean up manure spills at time of each occurrence
- Maintain wastewater retention pond to prevent solids build-up to minimize odor levels
- Avoid exporting any dry manure or applying wastewater during windy conditions
- Apply wastewater uniformly in a thin layer to that it will dry quickly.

### C. General

- Implement dust suppression measures to prevent the release of odorous compoundcarrying fugitive dust
- During project operations, Bar 20 Dairy shall respond to neighbors who have odor complaints from odors generated at the facility and take prompt action to address the complaint.

### D. Record Keeping

• Bar 20 Dairy will keep a complaint register at the facility. The register shall include each complaint received, who received the complaint, and the date of the complaint (See Appendix B). In addition, the documentation will indicate what action was taken to determine the cause of the odor, action taken to resolve the odor problem, the results of the action, and whether additional action is required to eliminate the problem from re-occurring. The complaint register shall be available to the Code Compliance personnel upon request.

Any amendments to the Odor Management Plan shall be submitted to the Zoning Administrator for approval.

### 4.2.3 Dust Emissions Control Plan

Bar 20 Dairy shall follow all required procedures to ensure that potential dust emissions created at the facility are reduced. The corrals will be cleaned out and scraped a minimum of every 90 days to minimize dust emissions from cattle movement and maintenance activities. Equipment movement during feeding and corral maintenance shall be done at times when dust emissions are minimal. All unpaved roads, high traffic areas, and any other areas where dust emissions are prevalent shall be treated at minimum by use of a water truck. The water truck shall apply a minimum of 650 gallons/acre as needed throughout the year. These areas are to be treated and recorded (See Appendix C). If any permanent or long term dust control measures, such as paving or oil-sealed decomposed granite, are implemented on the perimeter roads or high traffic areas, the treatment shall be recorded as well.

The operator of Bar 20 Dairy will perform periodic visual inspections at dust sources around the facility. Dust sources include cattle movement areas, unpaved roads, and high traffic areas. These inspection areas will be performed at least monthly. In addition, an inspection shall be performed and recorded during periods of high winds throughout the year. All inspections shall be recorded using the Monthly Dust Control Visual Inspection Record in *Appendix C* and kept on site.



### 4.2.4 Dead Animal Management Plan

Dead animals will be removed from the facility and taken to a rendering plant within 72 hours, or by the end of the first working day after a holiday weekend. Burial or otherwise disposing of carcasses on site shall not be done unless by order of the Health Officer, Agricultural Commissioner, or other authority authorized to make such an order. A location has been set aside for personnel to place the fallen animal carcasses until the service arrives.

Service:

Baker Commodities, Inc.

Phone #:

(855) 422-5370

Record keeping shall be kept at the facility including the number of dead animals by date, the date and method of their removal, and the location to where the dead animals were taken (See Appendix D). The documentation shall be made available to Code Compliance personnel upon their request.

The disposal of dead animals at the facility is prohibited except when federal, state, or local officials declare a State of Emergency and where all other options for disposal have been pursued and failed and the onsite disposal complies with all state and local policies for disposal of dead animals.

### 4.2.5 Wastewater Spill Prevention & Contingency Plan

A spill prevention and contingency plan is required for any unpermitted, accidental off-property discharge of facility wastewater, and corresponding reporting to the Regional Water Quality Control Board within twenty-four hours of discovery. The written report to the Regional Water Quality Control Board shall contain the following information:

- 1. The date the discharge began
- 2. Duration and estimated volume of the discharge
- 3. Point of discharge
- Specific source of discharge (e.g. overflow from holding pond, rainfall runoff from manure storage areas, etc.)
- 5. Steps taken to mitigate the effects of the discharge
- 6. Steps taken to prevent such a discharge in the future
- 7. Notification of adjacent and/or affected property owners
- 8. In case of spills affecting crops intended for human consumption, the Agricultural Commissioner and the Fresno County Health Officer shall also be notified.

Appendix E contains a Wastewater Spill Prevention & Contingency Plan

### 4.3 Waste Management Plan & Nutrient Management Plan

### 4.3.1 Feed Management

Bar 20 Dairy hires a qualified nutritionist to determine the rations fed to the animals. All calves 0-3 months are raised in hutches, and bottle-fed milk twice daily. These calves are also provided with grain and water to help ween them from solely drinking milk. The calves 3-6 months are fed alfalfa and grain. The grain and milk diets for the calves are the typical ration for the growth and health of



the animals. The larger heifers, milk cows, and dry cows are fed a ration as determined by the nutritionist. The nutritionist determines the maximum feed efficiency to optimize animal consumption while keeping the ration economically feasible. Each ration ensures that the animals have adequate nutrients and feed to maintain optimum health. All of the feed is stored in areas that drain to the wastewater retention pond.

### 4.3.2 Manure Handling & Storage

The manure at the existing facility is handled and stored properly to prevent adverse impacts to water quality. The open corrals are scraped throughout the year to prevent manure build-up. Once the manure accumulates, the dry manure is hauled off-site and used as organic soil amendments for farmers in the area. The open lot corrals and the manure storage areas are graded to drain any precipitation run-off to the wastewater retention pond.

The freestall facilities are maintained throughout the year by replacing bedding weekly and flushing daily. All flush water from the milk barns is diverted to the separation system and then to the storage pond(s). The proposed expansion to the facility will be incorporated within the existing facility and the manure handling and storage will continue to function to prevent standing water and uncontrolled manure run-off.

The process water is primarily generated at the milk barns. The process water is used to cool the milk and then recycled to flush the milk barns and freestall flush lanes. Additional process water is used to clean equipment and the milk tanks after each milking. All of the process water generated in the milk barns is controlled and diverted to the retention ponds. Any precipitation run-off generated from the milk barn areas or other equipment storage areas is diverted to the wastewater retention ponds.

There are surface water diversions and canals adjacent to the facility. Any surface run-off is diverted away from the canals and collected within the facility itself. This run-off is diverted to the wastewater retention ponds.

The ponds will continue to be maintained to prevent weeds and rodents from the liner of the pond. In addition, the pond will be managed to prevent the excess build-up of manure to ensure adequate capacity for a rainfall event and prevent solids from clogging the irrigation distribution system.

No new irrigation or domestic wells are proposed as part of the expansion. A 100-foot setback from the existing wells to any potential source of pollution will be maintained.

### 4.3.3 Land Application of Manure

The land application shall be planned to ensure that the proper amounts of all nutrients are applied in a way that does not cause harm to the environment of public health. The Nutrient Balance, along with the timing and methods of application were prepared by a qualified agronomist, which is included in *Appendix G*.

The methods of application require that care is taken when applying the wastewater to prevent it from entering groundwater or environmentally sensitive areas. The timing and methods of application shall prevent the loss of excess nutrients to groundwater. As discussed, all dry manure



will be hauled off-site, and distribution of this manure will be avoided during periods of winds in excess of 20 miles per hour.

### 4.3.4 Land Management

Tillage, crop residue management, and other conservation practices shall be utilized to minimize movement to groundwater of soil, organic materials, nutrients, and pathogens from lands where manure is applied. A qualified agronomist will assist to ensure the proper management practices are implemented as identified in *Appendix G*.

### 4.3.5 Record Keeping

Bar 20 Dairy operators shall document the annual estimated quantity of solid manure produced at the facility and transported off-site. Documentation of this estimate shall be maintained by the dairy and shall be made available to the County Code Compliance personnel and Regional Water Quality Control Board inspectors upon request.

### 4.4 Vector Control Management Plan

Proper maintenance of the facility and implementation of good housekeeping practices are the primary tools used to combat vector infestation. The facility will be maintained to ensure good drainage of manured areas, frequent lane scraping, removal of any manure build-up along fences, stanchion curbs, or water troughs, and prompt repair of broken pipes or water troughs. All corrals, retention ponds, settling basins, milk barns, watering areas, calf areas, freestalls, flush lanes, shades, feed storage areas, and feeding areas shall be checked for vectors on a quarterly basis to ensure good housekeeping practices are properly maintaining pest and vector infestation.

When the housekeeping items have a limited effect on the pests and vectors, chemicals and biological controls will be implemented. When the chemicals (pesticides) are used, special care shall be taken to select and apply chemicals that are compatible with existing biological controls in place (those that do not kill parasitic wasps). Growth of weeds shall be inhibited in all of the areas in and around the wastewater ponds. In addition to vector management at the ponds, the rodents will also be managed to prevent degradation of the pond liner.

Record keeping shall consist of documentation kept at the dairy site that includes pest control methods used and the dates of the pest control activities. A complaint register shall also be included, which includes who received the complaint, the date a complaint was received, what and when action was taken to determine the cause of the pest problem, action taken to resolve the problem, and the results action and whether additional action was required to solve the problem (See *Appendix H*). The complaint register will be available to the Code Compliance personnel at their request.



### 5. REFERENCES

California Department of Water Resources, Water Data Library, Well Data Information. <a href="http://www.water.ca.gov/waterdatalibrary/">http://www.water.ca.gov/waterdatalibrary/</a>

NFPA 1 Uniform Code, Section 10.9. <a href="http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards?mode=code&code=1">http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards?mode=code&code=1</a>

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. www.valleyair.org

Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Sections 3220, 3203, 6184. https://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/index/T8index.asp

Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Division 2, Subdivision 1, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Article 1. <a href="http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Regulations/Title27/ch7s2345.htm#Article1">http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Regulations/Title27/ch7s2345.htm#Article1</a>

United States Department of Agriculture, National Resource Conservation Service.

National Engineering Handbook, Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook





# **BAR 20 DAIRY**

PROPOSED ANAEROBIC DIGESTER

RECEIVED COUNTY OF FRESHO

MAY 26 2017

GEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND FLANNING DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION

CUP 35 80

# LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

APPENDIX B: ODOR MANAGEMENT PLAN

APPENDIX C: DUST EMISSIONS CONTROL PLAN

APPENDIX D: DEAD ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

APPENDIX E: WASTEWATER SPILL PREVENTION & CONTINGENCY PLAN

APPENDIX F: WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

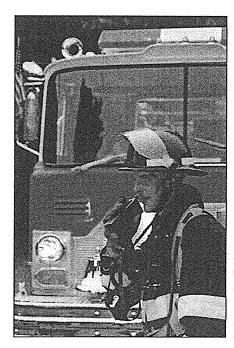
APPENDIX G: NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

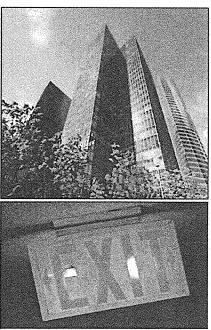
APPENDIX H: VECTOR CONTROL MANAGENT PLAN

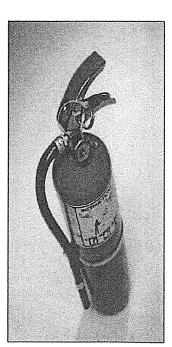
APPENDIX I: RECORD KEEPING FORMS

Emergency Action Plan Bar 20 Dairy 24387 Whitesbridge Avenue, Kerman, CA 93630 May 22, 2017









### Purpose:

The purpose of this Emergency Action Plan is to establish procedures for safely and effectively managing an emergency event for the Bar 20 Dairy. All employees, supervisors, and managers are expected to follow the procedures outlined in this plan to ensure that employees and consumers are protected from any further harm during an emergency situation.

### **Authority:**

California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Sections 3220, 3203, 6184, NFPA 1 Uniform Fire Code, section 10.9.

### Scope:

This Emergency Action Plan covers those designated actions managers and employees must take to ensure employee and consumer safety from fire and other emergencies. This plan includes: emergency escape procedures; procedures for employees who must stay to operate critical plant operations before they evacuate (if applicable); procedures to account for employees after emergency evacuation has been completed; rescue and medical duties for those employees who are to perform them; the preferred means of reporting fires and other emergencies; and individuals who can be contacted for further information about the plan.

### I. Responsibility

A. Person(s) responsible for emergency planning and information is/are:

Steve Shehadey, Operator (559) 824-6587

### B. Training

Specific employees will be trained and made aware of their duties so that they can assist in the safe and orderly emergency evacuation of employees. They shall be made aware of their responsibilities under this plan:

- Initially when the plan is developed;
- Whenever the employee's responsibility under the plan changes, and
- Whenever the plan is changed

### C. Responsibilities of the Employees

The success of this Emergency Action Plan in times of emergencies hinges on employees knowing the procedures outlined in this plan and acting upon them in an appropriate manner.

### Before an emergency, employees shall:

- Become familiar with the contents of this plan to include who to report emergencies to, the assigned evacuation routes for the facility, and the designated meeting locations.
- > Actively participate in emergency drills and treat them as if they are real.

### During an emergency:

- Assist others however appropriate.
- Listen and wait for directions on how and when to evacuate the facility from emergency response team members, security, police, or fire personnel.
- > Report any emergencies such as a bomb threat or threats of violence to your supervisor <u>first and immediately</u>.
- Report <u>immediately</u> to your designated meeting location upon evacuating the facility. Do not take any side trips.
- Never go back into the facility to retrieve personal belongings.

### II. Reporting Emergencies

A. Report fire or other emergencies immediately, first to your supervisor, then to the responsible person(s) listed above. When warranted, call 911 (9-911 if in a County facility). Be prepared to provide the responder with the nature and location of the emergency. Our address is:

Bar 20 Dairy 24387 Whitesbridge Avenue, Kerman, CA 93630 South side of W. Whitesbridge Avenue (SR 180) between N. San Mateo Avenue and N. Napa Avenue (559) 824-6587

The Fresno County Security division shall also be contacted by calling the radio pager at (9) 452-7102 to advise them of the situation and for further assistance.

# III. Evacuation Route and Assembly Area Map/First Aid Kits

### A. Location of First Aid Kits

The First Aid Kits are located in the office of the milking barn.

### B. Designated Meeting Locations

Once employees have evacuated the facility, they <u>must</u> meet on the west side of the milk barn to check in with the operator who will be accounting for individuals. Those employees who do not show up to the designated meeting location will be presumed to still be in the building and fire and police personnel shall be notified of their absence immediately.

### IV. Fire Emergency Procedures

- a. Remove anyone in immediate danger.
- b. Once an employee is alerted to the fire danger, he/she will go to the nearest exit, activate the fire alarm (if present), exit the building, and proceed directly to the designated assembly point.
- c. Confine the fire to the room/area by closing the door to the area where the fire is located and by ensuring all doors leading to the main hallways are closed.
- d. Attempt to extinguish the fire only if you have received training on the use of portable fire extinguishers, the fire is in its beginning stage, and it can be extinguished safely.
- e. Disabled and non-ambulatory (unable to walk personnel) should request assistance from those nearest to them. Advise the Fire Department or Security of personnel trapped who may require assistance to evacuate.

### V. Earthquake Emergency Procedures

- a. If you are indoors, stay there. Take shelter under a desk, table, or in a doorway. If you cannot get under something sturdy or stand in a doorway, get on your hands and knees and cover your head with your hands and arms.
- b. If you are outdoors, go to an open area away from trees, buildings, walls, roadways and power lines.
- c. If the building is evacuated, do not return until authorized.
- d. Beware of potential dangers after an earthquake such as escaping gas, unstable building structures, electrical hazards, etc. Also beware of aftershocks.

### VI. Evacuation of the Disabled

In the event an emergency renders exit of any disabled person(s), a trained employee will assist or carry the disabled person(s) to the safe area.

### VII. Serious Injury

- a. Check the scene and the victim to determine the danger potential and the extent of the injury. Do not move a seriously injured victim unless there is an immediate danger such as fire, flood, or poisonous gas. If you must move the victim, do it as quickly and carefully as possible. If there is no immediate danger, do not move the victim and advise the bystanders the victim is not to be moved.
- b. Call 911 (9-911 if in a County facility) immediately if the victim is unconscious. Additionally, you should call for an ambulance if the victim has trouble breathing or is breathing in a strange way; has pressure or pain in the chest or abdomen; is bleeding severely; has slurred speech; appears to have been poisoned; has injuries to the head, neck, or back; or has possible broken bones.
- c. Keep the victim calm and as comfortable as possible. Administer CPR or First Aid if you have been trained in those areas. A First Aid kit should be used and precautions should be taken to minimize exposure to blood and other bodily fluids. Remain with the victim until emergency services personnel and Security arrive.

### VIII. Hazardous Materials

- a. A hazardous material is a substance that presents a physical or health hazard. A health hazard refers to a substance for which there is significant evidence that health effects may occur for exposed employees.
- b. A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is required for all hazardous substances in use within the department. Employees will be provided with training on the safe use of all chemicals they will be exposed to.
- c. In the event of a hazardous material emergency:
  - i. Evacuate the area, securing access to the area when possible.
  - ii. Immediately call 911 (9-911 if in a County facility) and inform the operator of the emergency. Provide as much information as possible to the operator and refer to the MSDS.
  - iii. If safe, remain in the immediate area and call Security at (559) 488-6785.

d. The list of chemicals regularly used in this facility is located in the milk barn office, along with the MSDS binder.

	Additional Action, if Any, Required To Eliminate The Odor Problem From Re-Occuring							
	Results of the Action							
Appendix B Odor Complaint Register	Action Taken To Resolve The Odor Problem					•		
	Action Taken To Determine Cause of Odor Complaint							
	Complaint Recipient		The state of the s					
	Date of Complaint							

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# Appendix B Odor Management Monitoring Plan

Frequency:

Minimum On A Monthly Basis When Potential For Odor Release is High (i.e. Dry Weather, High Temperature)

Inspection Areas: Unpaved Corrals and Call Hutches, Lagoons and Manure Stockpiles, Land Application Areas, Site Boundaries

Year

	Month	Date	Are The Open Lot Corrals Being Kept Effectively Dry to Prevent Odors?	is Manure Being Removed Frequently to Reduce Possible Odors?	Are Manure Storage Areas Being Managed Property to Prevent Odors?	Are Manure Land Applications Gausing Nuisance Conditions Due to Application Methods or Timing?	Initials
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		Inspection	Activity	Visible Dust Emissions	Other Vectors Due to Implementation of Dust Control Measures	Additional Action, If Any, Required To Eliminate Excess Dust Emissions
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Requirements: Visual Inspection must be performed during the dry season (April - Octobar), once during the remainder of the year, and during periods of high winds. Inspection must be performed at dust sources throughout the dairy (i.e. callle movernnt at upaved corrais and all over unpaved or gravel paved areas per the Fugilive Dust Emissions Confrol Plan (FDECP)

# Appendix D Dead Animal Management Plan Records

	Dead Ammar manager	
Month	Number of Dead Animals Picked Up	Name of Company That Picked Up Dead Animals

Appendix E Wastewater Spill Prevention & Contingency Plan

Frequency:

Accidental Off-Property Discharge of Wastewater
Note: In the case of spills affecting crops intended for human consumption, the Agricultural Commissioner and the Fresno County Health Officer shall be notified.

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Steps Taken to Prevent Such Discharge in Future											
Steps Taken to Mitigate Effects of Discharge											
Specific Source of Discharge											
Location Point of Discharge	-										
Duration of Discharge			A THE CASE OF THE ACT OF THE CASE OF THE C		A COMPANY OF THE PARTY OF THE P			A) And a file of the second distribution of the		in the body delicate translate of the deployment to the manufactors appear	
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