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Notice of Preparation

Date: February 26, 2021

To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Federal Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

Subject: **Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the CDFA Turlock Laboratory Replacement Project in Turlock, California**

Lead Agency: California Department of Food and Agriculture, 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Dakota Smith, Senior Environmental Planner
State of California Department of General Services
Real Estate Services Division, Project Management & Development Branch
707 Third Street, 4th Floor, MS509
West Sacramento, CA 95605
Dakota.Smith@dgs.ca.gov

BY **Jocelyn Rodriguez****Purpose of Notice**

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), with assistance from the Department of General Services – Real Estate Services Division (DGS), is the lead agency for preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for construction and operation of the CDFA Turlock Laboratory Replacement Project (Proposed Project).

Pursuant to provisions of CEQA, DGS has prepared a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Proposed Project. The purpose of the NOP is to solicit comments from responsible and trustee agencies, and interested parties on the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR.

Project Location

The Proposed Project site will be an approximately 7-acre development within an approximately 27-acre parcel, located at 830 Dianne Drive (Assessor's parcel number 089-021-004-000) in the City of Turlock in Stanislaus County (see the attached figure). The 27-acre parcel has been acquired by the State of California for this Project.

Project Description

The project description is contained in the Initial Study. The NOP and Initial Study can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/DGSCEQA>

Potential Environmental Effects

The EIR will analyze the reasonably foreseeable direct, indirect and cumulative effects (e.g., climate change) of the Proposed Project and on focused resources, including but not limited to:

- Agriculture
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Energy
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Noise
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems

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Comments provided in response to the NOP and during the scoping meeting, and ensuing analyses, may identify additional environmental resources to be evaluated.

Public Review Period

The Notice of Preparation is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 40 days beginning **February 26, 2021**. **Written comments will be accepted by DGS through 5:00 P.M. on April 7, 2021**. Comments must be mailed or emailed to Dakota Smith at the above addresses.

The Notice of Preparation is available for review at the following locations:

California Department of General Services: 707 Third Street, Fourth Floor, Suite 401, West Sacramento, CA 95605 (916) 591-1609

<http://bit.ly/DGSCEQA>

Alternate formats of this document are available upon request.

Scoping Meeting

To provide the public and regulatory agencies an opportunity to provide input on the scope of the EIR, a scoping meeting will be held during the NOP review period. The scoping meeting will solicit input from the public and public agencies regarding the nature and scope of environmental impacts to be addressed in the Draft EIR. Prepared written comments will be accepted during the meetings, as well as throughout the 40-day NOP review period. A virtual scoping meeting will be held from **5:30 pm - 7:30 pm on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 via Zoom using the Zoom information identified below**. If reasonable accommodation is needed, please contact Dakota Smith at the contact information listed above.

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99404436022>

Webinar ID: 994 0443 6022

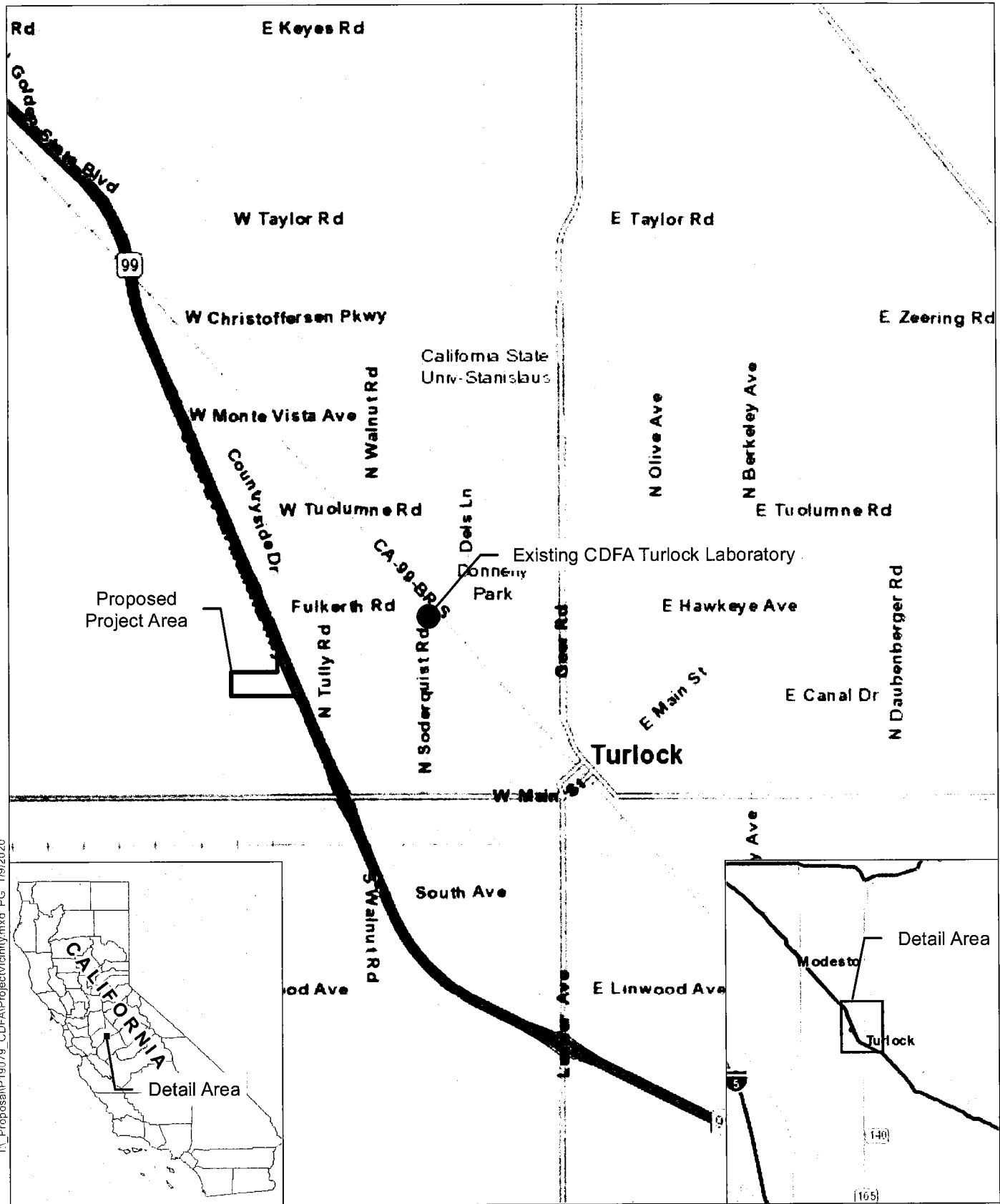
Or by Telephone: 1-669-900-9128 or 1-253-215-8782

Please contact Dakota Smith if you have any questions about the environmental review process for the CDFA Turlock Laboratory Replacement Project.

Sincerely,

Kevin Masuhara 2/26/2021

Kevin Masuhara, Deputy Secretary Administration and Finance
California Department of Food and Agriculture



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Basemap Sources: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand).

Prepared by:

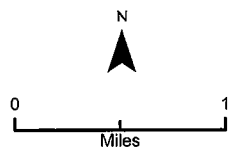


Figure 1.
Project Vicinity