

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Date:

From/Lead Agency: San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726
559-230-6000

To: County Clerk/Recorder
County of Stanislaus
1021 "I" Street, Suite 101
Modesto, CA 95354
(209) 525-5250

Project Title: Barnhart Ranch (District project No. N-1204254)

Project Location - Specific: 718 Barnhart Road

Project Location - City: Ceres, CA 95307

Project Location - County: Stanislaus

Description of Project: Barnhart Ranch requests Authority to Construct (ATC) permits to construct seven (7) barns totaling 419,400 square feet, with the potential to house a total of 1,688,394 hens. (Project)

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD

Name of Applicant: Barnhart Ranch dba Gemperle Family Farms.

Applicant Address: 10218 Lander Avenue
Turlock, CA 95380

209/667-2651

FILED
21 APR 23 PM 1:45
JOSELYN RODRIGUEZ
STANISLAUS CO. CLERK-RECORDER

Exempt Status:(Check one)

- Ministerial: §21080(b)(1); 15268
Declared Emergency: §21080(b)(3); 15269(a)
Emergency Project: §21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)
Categorical Exemption:
Statutory Exemptions:
[X] General Exemption: Section 15061(b)(3)

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The Project is to construct seven (7) barns totaling 419,400 square feet, with the potential to house a total of 1,688,394 hens. This ATC application will supersede a prior approved ATC application identified as ATC project Number N-1143814. The approved ATC project Number N-1143814 was to construct five (5) cage free barns resulting in a total increase of housing capacity of 1,830,000 hens, a 77,318 square foot processing facility with parking, a 17,000 square foot cold and dry storage building with a 3,200 square foot electrical building to support expansion of the egg laying hen ranch. In October, 2016 the District, serving as Lead Agency adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Barnhart Ranch ATC project N-1143814, which covers this Project. The modifications for this Project would result in a reduction of 400,412 square feet of barns and a reduction of 141, 606 total potential hens from the approved project for which full buildout was not completed. With the proposed reduction, it was determined that the impacts would continue to have a less than significant impact. Therefore, based on the assessment on the potential environmental impacts and in accordance with California Code of Regulations (CCR) §15162, the District prepared an addendum to the MND. District staff concludes that there is no substantial evidence in the whole record before the District that the proposed Project would cause any adverse impacts on the environment. The District finds that this Project is exempt per the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment (CCR §15061(b)(3)).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Cherie Clark

Area Code/Telephone: (559) 230-6000

Signature: Brian Clements

Date: APR 12 2021 Title: Director of Permit Services

Date received for filing by OPR:

Date removed from posting 06/01/2021