

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk  
Room 105, Courthouse  
221 South Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency  
5961 South Mooney Blvd  
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000  
Attn: [hguerra@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:hguerra@tularecounty.ca.gov)  
[jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov)

FILED TULARE COUNTY  DEC 22 2021  ASSESSOR/CLERK RECORDER BY:   DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
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Applicant(s): Touchstone Pistachio Co., LLC  
1396 West Herndon Avenue #110  
Fresno, CA 93711  
559-440-8308

Project Title: Minor Modification, MIM 21-054, Touchstone Pistachio

Project Location - Specific: 19570 Avenue 88, Terra Bella, CA 93270 (APN 319-130-024 and 319-130-023)

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 2, Township 23S, Range 26E

Project Location - City: N/A

Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Minor Modification to PSP 96-074, MIM 21-054 is to allow for the addition of sixteen (16) additional storage silos, one truck scale, and refurbish the "huller line". There will be no expansion of the project site. The intent of the applicant is increase efficiency for the existing use. The beneficiaries of this project will be the County of Tulare and the Applicant, as more energy efficient equipment will result in less power utilized.

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Class 2 Section 15302 Existing Facilities (b) and Class 3 Section 15303 New Construction and Conversions of Small Structures
- Statutory Exemptions: CEQA Guidelines Section

Reasons why project is exempt: The project site is subject to an existing Special Use Permit of an allowable use in the AE-40 (Exclusive Agricultural – 40 Acre Minimum) Zone. Section 15302 is appropriate and applicable as the proposed application is to update equipment and components that have been used on the huller line since 1980. Section 15303 is appropriate and applicable as the proposed additions are accessory structures to the already approved use (Pistachio Processing Facility).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare County Resource Management Agency

Project Planner/Representative: Russell Kashiwa Telephone: (559) 624-7000

Signature: Aaron R Bock For \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12.20.21 Title: Chief Environmental Planner  
Hector Guerra

Signature: Aaron R Bock For \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12.20.21 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer  
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_