Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
   P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
   Sacramento, CA  95812-3044

       2301 Technology Parkway
       Hollister, CA  95023-2513

Project Title: Zoning Code Update Ordinance Amendments

Project Applicant: San Benito County Resource Management Agency, 2301 Technology Pkwy., Hollister, Cal.,

Project Location - Specific: County-wide Ordinance

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
The new Zoning Code sections have been reorganized by grouping similar topics together into 9 chapters to make them easier to find, putting all administrative functions are now in one section, added chapter for Specific Use standards, eliminated redundant sections, added numerous explanatory illustrations, moving topics into a more logical order—like topics grouped together, added tables for permitted uses and development standards, revised and simplified permitted and conditional uses, especially to streamline review and approval of agricultural uses, eliminated some types of permits that were seldom or never used, added sections required by changes in state law including Accessory Dwelling Units pursuant to Government Code § 65862.2, and to provide specific guidance to staff, the public, and businesses on these topics.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Benito Co. Resource Management Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Arielle Goodspeed

Exempt Status: (check one):
☐ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: §15061(b)(3), §15183, § 15282 (h), § 15162 (a)(1) - (3)

Reasons why project is exempt:
Finding: Pursuant to San Benito County Local Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act, this project qualifies for an exemption from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines Categorical Exemptions (California Code of Regulations §15061(b)(3), §15183, § 15282 (h), § 15162 (a)(1) - (3) Evidence: The revision, reorganization, and recodification of the San Benito County Zoning Code, San Benito County Code Title 25 as adopted in this Ordinance does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA, as provided in the “common sense” The zoning ordinance amendments which are the subject of this action are consistent with the 2035 San Benito County General Plan for which an EIR was certified, and are therefore subject to the provisions of 14 C.C.R. § 15183, in that no additional environmental review shall be required, exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines, 14 C.C.R. § 15061 (b)(3). In accordance with CEQA Guidelines 14 C.C.R. § 15183, projects that are consistent with development density established by general plan policies for which an EIR has been certified shall not require additional environmental review, except as might be necessary to examine whether there are project-specific significant effects which are peculiar to the project or its site. In this regard, the Board of Supervisors finds:
   a. There are no environmental effects that are peculiar to a specific project or the parcel on which a project would be located. b. Amendment of the zoning ordinance on a programmatic level to implement the Principles, Goals, Policies, Programs, and Implementation Measures has no significant effects that were not analyzed in the prior EIR certified for the adoption of the General Plan. c. There are no potentially significant off-site impacts and cumulative impacts which were not discussed in the prior EIR prepared for the general plan. d. There is no substantial new information which was not known at the time the EIR was certified that previously identified significant effects would have a more severe adverse impact than discussed in the prior General Plan EIR. e. All feasible mitigation measures identified in the prior General Plan EIR will be undertaken. f. On July 21, 2015 the San Benito County Board of Supervisors certified the adoption of a programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the adoption of the 2035 San Benito County General Plan by the adoption of Resolution No. 2015-58. No subsequent EIR shall be prepared for a project unless there is substantial evidence in light of the whole record that one or more of the circumstances set forth in CEQA Guidelines, 14 C.C.R. § 15162 (a)(1) - (3) have been determined to have occurred.

Lead Agency: San Benito Co. Resource Management Agency
Contact Person: Arielle Goodspeed, Principal Planner
Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 831 902-2547

If filed by applicant:
1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☑ No

Signature: Arielle Goodspeed Date: 7/1/22 Title: Principal Planner

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: ______________________