

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk
County of: Tulare
221 S Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 93291

From: (Public Agency): City of Farmersville
909 West Valencia Road
Farmersville CA 93223 (559) 747-0458
(Address)

Project Title: City of Farmersville Wastewater Treatment Plant Renewable Energy Project

Project Applicant: City of Farmersville

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located within the existing City Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)

Project Location - City: Farmersville Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed project includes the installation and operation of a 750 kilowatt (kWH) photovoltaic (PV) solar array and 250 kWH battery storage unit. The point of interconnection will be at an existing 1200 amp/480 volt mainservice panel located within the facility.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Farmersville

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Farmersville

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));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1 Section 15303 (b); Class 3 Section 15303 (d)
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

See the attached justification.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Jennifer Gomez, City Manager Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559) 747-0458

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: [Signature] Date: 10-11-22 Title: City Manager
Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR:
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

## Notice of Exemption: City of Farmersville Wastewater Treatment Plant Renewable Energy Project

### Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project includes the construction and operation of a 750 kW PV solar array with 250 kW of battery storage. The solar array is considered accessory to the WWTP operations. The new equipment will be installed on an area of the facility that is previously disturbed and devoid of all vegetation (see attached figure). There is no possibility that the installation of the PV solar array and battery storage unit will create environmental impacts.

The WWTP currently uses approximately 1.3 Mkw of energy and the energy generated by the solar array is anticipated to be approximately 1.2 M kW. Therefore, the solar array will offset the electrical demand of the existing facility that would have been generated by electrical generation using coal or other fossil fuels. The proposed project would benefit the residents of Farmersville, the region and the State of California as follows:

- Assist the State of California in achieving or exceeding its Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), Senate Bill 350, Senate Bill 100, and the California Global Warming Solutions Act (Assembly Bill 32) and greenhouse gas emissions reduction objectives by developing and constructing new California RPS-qualified, solar power generation facilities.
- Develop a viable solar power generation and battery storage facility that would support and improve the ongoing operation of the Farmersville WWTP facility, creating local construction jobs, etc.
- Assist California in reducing its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as required by the California Global Warming Solutions Act.
- Provide a new source of energy storage that assists the state in achieving or exceeding its energy storage mandate (Assembly Bill 2514).
- Save the City over \$171,000 annually.

Location of the proposed solar array and battery storage unit- Farmersville Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility

