



**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

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Equal Opportunity Employer

**Notice of Intent to Adopt an Initial Study/Negative Declaration**

**Date:** February 17, 2023  
**To:** Public Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties  
**From:** County of Merced, Community and Economic Development Department

**Subject:** Notice of Intent to Adopt an Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the County of Merced has, Pursuant to Section 15072 – Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration - of the CEQA Guidelines, prepared and Initial Study to evaluate the environmental effects of the project identified below:

**Project Title:** Administrative Permit Application No. AA22-077 / Site Plan & Design Review Application No. SPR22-007 – Meena Farms Cherry Packing Facility

**Project Location:** The project site is located on the south side of Gun Club Road, approximately 600 ft. west of Azevedo Road in the Gustine area, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 063-200-030.

**Project Description:** The project includes a request by Meena Farms (Applicant) for an Administrative Permit (AA) to allow for the conversion of an existing 63,000-square foot tomato-packing facility and to build a new 73,000-square foot packing and processing building that incorporates storage, fumigation, and an office for the processing and packing of cherries. Two existing hot house facilities totaling approximately 12,950 square feet will be removed.

**CEQA Project Status:** An Initial Study Negative Declaration (IS/ND) has been prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. The IS/ND determined that the proposed project would result in less-than-significant impacts. The Public Review Draft IS/MND is available at the Community & Economic Development Department's public counter and on the County's website at: <https://www.countyofmerced.com/414/Environmental-Documents>

**Public Hearing:** The Planning Commission will consider the Conditional Use Permit and the proposed project IS/MND at a public hearing after CEQA review has been completed.

Planning Commission meetings, begin at 9:00 a.m., and are held in the Board Chambers of the County Administration Building; located at 2222 M Street, Merced, CA 95340.

**Public Review Period:** A 30-day public review period for the IS/ND will begin on February 17, 2023. Written comments may be mailed, submitted in person, or emailed to the contact person identified below no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2022.

**Lead Agency Contact** Cameron Christie, Planner I  
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