INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION

[Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(c) and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15070-15071]

LEAD AGENCY: San Joaquin County Community Development Department

PROJECT APPLICANT: EVAN ZEFF ARCHITECT

PROJECT TITLE/FILE NUMBER(S): PA-2200192

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A Site Approval application to construct a 4,350-square-foot, single-family residence with an attached garage and covered patio within the OS/RC (Resource Conservation) General Plan designation. The residence will be served by a private well for water and a private septic system for sewage disposal. Storm water will be retained on site. A Private Right of Way is included in the project.

The project site located on the east side of N. Brovelli Woods Ln, 725 feet east of N. Sequa Ln, Acampo, and is accessed via a private access easement.

ASSESSORS PARCEL NO(S).: 003-100-33

ACRES: 40.6 acres

GENERAL PLAN: OS/RC

ZONING: AG-40

POTENTIAL POPULATION, NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS, OR SQUARE FOOTAGE OF USE(S):

A 4,350 square foot residence.

SURROUNDING LAND USES:

NORTH: Agricultural with scattered residences, Tracy Lake SOUTH: Agricultural with scattered residences, Tracy Lake EAST: Agricultural with scattered residences, Tracy Lake WEST: Agricultural with scattered residences, Tracy Lake

REFERENCES AND SOURCES FOR DETERMINING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

Original source materials and maps on file in the Community Development Department including: all County and City general plans and community plans; assessor parcel books; various local and FEMA flood zone maps; service district maps; maps of geologic instability: maps and reports on endangered species such as the Natural Diversity Data Base; noise contour maps; specific roadway plans; maps and/or records of archeological/historic resources; soil reports and maps; etc.

Many of these original source materials have been collected from other public agencies or from previously prepared EIR's and other technical studies. Additional standard sources which should be specifically cited below include on-site visits by staff (note date); staff knowledge or experience; and independent environmental studies submitted to the County as part of the project application. Copies of these reports can be found by contacting the Community Development Department.

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

No

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

1.	. Does it appear that any environmental feature of the project will generate significant public concern or controversy?						
		Yes	X	No			
	Nature	e of conc	ern(s):	Enter concern(s).			
2.	Will th	e project	require	e approval or permits by agencies other than the County?			
		Yes	X	No			
	Agend	cy name(s):				
3.	Is the	project w	ithin th	e Sphere of Influence, or within two miles, of any city?			
		Yes	X	No			
	City:	Enter city	/ name	(s).			

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

	The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.								
A	vesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources		Air Quality				
E	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Energy				
(Geology / Soils		Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials				
F	lydrology / Water Quality		Land Use / Planning		Mineral Resources				
N	loise		Population / Housing		Public Services				
F	Recreation		Transportation		Tribal Cultural Resources				
L	Itilities / Service Systems		Wildfire		Mandatory Findings of Significance				
DETE	RMINATION: (To be complet	ed b	y the Lead Agency) On the basis of th	nis in	itial evaluation:				
	I find that the proposed proposed proposed proposed proposed by the proposed propose			fect (on the environment, and a <u>NEGATIVE</u>				
X	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.								
	I find that the proposed pro IMPACT REPORT is require		MAY have a significant effect on the	ie en	vironment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL				
	I find that the proposed project <u>MAY</u> have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An <u>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT</u> is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.								
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier <u>EIR</u> or <u>NEGATIVE DECLARATION</u> pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier <u>EIR</u> or <u>NEGATIVE</u> <u>DECLARATION</u> , including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.								
	alisa Gordant 3-6-2023								
Signat	ture				Date				

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be crossreferenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

<u>I. A</u>	AESTHETICS.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
	cept as provided in Public Resources Code Section 099, would the project:					
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?			X		
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?			×		
c)	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage points). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			×		7
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			×	2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	

Lana Than

Impact Discussion:

a) San Joaquin County is set within the greater San Joaquin Valley, with the delta and large expanses of generally flat, agricultural lands and urban development framed by the foothills of the Diablo Range to the west and the foothills of the Sierra Nevada to the east. According to the County's General Plan, scenic resources within the County include waterways, hilltops, and oak groves (County of San Joaquin 2035).

The project site is located between Forest Lake Road and Jahant Road in an area dominated by agricultural land, scattered residences, and Tracy Lake. in a generally flat area, surrounded by industrial development, residences, and agriculture. The project proposes building a 4,350 square foot residence on the 40 acre parcel. The project site is well off of any public road and, therefore, is not visible from any public road. The location and the small size of the project will result in a less-than-significant impact associated with scenic vistas.

b) There are two officially designated state scenic highways in San Joaquin County: I-580 and I-5 (County of San Joaquin 2035). Due to the project site's distance from both highways, the project site is not visible from 1-580 or I-5.

In addition, the County has designated 26 roadways within the County as local scenic routes (County of San Joaquin 2035). The project site is not located in the vicinity of any of the designated roadways therefore, the project would have a less-than-significant impact associated with scenic resources within a state- or locally-designated scenic highway.

- c) The project site is located well off any public roads in the area and cannot be viewed by passersby, therefore, the project will have a less-than-significant impact associated with the existing visual quality or character of the site or its surroundings.
- d) The existing lighting and glare conditions in the project area are typical of a rural agricultural area. New lighting for the project would be required to confine direct rays to the premises, with no spillover beyond the property line except onto public thoroughfares, provided that such light does not cause a hazard to motorists (Development Title Section 9-1015.5). Therefore, the project is expected to have a less than significant impact from new sources of light or glare on day or nighttime views in the area.

Less Than

Potentially Significant with Less Than Analyzed
Significant Mitigation Significant No In The
Impact Incorporated Impact Impact Prior EIR

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES.

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources. including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land. including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. -- Would the project:

- a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to a nonagricultural use?
- b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?
- c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?
- d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?
- e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

- a) The project is construction of a 4,350 square foot residence. The project parcel is designated as Grazing Land on maps provided by the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. The designation is for land on which the existing vegetation is suited to the grazing of livestock. Additionally, the project will not convert the land use of the property as the zoning will remain the same and the project will affect only the smallest portion of the parcel. Therefore, the project would have no impact associated with Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of State Importance conversion.
- b) The project site is zoned AG-40 (General Agriculture, 40 acre minimum) which permits a residential use. The parcel is not under a Williamson Act contract. Therefore, the project will not conflict with existing zoning or a Williamson Act contract.
- c-d) There are no forest resources or zoning for forestlands or timberland, as defined by Public Resources Code and

Government Code, located on or near the project site, therefore, the project will have no impact on corresponding zoning or conversion of such land.

e) The proposed project, a new single family residence, does not conflict with any existing uses as the zoning and General Plan designations will remain the same. Therefore, the project would have no impact on farmland and forest land conversion.

<u>III.</u>	AIR QUALITY.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact		Analyzed In The Prior EIR
the cor	nere available, the significance criteria established by applicable air quality management or air pollution ntrol district may be relied upon to make the following terminations. Would the project:					
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			×	72	
b)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			×		
c)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			×		
d)	Result in substantial emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?			×	750 to 1 7 to 1 1 to 2 1 to 2 1 to 3 1 to 3	

Impact Discussion:

a-d) The proposed project is a 4,350 square foot residence. The project site is located within the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin which lies within the jurisdiction of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (APCD). APCD is the local agency established by the State to regulate air quality sources and minimize air pollution. Prior to commencing construction on any permit-required equipment or process, a finalized Authority to Construct must be issued to the project proponent to determine the estimated number of emission units produced by the project. With implementation of the District Rules' requirements and implementation of recommendations, the project's impact on air quality is expected to be less than significant.

IV.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	ould the project:					
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		×			
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				×	
c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				×	
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?		×			
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?		X			
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?		×			

Impact Discussion:

a-f) The California Department of Fish and Wildlife Natural Diversity Database lists *Buteo Swainsoni* (Swainson's hawk), legenere limosa (legenere), Lepidurus packardi (vernal pool tadpole shrimp), and Rana boylii (foothill yellow-legged frog) as rare, endangered, or threatened species or habitat located on or near the site for the proposed project. Referrals have been sent to the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG), the agency responsible for verifying the correct implementation of the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP), which provides compensation for the conversion of Open Space to non-Open Space uses which affect the plant, fish and wildlife species covered by the Plan. Pursuant to the Final EIR/EIS for SJMSCP, dated November 15, 2000, and certified by SJCOG on December 7, 2000, implementation of the SJMSCP is expected to reduce impacts to biological resources resulting from the proposed project to a level of less-than-significant.

SJCOG responded to this project referral in a letter dated October 18, 2022, that the project is subject to the SJMSCP. The applicant has confirmed that he will participate in SJMSCP. With the applicant's participation, the proposed project is consistent with the SJMSCP and any impacts to biological resources resulting from the proposed project will be reduced to a level of less-than-significant.

<u>V. (</u>	CULTURAL RESOURCES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Significant	No	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	ould the project:					
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to \$15064.5?	7 - 7 - 1 7 - 7 - 7 - 7 - 7 - 7 - 7 - 7 - 7			×	
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?			77	×	
c)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?			×		

- a-b) The proposed project is a 4,350 square foot residence. Should human remains be discovered during any ground disturbing activities, all work shall stop immediately in the vicinity (e.g. 100 feet) of the finds until they can be verified. The County coroner shall be immediately contacted in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 7050.5(b). Protocol and requirements outlined in Health and Safety Code sections 7050.5(b) and 7050.5(c) as well as Public Resources Code section 5097.98 shall be followed.
 - c) In the event human remains are encountered during any portion of the project, California state law requires that there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county has determined manner and cause of death, and the recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation (California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5). In this way, any disturbance to human remains will be reduced to less than significant.

<u>VI.</u>	ENERGY.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	ould the project:			į.		
a)	Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy, or wasteful use of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		×		
b)	Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	7 - 2 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3		×		

Loce Than

Impact Discussion:

a-b) The California Energy Code (also titled The Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Non-residential Buildings) was created by the California Building Standards Commission in response to a legislative mandate to reduce California's energy consumption. The code's purpose is to advance the state's energy policy, develop renewable energy sources and prepare for energy emergencies. The code includes energy conservation standards applicable to most buildings throughout California. These requirements will be applicable to the proposed project ensuring that any impact to the environment due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy will be less than significant and preventing any conflict with state or local plans for energy efficiency and renewable energy.

VIII	CEOLOGY AND SOILS	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
	. GEOLOGY AND SOILS.					
Wo	ould the project:					
a)	Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:			×		
	i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.			×		
	ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			×		
	iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			×		
	iv) Landslides?				×	13
b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			×		
c)	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?			×		
d)	Be located on expansive soil and create direct or indirect risks to life or property?			×		
e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?			X		
f)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?		1 2 2 1 1 2 2 1 1 2 3 1		×	

a) According to the California Department of Conservation's California Geological Survey, the project site is not located within an earthquake fault zone. However, similar to other areas located in seismically active Northern California, the project area is susceptible to strong ground shaking during an earthquake, although the site would not be affected by ground shaking more than any other area in the region.

The Project would be required to comply with the most recent version of the California Building Code (CBC), which contains universal standards related to seismic load requirements and is codified within the San Joaquin County Ordinance Code under Section 8-1000. In addition, a soils report is required pursuant to CBC § 1803 for foundations and CBC appendix § J104 for grading. All recommendations of the Soils Report will be incorporated into the construction drawings. As a result, impacts associated with seismic ground shaking or possible ground liquefaction are expected to be less than significant.

The project site is located in an area that is relatively flat and does not contain any slopes that could result in landslides. Therefore, impacts associated with landslides are expected to be less than significant.

- b) The project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil because the project will require a grading permit in conjunction with a building permit. Therefore, the grading will be done under permit and inspection by the San Joaquin County Community Development Department's Building Division. As a result, impacts to soil erosion or loss of topsoil will be less than significant.
- c) As part of the project design process, a soils report will be required for grading and foundations and all recommendations from a soils report must be incorporated into the construction plans. As a result of these grading recommendations, which are required by the California Building Code (CBC), the project would not be susceptible to the effects of any potential lateral spreading, subsidence, or liquefaction. Compliance with the CBC and the engineering recommendations in the site-specific soils report would ensure structural integrity in the event of seismic-related issues at the project site. Therefore, impacts associated with unstable geologic units are expected to be less than significant.
- d) Expansive soils are characterized by their potential shrink/swell behavior. The Soil Survey of San Joaquin County classifies the project site soil as having a low potential for expansion. A soils report will determine if engineering specifications to reduce the potential for damage to the planned structures, required by the California Building Code (CBC) specifically for expansive soil, will be required. In this way, the effects of expansive soil on the project buildings are expected to be less than significant.
- e) The project is a 4,350 square foot single family residence. The project includes the construction of a septic system. All onsite wastewater treatment systems must conform to the requirement of the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Policy, the San Joaquin County Onsite Treatment Systems Local Agency Management Program, Title 9 of the Ordinance Code of San Joaquin County, and all other standards required. Prior to the issuance of a permit for an onsite wastewater treatment system, a soil suitability and nitrate loading study incorporating proposed staff and customer use shall be submitted to the Environmental Health Department, indicating that the area is suitable for septic system usage. Additionally, a percolation test is required to establish percolation rates. With these regulations in place, the project's impacts from relying on soils that can't adequately support a wastewater system are expected to be less than significant.
- f) The project area has not been determined to contain significant historic or prehistoric archeological artifacts that could be disturbed by project construction, therefore, damage to unique paleontological resources or sites or geologic features is anticipated to be less than significant.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Would the project:					
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			×		
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	J 3		×		

a-b) Emissions of GHGs contributing to global climate change are attributable in large part to human activities associated with the industrial/manufacturing, utility, transportation, residential, and agricultural sectors. Therefore, the cumulative global emissions of GHGs contributing to global climate change can be attributed to every nation, region, and city, and virtually every individual on earth. An individual project's GHG emissions are at a micro-scale level relative to global emissions and effects to global climate change; however, an individual project could result in a cumulatively considerable incremental contribution to a significant cumulative macro-scale impact. As such, impacts related to emissions of GHG are inherently considered cumulative impacts.

Implementation of the proposed project would cumulatively contribute to increases of GHG emissions. Estimated GHG emissions attributable to future development would be primarily associated with increases of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and, to a lesser extent, other GHG pollutants, such as methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) associated with area sources, mobile sources or vehicles, utilities (electricity and natural gas), water usage, wastewater generation, and the generation of solid waste. The primary source of GHG emissions for the project would be mobile source emissions. The common unit of measurement for GHG is expressed in terms of annual metric tons of CO₂ equivalents (MTCO₂e/yr).

As noted previously, the proposed project will be subject to the rules and regulations of the SJVAPCD. The SJVAPCD has adopted the *Guidance for Valley Land- use Agencies in Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for New Projects under CEQA* and the *District Policy – Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for Stationary Source Projects Under CEQA When Serving as the Lead Agency.11* The guidance and policy rely on the use of performance-based standards, otherwise known as Best Performance Standards (BPS) to assess significance of project specific greenhouse gas emissions on global climate change during the environmental review process, as required by CEQA. To be determined to have a less-than-significant individual and cumulative impact with regard to GHG emissions, projects must include BPS sufficient to reduce GHG emissions by 29 percent when compared to Business As Usual (BAU) GHG emissions. Per the SJVAPCD, BAU is defined as projected emissions for the 2002-2004 baseline period. Projects which do not achieve a 29 percent reduction from BAU levels with BPS alone are required to quantify additional project-specific reductions demonstrating a combined reduction of 29 percent. Potential mitigation measures may include, but not limited to: onsite renewable energy (e.g. solar photovoltaic systems), electric vehicle charging stations, the use of alternative-fueled vehicles, exceeding Title 24 energy efficiency standards, the installation of energy-efficient lighting and control systems, the installation of energy-efficient mechanical systems, the installation of drought-tolerant landscaping, efficient irrigation systems, and the use of low-flow plumbing fixtures.

It should be noted that neither the SJVAPCD nor the County provide project-level thresholds for construction-related GHG emissions. Construction GHG emissions are a one-time release and are, therefore, not typically expected to generate a significant contribution to global climate change. As such, the analysis herein is limited to discussion of long-term operational GHG emissions.

¹¹ San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. Guidance for Valley Land-use Agencies in Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for New Projects under CEQA. December 17, 2009. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. District Policy Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for Stationary Source Projects Under CEQA When Serving as the Lead Agency. December 17, 2009.

IX.	HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
	ould the project:					
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			×		
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			×		
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			×		
d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				×	
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?				×	
f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			×		
g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?			×		

- a-c) The proposed project is a 4,350 square foot single family residence. Pursuant to the Hazardous Materials Disclosure Survey submitted with the application, the facility does not handle or store hazardous materials on site. However, if that was to change, before any hazardous materials/waste can be stored or used onsite, the owner/operator must report the use or storage of these hazardous materials to the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) and must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations pertaining to the storage of hazardous materials. In this way, impacts related to the use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials are expected to be less than significant.
- d) The project site is not listed as a hazardous materials site on the California Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database map, compiled pursuant to Government Code 65962.5 and, therefore, will not result in creating a significant hazard to the public or the environment.
- e) A portion of the project parcel is located within the Airport Influence Area (AIA) for the Lodi Airport. The nearest runaway is located approximately 2 miles east of the project site. The project was referred to the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) on October 12, 2022. In a letter dated October 22, 2022, the ALUC responded that, because the project site

- was not located within the AIA, the ALUC was not required to review the project. Therefore, the project's risk of exposing people residing or working in the project area to safety hazards or excessive noise is less than significant.
- f) The project site is located in the northern portion of San Joaquin County and includes the construction of a new 4,350 square foot single family residence. The small scale of the project ensures it will not create interfere with access to either main evacuation routes and is not expected to generate a significant amount of traffic which would create traffic congestion that would interfere with the execution of an emergency plan.
- e) The project location is not identified as a Community at Risk from Wildfire by Cal Fire's "Fire Risk Assessment Program". Communities at Risk from Wildfire are those places within 1.5 miles of areas of High or Very High wildfire threat as determined from CDF-FRAP fuels and hazard data. Therefore, the impact of wildfires on the project are expected to be less than significant.

<u>X. H</u>	IYD	ROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Significant	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wou	uld t	the project:					
	disc	late any water quality standards or waste charge requirements or otherwise substantially grade surface or ground water quality?			×		
	inte suc	ostantially decrease groundwater supplies or erfere substantially with groundwater recharge the that the project may impede sustainable undwater management of the basin?			×		
	the the	ostantially alter the existing drainage pattern of site or area, including through the alteration of course of a stream or river or through the lition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which uld:			×		
	i)	result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off- site;		(23 - 2) (23 - 2)	×		
	ii)	substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;			×		
	iii)	create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or			×		
	iv)	impede or redirect flood flows?			×		
		flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk ease of pollutants due to project inundation?				×	
	qua	nflict with or obstruct implementation of a water lity control plan or sustainable groundwater nagement plan?			×		

- a) The proposed project is a 4,350 square foot single family residence. Included in the project is construction of a new well and septic system. Storm water drainage will be natural on the 40 acre parcel. All water and sewer improvements will be constructed under permit from the Environmental Health Department, therefore, the project's impact on degradation of the surface or ground water quality is expected to be less than significant.
- b) The proposed project, a single family residence, will utilize one onsite well for residential, potable water, an insignificant amount of water use in relation to surrounding agricultural uses. Additionally, the home site is less than an acre of a 40 acre parcel, having little effect on groundwater recharging. Therefore, the project's impact on the depletion of sustainable groundwater is expected to be less than significant.
- c) The construction of the proposed project would result in grading and soil-disturbing activities and the installation of new impervious surfaces. A grading permit will be required which requires plans and grading calculations, including a statement of the estimated quantities of excavation and fill, prepared by a Registered Design Professional. The grading plan must show the existing grade and finished grade in contour intervals of sufficient clarity to indicate the nature and

extent of the work and show in detail that it complies with the requirements of the California Building Code (CBC). The plans must also show the existing grade on adjoining properties in sufficient detail to identify how grade changes will conform to the requirements of the CDC. Additionally, the developer shall provide drainage facilities in accordance with the San Joaquin County Development Standards. In this way, any impacts to the existing drainage pattern of the site will be less than significant.

- d) The project site is not in a tsunami, seiche, or flood zone. Therefore, there is no risk of release of pollutants due to inundation of the project site.
- e) Because construction sites are capable of affecting water, the applicant will apply for permits from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) to protect surface and groundwater on site and to ensure that the project doesn't conflict or obstruct a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

<u>XI.</u>	LAND USE AND PLANNING.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact		Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	ould the project:					
a)	Physically divide an established community?				×	3., () 2. () 2. () 2. ()
b)	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an			×		

environmental effect?

- This proposed project is a 4,350 square foot single family residence. The project does not include construction of any feature that would impair mobility within an existing community, nor does it include removal of a means of access between a community and outlying area. Currently, the project site is not used as a connection between established communities. Instead, connectivity with the area surrounding the project is facilitated via local roadways. Therefore, the project will not result in dividing an established community.
- b) The project site has a General Plan Designation of Resource Conservation (OS/RC) and is zoned AG-40 (General Agriculture, 40-acre minimum). When building in an area designated as OS/RC on the General Plan map, a Site Approval application is required. The AG-40 zone, permits a residential use. Therefore, the proposed project is consistent with all land use policies and regulations of the County Development Code and 2035 General Plan, therefore, the project's impact on the environment due to land use conflict is expected to be less than significant.

XII	. MINERAL RESOURCES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wc	ould the project:					
a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known_mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				×	
b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?		No.		×	

Impact Discussion:

a-b) Pursuant to the San Joaquin County General Plan Background Report, Chapter 10 - Mineral Resources, the primary extractive resource in San Joaquin County is sand and gravel, with the principal areas of sand and gravel extraction located in the southwestern part of the county and along the Mokelumne, Calaveras, and Stanislaus rivers in the eastern portion of the county. The project site is located approximately 1 mile north of the Mokelumne River, the nearest of the 3 rivers mentioned. The State Mining and Geology Board has not classified the project site, however, the small scale of the project ensures that the will not result in the loss of mineral resources or mineral resource recovery sites within the region.

XII	I. NOISE.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wc	ould the project result in:					
a)	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			×		
b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				×	
c)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan, or where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				×	

- a) The project is a 4,350 square foot single family residence. Because of the small scale of the project, the project is not expected to have a significant impact resulting from noise.
- b) The proposed project does not include any operations that would result in excessive ground-borne vibrations or other noise levels therefore, the project will not have any impact on vibrations or other noise levels.
- c) A portion of the project parcel is located within the Airport Influence Area (AIA) for the Lodi Airport. The nearest runaway is located approximately 2 miles east of the project site. The project was referred to the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) on October 12, 2022. In a letter dated October 22, 2022, the ALUC responded that, because the project site was not located within the AIA, the ALUC was not required to review the project. Therefore, the project's risk of exposing people residing or working in the project area to safety hazards or excessive noise is less than significant.

XIV	7. POPULATION AND HOUSING.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	ould the project:					
a)	Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X	
b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				×	

a-b) The project site is located in unincorporated San Joaquin County, north of the City of Lodi. The proposed project is a single family residence. The project will not induce substantial population growth in the area either directly or indirectly because the project is not anticipated to result in an increase in the number of jobs available. The proposed project would not displace substantial numbers of people or existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere because there are no residences on the project site and the zoning will remain the same if the project is approved. Therefore, the project would have no impact on population and housing.

	Less Than				
Potentially	Significant with	Less Than		Analyzed	
Significant	Mitigation	Significant	No	In The	
Impact	Incorporated	Impact	Impact	Prior EIR	

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES.

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?		×		
Police protection?		×		
Schools?			×	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Parks?	10 mm		×	
Other public facilities?	1 (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1		×	

Impact Discussion:

a) The project is a single family residence. The small scale of the project ensures that it will not result in impacts that require the provisioning of new public service facilities. Therefore, the project is not expected to have a significant impact on service providers, nor will it significantly affect the ability of service providers to maintain current levels of service.

XVI. RECREATION.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				×	
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				×	

a-b) The proposed project is a single family residence and is not expected to increase employment at the facility. Therefore, the project would not result in an increase in demand for neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated, because the project will not generate any substantial new residential units and the project is not expected to result in an increased demand for recreational facilities. Therefore, the project will have no impact on recreation facilities.

Less Than Potentially Significant with Less Than Significant Mitigation Significant No **Impact** Incorporated Impact Impact Prior EIR

Analyzed

In The

XVII. TRANSPORTATION.

Would the project:

a)	Conflict with a program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadways, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?	1.77	×	7 +	
b)	Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?		X		
c)	Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	15 - 50	X		
d)	Result in inadequate emergency access?	C 12-3	×		

- The project is a single family residence, a project of such small scale that any impact on the transportation circulation system of the area is expected to be less than significant.
- b) The project is a single family residence. The Department of Public Works determined that a traffic study is not required because the proposed project is not expected to exceed 50 vehicle trips during any hour and would have a less than significant traffic impact.
- c) It was determined that this project will generate less than 110 automobile trips per day and, therefore, is considered a small project according to the Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA, as published by the California Office of Planning and Research (OPR) in December 2018. According to this OPR guidance, a small project that generates or attracts "fewer than 110 trips per day generally may be assumed to cause a less-than-significant transportation impact" with regards to Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).
- The project site is accessed via an easement. The easement is required to be improved to fire road standards. Therefore, site access will be provided for fire trucks and emergency vehicles to enter and turn around.

<u>xv</u>	Ш. Т	RIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact		Analyzed In The Prior EIR
a)	cha res 210 land the or	ould the project cause a substantial adverse range in the significance of a tribal cultural ource, defined in Public Resources Code section 074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural dscape that is geographically defined in terms of size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, object with cultural value to a California Native perican tribe, and that is:					
	i)	Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or				X	
	ii)	A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.			×		

Impact Discussion:

a) At the time development, if Human burials are found to be of Native American origin, the developer shall follow the procedures pursuant to Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15064.5(e) of the California State Code of Regulations. A referral was sent to Katherine Perez of the North Valley Yokuts Tribe for review. If human remains are encountered, all work shall halt in the vicinity and the County Coroner shall be notified immediately. At the same time, a qualified archaeologist shall be contacted to evaluate the finds. If Human burials are found to be of Native American origin, steps shall be taken pursuant to Section 15064.5(e) of Guidelines for California Environmental Quality Act.

Less Than Potentially Significant with Less Than Analyzed Significant Mitigation Significant In The No **Impact** Incorporated Impact Impact Prior EIR XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project: Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or X telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects? b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the and reasonably foreseeable future X development during normal, dry and multiple dry years? Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the X project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals? Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

- a) The proposed project is a single family residence with onsite well, septic system, and natural drainage. Therefore, the project will be served by private, onsite services and will not require relocation of existing facilities or require new facilities.
- b) The project will utilize a private, onsite septic system, therefore, will not have an effect on a wastewater treatment provider.
- c) The project site will utilize an onsite sewage disposal system to be constructed under an Environmental Health Department permit and is subject to the onsite wastewater treatment system regulations that will ensure compliance with the standards of San Joaquin County.
- d-e) As proposed, the project is not anticipated to generate solid waste in excess of State and local standards and will be able to comply with all regulations related to solid waste.

<u> </u>	. WILDFIRE.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
cla	ocated in or near state responsibility areas or lands ssified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would project:				
a)	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			×	
b)	Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?			×	
c)	Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?			×	
d)	Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?			×	

a-d) The project location is not identified as a Community at Risk from Wildfire by Cal Fire's "Fire Risk Assessment Program". Communities at Risk from Wildfire are those places within 1.5 miles of areas of High or Very High wildfire threat as determined from CDF-FRAP fuels and hazard data. Therefore, the impact of wildfires on the project are expected to be less than significant.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	377 B		×		
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?			×		All the second s
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			×		

a-c) Review of this project has not indicated any features which might significantly impact the environmental quality of the site and/or surrounding area. Mitigation measures have been identified in areas where a potentially significant impact has been identified and these measures, included as conditions of approval, will reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.

