

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Notice of Availability for Public Review

TO: Interested Individuals
 San Benito County Clerk

FROM: San Benito County Resource Mgmt. Agency
2301 Technology Parkway
Hollister, CA 95023-2513

Contact Person: Victor Tafoya, Assistant Planner, 831 902-2294
Project File No.: County Planning File PLN230003 (Use Permit)
Project Applicant: Michael Tobias, Tobias Farms
Project Location: 2250 and 2290 Shore Road, Hollister, CA 95023, within San Benito County, California (Assessor's Parcel 013-050-010)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Initial Study for County Planning File PLN230002 is available for public review and that the County as **LEAD AGENCY** intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for this project, which finds that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The public review period in which comments will be accepted for the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration begins **August 7, 2023**, and ends at 5 p.m. on **September 6, 2023**. The project's Initial Study, its proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, and the documents referenced in the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration are available for review at the County Resource Management Agency at the above address and at County Website <http://www.cosb.us/>. Comments may be addressed to the contact person noted above, and written comments are preferred. Please reference the project file number in all communications. **NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN** that a public hearing for this project before the County Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled for 6 p.m., **September 20, 2023** (or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard), in the Board of Supervisors Chambers of San Benito County, located at 481 Fourth Street, Hollister, California, at which time and place interested persons may appear and be heard thereon.



The proposed project, reviewed under County Planning File PLN230002, aims to amend Tobias Farms' current use permit for their existing facility at 2250 Shore Rd, allowing for the inclusion of packing operations within an existing 25,000 square foot storage structure that was previously approved and constructed under County Planning file PLN210003. No new building or site grading is currently proposed. The primary objective is to enhance workers' health and safety by providing improved working conditions for employees during the packing season. This entails conducting the packing operations indoors within a controlled environment, effectively protecting workers from extreme heat, cold, or rainy conditions. The workforce is expected to increase to approximately 15-25 employees during the packing season, with individuals sourced through a Labor Contractor. Transportation for the workers is typically arranged using vans, accommodating 4-6 people per van. Tobias Farms' normal business hours for the proposed project are from 7 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday, and from 7 am to noon on Saturdays. These hours of operation ensure compliance with regulations and effective management of the packing operations within the designated timeframe.