



Notice of Completion and Environmental Document Transmittal California Environmental Quality Act

SCH # _____

TO: State Clearinghouse P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613

FROM: Stanislaus County Planning & Community Development 1010 10th Street, Suite 3400, Modesto, CA 95354 Planning Phone: (209) 525-6330 Fax: (209) 525-5911 Building Phone: (209) 525-6557 Fax: (209) 525-7759

Project Title: Use Permit Application No. PLN2023-0042 – Aemetis Biogas LLC
Lead Agency: Stanislaus County Planning and Community Development Contact Person: Emily Basnight
Street Address: 1010 10th Street, Suite 3400 Phone: (209) 525-6330
City: Modesto, CA Zip: 95354 County: Stanislaus

Project Location: 7123, 7190 & 7215 S. Prairie Flower Road City/Nearest Community: City of Turlock
Cross Streets: S. Mitchell Road, and S. Faith Home Road Zip Code: 95380
Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 057-014-001 and 057-013-015 Section: 12 Twp.: 6 Range: 9 Base: MDB&M
Assessor's Parcel Number: 015 Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: N/A Waterways: N/A
Airports: N/A Railways: N/A Schools: Chatom Union and Turlock Unified

Local Public Review Period: (to be filled in by lead agency)
Starting Date: August 23, 2023 Ending Date: September 7, 2023

Document Type:
CEQA: [] NOP [] Draft EIR [] Supplement/Subsequent EIR [] Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) [] Mit Neg Dec [] Other:
NEPA: [] NOI [] EA [] Draft EIS [] FONSI
OTHER: [] Joint Document [] Final Document [] Other:

Local Action Type:
[] General Plan Update [] Specific Plan [] Rezone [] Annexation
[] General Plan Amendment [] Master Plan [] Prezone [] Redevelopment
[] General Plan Element [] Planned Unit Development [X] Use Permit [] Coastal Permit
[] Community Plan [] Site Plan [] Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) [] Other

Development Type:
[] Residential Units: Acres: [] Water Facilities Type: MGD
[] Office Sq.ft.: Acres: Employees: [] Transportation Type:
[] Commercial Sq.ft.: Acres: Employees: [] Mining Mineral:
[] Industrial Sq.ft.: Acres: Employees: [] Power Type: MW
[] Educational [] Waste Facilities Type: MGD
[] Recreational [] Hazardous Waste Type:
[] OCS Related [X] Other Agricultural Service Establishment

Project Issues Discussed in Document:
[] Aesthetic/Visual [] Fiscal [] Recreation/Parks [] Vegetation
[] Agricultural Land [] Flood Plain/Flooding [] Schools/Universities [] Water Quality
[] Air Quality [] Forest Land/Fire Hazard [] Septic Systems [] Water Supply/Groundwater
[] Archeological/Historical [] Geological/Seismic [] Sewer Capacity [] Wetland/Riparian
[] Biological Resources [] Minerals [] Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading [] Growth Inducement
[] Coastal Zone [] Noise [] Solid Waste [] Land Use
[] Drainage/Absorption [] Population/Housing Balance [] Toxic/Hazardous [] Cumulative Effects
[] Economic/Jobs [] Public Services/Facilities [] Traffic/Circulation [X] Other: None identified as of yet.

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Dairy facility with freestall barns, hay barn, milk barn, wastewater pond; communications facility; and a single-family dwelling and detached garage / General Agriculture (A-2-40) / Agriculture.

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

Request to establish a biogas facility on a 157.56± acre parcel located in the General Agriculture (A-2-40) zoning district. The project site is comprised of one legal parcel currently being assessed under two separate Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs), 057-014-001 and 057-013-015. The facility will take manure waste from existing dairies and capture the biogas that is produced in the break down process within a covered anaerobic digester. The digester will serve as a hub to process manure wastewater from the on-site dairy as well as three off-site dairies located in Stanislaus County within 1± mile of the project site. As part of this request, a 9.3± acre covered anaerobic digester, a 4,800± square-foot pretreatment skid including a fiberglass tank system, chiller, and compressor are proposed to be installed on APN: 057-013-015, which is 78.78± acres in size. After the digester captures biogas by-products, it will be sent through a pretreatment skid on-site and subsequently transferred via private pipeline off-site to the Aemetis Advanced Fuels Keyes facility, where it will be processed and upgraded to compressed natural gas (CNG). Wastewater from the off-site dairies will be pumped to the digester via a proposed underground pipeline located within the County right-of-way. The pipeline will extend to the west across South Mitchell Road and along Hilmar Road in order to access two dairies off Hilmar Road located on APNs: 057-007-005, 057-008-005 and 057-008-010). The pipeline will then cross over South Prairie Flower Road to the east to the remaining off-site dairy located on APNs 057-013-014 and 057-013-019. Wastewater coming out of the digester will be piped back to each respective dairy pursuant to the quantities listed under each dairies' current wastewater management plan (WMP); no net increase of wastewater will be applied to any of the dairies. Manure solids will be filtered out and used for normal dairy operations including bedding and crop fertilizer at each dairy. The parcel is currently improved with 437,132± square feet of building space consisting of six freestall barns, one haybarn, one milk barn, one single-family dwelling, one detached garage, a 7.5± acre dairy wastewater pond and a 130-foot-tall communications facility within an 800± square-foot lease area. No expansion of existing herd sizes will occur as a result of this project on any of the dairies associated with the use of the proposed digester.

The digester will operate 24 hours a day/seven days a week. The applicant anticipates one truck trip for a single employee who will be on-site seven days a week to inspect the property and equipment and perform standard preventative maintenance; no additional truck trips are anticipated beyond the one employee trip. The project site is currently served by a private well and septic system. The project site has existing access from County-maintained South Mitchell and South Prairie Flower Roads. As part of this request, the applicant proposes to gravel a 20-foot-wide driveway extending from the pretreatment skid to South Mitchell Road. Primary access to the site will be from South Mitchell Road.

The pipelines associated with this request are a small portion of an installation of 59.1± miles of pipe within Stanislaus and Merced Counties that will be used to transfer resulting biogas from digesters to the Aemetis Advanced Fuels Keyes facility. The pipeline is subject to review and approval by the Stanislaus County Public Works Department and is currently being evaluated under the Aemetis Biogas LLC Dairy Biogas Cluster Project Supplemental Initial Study with Mitigated Negative Declaration, dated July of 2023.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist:

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X". If you have already sent your document to the agency, please denote that agency with an "S".

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Emergency Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # <u>10</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Reclamation Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # <u>5</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mountains Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # <u>4</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry & Fire Protection, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Waste Management Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission | |



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Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: Stanislaus County
Address: 1010 10th Street, Suite 3400
City/State/Zip: Modesto, CA 95354
Contact: Emily Basnight
Phone: (209) 525-6330

Applicant: Aemetis Biogas, LLC
Address: 4209 Jessup Road
City/State/Zip: Ceres, CA 95380
Contact: Jessica Cardoso
Phone: 209-777-1712

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: Signature on File.

Date: