

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

Lead Agency: Tulare County Planning Commission c/o
Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov
jvilllis@tularecounty.ca.gov

FILED TULARE COUNTY JUN 27 2024 ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER BY: DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Applicant(s): Sam Simoes
3841 W. Hemlock Avenue
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 972-7990

Project Title: Special Use Permit No. PSP 23-130
Project Location - Specific: 13415 Road 136, Tipton, CA (APN: 300-050-024)
Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 9, Township 22 South, Range 25 East, Mount Diablo Base & Meridian
Project Location - City: Tipton Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Special Use Permit No. PSP 23-130 requests to allow an existing milking barn at a dairy (that is ceasing operations as a dairy) to be converted into a custom slaughterhouse for swine in the AE-40 (Exclusive Agricultural – 40 Acre Minimum) Zone. The beneficiaries of the project are the Applicant; the Communities of Pixley, Poplar, & Tipton, and Tulare County.

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))
- Common Sense Rule: CEQA Guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Section 15303, Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures
- Statutory Exemptions: CEQA Guidelines Section


Reasons why project is exempt: Based on Supporting CEQA Analysis for this Project the proposed project is consistent with the criteria outlined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because the activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

The change of the use of the property as a bovine dairy facility with 1,400 cows to a custom slaughter house with 125 swine significantly reduces environmental impacts related to Air Quality, Hydrology/Water Quality, and Traffic. Changing from 1,400 cows (1,400 Animal Units) to 125 Pigs (62.5 Animal Units) would be a reduction in Animal Units of approximately 95.54 percent. As the Project would generate less than 1,506 vehicle trips per day, it falls below the Air District's Small Project Analysis Level (SPAL) regarding assessing Air Quality Impacts. The total amount that water usage would be reduced is 98.58 percent. The proposed Project would reduce the number of trips per month by 2,752, which is an 87.72 percent reduction in the number of trips per month. The trips per year would be reduced from 37,644 to 4,620. The daily trips would be reduced from 103 to 13.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare County Planning Commission

Project Planner/Representative: Sandy Roper, Chief Planner Telephone: (559) 624-7110

Signature:  Date: 6/26/2024 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Gary A. Mills

Signature:  Date: 6/27/24 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency