

# Notice of Exemption

## Appendix E

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Merced

2222 M Street

Merced, CA 95340

**From:** (Public Agency): Merced County DPW

715 Martin Luther King Jr. Way

Merced, CA 95341

(Address)

Project Title: Gilton Solid Waste Management, Inc. Rate Adjustment Ordinance

Project Applicant: Merced County Department of Public Works

Project Location - Specific:

Unincorporated Merced County - Franchise Areas Nos. 6 and 7

Project Location - City: N/A

Project Location - County: Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Ordinance to adjust the rates charged by Gilton Solid Waste Management, Inc. for curbside waste collection services in Franchise Areas Nos. 6 and 7 in the unincorporated areas of Merced County. The purpose of the ordinance is to reflect increased operating costs and bring rates more in line with current economic conditions. The beneficiaries of the project include Gilton Solid Waste Management, Inc., which will receive a rate adjustment to cover its increased costs, as well as residents and businesses in the affected areas, who will continue to receive reliable waste collection services.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Merced County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Merced County Department of Public Works

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));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Section 15273(a)(1)

Reasons why project is exempt:

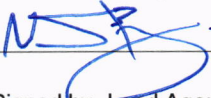
The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15273(a) (1), which provides that CEQA does not apply to the establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, and other charges by public agencies which the public agency finds are for the purpose of meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits. Here, the proposed rate modification is intended to allow the solid waste hauler to meet operating expenses and therefore qualifies for this statutory exemption.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Nathan Bray Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (209) 385-7602

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?    Yes    No

Signature:  Date: 29 JAN 25 Title: Director of Public Works

▪ Signed by Lead Agency    Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_