Notice of Exemption

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: Merced County
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

Project Title: Minor Modification No. MM24-011 to Land Use Permit No. LU 1883 for Tony L. Lopes Dairy Dairy Digester

Project Applicant: 4Creeks Investments, LLC

Project Location: Located on the south side of Bunker Road, approximately 2,600 feet west of Ingomar Road in the Gustine area, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number 070-010-006, 070-010-013, 070-010-014, and 070-010-015

Project City: Gustine **Project County:** Merced County

Project Description:

The project proposes to construct, install, and operate an anaerobic dairy digester and necessary infrastructure accessory to an existing dairy facility. The anaerobic digester pond would follow standards required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The project includes the required dairy biogas conditioning plant. The project proposes to receive liquid manure from four neighboring dairies under the same ownership.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Merced, Community & Economic Development Department

Name of Person or Agency Carrying out Project: Ana Hernandez, Planner I

Exempt Status:

☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 145269(b)(c));

☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15301 ("Existing Facilities") and Section 15311 ("Accessory Structures")

☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

☐ Other

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project involves establishing a dairy digester accessory to an existing dairy facility. The project does not involve an expansion or intensification of the dairy use or structures in terms of the area and space occupied by the dairy; or an increase in the number of animals. On-site employees, business or production output and daily vehicle traffic for the dairy would not change.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Ana Hernandez, Planner I

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (209) 385-7654 ext. 4422

Signature& Date: Ana Hernandez Digitally signed by Ana Hernandez
Date: 2025.04.30 09:07:57 -07'00'

Title: Planner I

Date Received for filing:

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