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**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**
Planning Division

Mark J. Mimms II
Director
Tiffany Ho
Deputy Director

DATE: November 20, 2025

TO: County Clerk, State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, and Interested Persons

FROM: Tiffany Ho, Deputy Director of Planning
Tiffany@countyofmerced.com
(209) 385-7654 ext. 4407

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT EIR FOR PUBLIC REVIEW FOR THE CORREIA FAMILY DAIRY FARMS EXPANSION PROJECT (CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. CUP21-009, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2024010339)**

NOTICE is hereby given that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) has been prepared by the County of Merced, State of California, and is available for public review pursuant to State of California, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines for the project identified above and described below.

PROJECT LOCATION: The Correia Family Dairy Farms is located on 60± acres of an existing farm totaling approximately 502 acres in unincorporated Merced County. The dairy project site and associated heifer facilities are located on the north and south sides of West Fahey Road, respectively, in the Gustine area of the County. The active dairy facilities on the north side of West Fahey Road are located on Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 070-270-008 and the associated heifer facilities on the south side of W. Fahey Road are located on portions of APNs 070-270-011, -019, and -020. The project cropland application area consists of 398± acres located on portions of 12 parcels (in addition to aforementioned parcels, APNs 070-270-006, -014, -018, -021, -046, 070-112-001, 070-100,014).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project proposes to modify and expand the existing dairy to house 3,000 milk cows, 390 dry cows, and 2,685 support stock (with a total of 6,075 animals). Considering the existing animals as the dairy facility, the proposed expansion would represent an increase of 3,945 animals from existing numbers. The proposed project would include construction of supporting buildings and features at the dairy facility, including five new freestall barns, two new loafing barns, and a new milking parlor and replacement dairy well. There would be approximately 11.4 acres of cropland converted to new facilities. Crops grown on site would continue to be used for dairy feed crops and supplement imported grain and hay.

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The Project's potentially significant environmental impacts include: Air Quality and Odors, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources and Tribal Cultural Resources, Greenhouse Gases and Energy Use, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use Compatibility, and Cumulative Impacts. Mitigation measures will be recommended, where feasible, to mitigate potentially significant impacts.

Buildings and Safety Division
Robert Lindsey, Deputy

**Economic and Castle Airport
Development Division**
Tamra Spade, Deputy

**Environmental Health
Division**
Amanda Duran, Deputy

Planning Division
Tiffany Ho, Deputy

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EIR AVAILABILITY: The DEIR is available for review at the Merced County Community and Economic Development Department (2222 M Street, Merced, CA 95340, Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM). The EIR is also available online at: www.countyofmerced.com/414/Environmental-Documents under the “Environmental Impact Report” heading.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD: Consistent with the requirements of Section 15087 of the State CEQA Guidelines, this DEIR is being made available for public review for a period of 45 days, starting on **November 21, 2025** and ending **January 5, 2026**. During this period, the general public, agencies, and organizations may submit written comments on the content of this DEIR to Merced County. Comments received on the DEIR will be responded to in the Final EIR. Comments should be provided at the earliest possible date but must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the last day of public review.

Any written comments on the DEIR should be sent to the Merced County Community and Economic Development Department, at the address noted above, to the attention of Tiffany Ho, Deputy Director of Planning or emailed to Tiffany.Ho@countyofmerced.com.

After the close of the public comment review period on the Draft EIR established by this notice, this matter will be set for public hearing before the Planning Commission at a date to be determined later. Notice of the date, time and place for such public hearing will be published and/or mailed as provided by law.