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## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:  Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Lead Agency: County of Tulare c/o Resource Management Agency  
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000  
Attn: [gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov) and [jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov)

Applicant(s): Darren Smothermon  
22463 Avenue 178  
Porterville, CA 93257 (559) 359-3269

Project Title: Zone Variance & Tentative Parcel Map Nos. PZV 25-020 & PPM 25-012 respectively

Project Location - Specific: Northeast of the City of Visalia, 31374 Road 144, Visalia, CA 93277 (APN: 108-130-013)

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: S1/2 of SW1/4 Section 9, Township 21S, Range 27E

Project Location - City: Porterville, CA Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The applicant is requesting this division of a 4.31-acre parcel into two (2) parcels (Proposed Parcel No. 1 = 1.06-acres and Proposed Parcel No. 2 = 3.225-acres, in the AE (Exclusive Agricultural) Zone within the Rural Valley Lands Plan. The beneficiaries of the project are the property owners who plan to construct a residence in the future.

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 Exemption: CEQA Guidelines 15061(b)(3)  
 Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 3 Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures**  
 Statutory Exemptions:


Reasons why project is exempt: This action is consistent with Section 15303 Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures; in this instance, the residence proposed to be built on the divided property would not exceed any number of structures limited within the AE Zone. Therefore, the application of CEQA Section 15303 is applicable and appropriate for this project.

Environmental Assessment Officer: Reed Schenke, P.E., RMA Director/EAO

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare


Project Planner/Representative: Emily Gage, Planner III

Telephone: (559) 624-7083

Signature:   
Gary A. Mills

Date: 7/9/2025

Title: Chief Planner,  
Environmental Planning Division

Signature:   
Michael G. Washam, A.C.E.

Date: 7/9/2025

Title: Associate RMA Director, Designee

Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to the LCI/SCH: \_\_\_\_\_

FILED  
TULARE COUNTY

JUL 10 2025

ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER  
BY:

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE