



Department of
Cannabis Control
CALIFORNIA

NOTICE of EXEMPTION from CEQA
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CANNABIS CONTROL

P.O. BOX 419106, RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95741-9106

PHONE: (844) 612-2322

Email: ENVIRONMENTALREVIEW@CANNABIS.CA.GOV

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Cannabis Control
Environmental Evaluation Office
P.O. Box 419106
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9106

Project Title: CHIPS18 LLC (Project)

Project Location: The Project is located at 099-030-058 in Santa Barbara County.

County: Santa Barbara County

Project Description: The Department of Cannabis Control, pursuant to authority granted under Business and Professions Code, Division 10, Chapter 2, Section 26012, approved six Medium Outdoor commercial cannabis licenses.

Project Activities: The project is an existing cannabis cultivation site located at 3700 Hwy 135, Los Alamos, CA, 93440 (APN 099-030-058). Outdoor cannabis cultivation and associated activities occur on approximately 60 acres of the 89.19 parcel. The applicant proposes to add 6 Medium Outdoor licenses to areas that were previously occupied with several Small Outdoor licenses. Water for cultivation purposes is provided by an existing on-site irrigation well and stored within ten (12) 5,000-gallon water tanks. Cannabis and landscape screening are irrigated using a timed drip system. Cannabis is grown within hoophouse structures, and no lighting is to be located inside the hoop structures. The project includes outdoor cultivation of cannabis and the use of eight (8) agricultural accessory structures for drying and processing of the crop. The land-use permit issued by the county of Santa Barbara also includes validation of five (5) open storage structures as follows: one (1) 640 square-foot open storage structure, one (1) 2,200 open storage structure; one (1) 1,800 square-foot open storage structure; one (1) 4,200 square-foot open storage structure, and one (1) 2,000 square-foot open storage structure. The commercial cannabis operation requires approximately 2-4 fulltime employees onsite during all seasons. Cannabis plant waste generated at the project site is both composted onsite and hauled to a landfill. The project site is zoned AGII-100, which allows for commercial cannabis cultivation.

Exemption Status: (check one)

- Ministerial [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(1); CCR, Sec. 15268]
- Declared Emergency [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(3); CCR, Sec. 15269(a)]
- Emergency Project [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(4); CCR, Sec. 15269(b)(c)]
- Categorical Exemption: [Class 1 Categorical Exemption Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, §15301]
- Statutory Exemptions: [CCR, Sec. 15183]
- General Rule [CCR, Sec. 15061(b)(3)]

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The Department of Cannabis Control has determined that the project is a Class 1 Categorical Exemption Project. Class 1 Categorical Exemptions consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alterations to existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The Project involves the use of an existing building with no proposal for expansion. The design, location, size, and operating characteristics of the Project are compatible with the existing and future land uses within the vicinity as it is zoned for light industrial.

The Department of Cannabis Control has determined that the project is consistent with the local jurisdiction community plan and/or zoning designations. On February 6, 2018, Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and approved the Cannabis Land Use Ordinance and Licensing Program. CEQA mandates that the project is consistent with the development density established by existing zoning, community plan, or general plan policies for which an EIR was certified and shall not require additional environmental review, except as might be necessary to examine whether there are project-specific significant effects which are peculiar to the project or its site.

The project activity fits within the parameters included in CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 and the activity does not require additional CEQA analysis.

This is to certify that the final environmental document, comments and responses, and the record of project approval are available to the public at the following location:

Department of Cannabis Control
Environmental Evaluation Office
P.O. Box 419106
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9106

Michael Keys
Contact Name

Environmental Scientist
Contact Title

916-885-4102
Phone #

Signature

TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR: