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

FILED
TULARE COUNTY

SEP 29 2025

ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER
BY:

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Lead Agency: Tulare County c/o Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: Gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov
jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Cornerstone Dairy
8769 Avenue 128
Tipton, CA 93272 (559) 752-6513

Project Title: Minor Modification No. MIM 25-025, Cornerstone Dairy

Project Location - Specific: 8769 Avenue 128, Tipton, CA 93272 (APN 293-090-013)

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 16, Township 22S, Range 24E

Project Location - City: Tipton, CA **Project Location - County:** Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Notice of Exemption for Minor Modification No. MIM 25-025 for the allowance to update the site plan to add a new freestall barn to the existing established Dairy Facility, in the AE-40 (Exclusive Agriculture – 40 Acre Minimum) Zone, within the Rural Valley Lands Plan, with the Land Use Designation of Valley Agriculture.

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

Reasons why project is exempt: This action is consistent with Section 15061 (b)(3), The Common Sense Rule, whereas the allowance to update the site plan can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. This is because the Minor Modification is merely updating a site plan to allow the add a new freestall barn to the existing established Dairy Facility to the existing Special Use Permit, in the AE-40 (Exclusive Agriculture – 40 Acre Minimum) Zone, within the Rural Valley Lands Plan, with the Land Use Designation of Valley Agriculture, which were approved by Special Use Permit No. 94-124 (PC). The use has already been through a CEQA review by way of an approved Negative Declaration, that was approved by the Tulare County Planning Commission on March 8, 1995, Resolution No. 7352. Therefore, the application of CEQA Section 15061(b)(3) is applicable and appropriate for this project.

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

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare County Resource Management Agency

Project Planner/Representative: David Alexander, Planner III **Telephone:** (559) 624-7000

Signature: Gary A Mills Date: 9/29/2025 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Gary A Mills Environmental Planning Division

Signature: Michael Washam Date: 9/29/2025 Title: Associate RMA Director, Designee
Michael G. Washam, A.C.E.

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to the LCI/SCH: _____