

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 and jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Manuel Leal & Son Dairy
7027 Avenue 208
Tulare, CA 93274 (559) 624-7000

Project Title: Minor Modification No. MIM 26-019, Manuel Leal & Son Dairy

Project Location - Specific: 6500 Avenue 208, Tulare, CA 93274 (APN 158-160-004)

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Section 24, Township 20S, Range 23E

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

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The Applicant, Manuel Leal & Son Dairy, is requesting to allow for a new freestall barn over an existing open coral located on an existing dairy site. The dairy is located in the AE-40 (Exclusive Agriculture – 40 Acre Minimum) Zone, within the Rural Valley Lands Plan, with the Land Use Designation of Valley Agriculture. The beneficiary of the project is the Applicant.

Exempt Status: (check one)

☒ Categorical Exemption: **CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3) Common Sense Rule**

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 removal of an open corral to be replaced with a new freestall barn to the existing established Dairy Facility to the existing Special Use Permit, in the AE-40 Zone, within the Rural Valley Lands Plan, with the Land Use Designation of Valley Agriculture, which were approved by PSP 94-053 (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 July 26, 1996, Resolution No. 7516. 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: County of Tulare

Project Planner/Representative: Danielle Folk, Planner III

Telephone: (559) 624-7029

Signature: 
Gary A. Mills

Date: 07/14/2026

Title: Chief Planner,
Environmental Planning Division

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

Date: 7/14/26

Title: Associate RMA Director, Designee

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

Date submitted to the LCI/SCH: _____

FILED
TULARE COUNTY

JUL 23 2026

ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER
BY:

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE