

Notice of Exemption**Form D**

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Applicant: Costamagna Farms No. 3

Project Title: Costamagna Farms No. 3 Solar Project

Project Location – Specific: NE corner of W Cole Ave. and S Jameson Ave. (Parcel # 068-090-43S)

Project Location – City: Lemoore **Project Location – County:** Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will install a 1097.3 kilowatt solar photovoltaic energy system for six existing on-site electric irrigation pumps (including deep-well, filter-station, and lift-pumps). The ground-mounted solar arrays with solar tracker technology will be located on approximately six acres of fallowed cropland at the northeast corner of W Cole Avenue and S Jameson Avenue, and will satisfy a quarter of the farm's total electricity needs. Installation of the arrays and perimeter fencing for safety will require some minor trenching and post-driving. A 30-foot-wide bed of gravel will surround the arrays to allow easy maintenance and operational access to the system without interfering with the farming operations.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Margie Castamagna

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial Exemption (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1);
- Declared Emergency (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3);
- Emergency Project (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(4);
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number.
Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §§ 15301, 15304, and 15311
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number. Pub. Resources Code section 21080.35
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301: The project involves minor alteration and operation of existing facilities. Solar arrays will be installed to power existing on-site agricultural irrigation pumps. These installations will not expand the existing agricultural use and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304: The project to install solar arrays involves minor grading, trenching, and backfilling to provide an alternate source of power for the existing on-site irrigation pumps. These activities will not have a significant effect on the environment.

California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15311: The project will install new solar arrays to serve the existing, on-going agricultural operation. These installations will not expand the existing agricultural use and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Each exemption is an independent basis for finding the project exempt.


Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Myoung-Ae Jones **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-651-1464

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature:  **Date:** July 16, 19 **Title:** ECS 1

- Signed by Lead Agency
 Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUL 16 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE