



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Date: **JAN 31 2014**

From: San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District
1990 East Gettysburg
Fresno, CA 93726

To: County Clerk/Recorder
County of San Joaquin
44 N. San Joaquin St., Ste. 250
Stockton, CA 95202

Project Title: Pacific Ethanol Corn Oil Extraction System, Project No. N-1132556

Project Location - Specific: 3028 Navy Drive

Project Location - City: Stockton

Project Location - County: San Joaquin.

Description of Project: The San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (District) has received an Authority to Construct (ATC) application from Pacific Ethanol Stockton, LLC to construct and operate a corn oil extraction system within the existing facility boundaries. The corn oil extraction system would include one (1) 36,000 gallon heat soak tank, three (3) centrifuges, and two (2) 10,500 gallon corn oil storage tanks with truck load out system. The corn oil extraction system will take existing product stream (distiller's syrup) from the existing wet cake process and redirect it prior to being used as a final co-product. The proposed new equipment will tie into existing equipment and will take the syrup byproduct from the ethanol production and wet cake processes and process it further to extract more corn oil from the syrup. Once the corn oil has been removed, the remaining syrup byproduct will be returned back to the original process.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial: §21080(b)(1); 15268
- Declared Emergency: §21080(b)(3); 15269(a)
- Emergency Project: §21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)
- Categorical Exemption: 15301
- Statutory Exemptions:
- General Exemption: Section 15061(b)(3)

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The project is located within the boundaries of an existing facility. The project is allowed under current zoning and land use designations and does not require permits from any other agency. District staff concludes that there is no substantial evidence in the whole record before the District that the proposed project would cause any adverse effects on the environment. Therefore, the District finds that the project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guideline §15301 (Existing Facilities), and finds that the project is exempt per the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment (CCR §15061(b)(3)).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jessica Willis **Area Code/Telephone:** (559) 230-6000

Signature:  **Date:** **JAN 31 2014** **Title:** Director of Permit Services

Date received for filing by OPR: _____