



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

**INITIAL STUDY/ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST/
PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

A. PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Project Title:

Saint-Gobain Containers, Inc. (Saint-Gobain) Project Number C-1053187

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726-0244

3. Contact Person:

Planning/CEQA: Debbie Johnson
(559) 230-5800

Permit Services: Darrin Pampaian
(559) 230-6000

4. Project Location:

24441 Avenue 12
Road 24 ½, Madera, California

5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

Saint-Gobain Containers, Inc.
Valerie Krulic, Director Environmental
P.O. Box 4200
Muncie, IN 47307-4200

6. Assessor's Parcel Number:

046-010-014

7. General Plan Designation/Zoning:

General Plan/Zoning Designations: Heavy Industrial



8. Project Description:

Saint-Gobain operates a container glass manufacturing facility in Madera, California. Saint-Gobain intends to make changes to its Madera, California facility to expand Furnace #2 and also to implement the requirements of the consent decree with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) that was lodged on April 28, 2005 and signed into effect on June 22, 2005. Saint-Gobain submitted an original Authority to Construct (ATC) application for the proposed changes on July 21, 2005.

Furnace #1

The facility operates a natural gas-fired glass Furnace #1 [North] (PTO #C-801-1-9), with a potential production throughput (pull rate) of 450 tons/day of glass melted based on their permit limit of 75 MMBtu/hr plus 2,000 kVA of electrical boost. ATC 801-1-8 issued for this emission unit allows for the installation of a blower air staging (BAS) system for carbon monoxide (CO) control.

This project only involves the addition of SO_x and PM₁₀ emission controls to Furnace #1 and will not result in any structural or operational changes to this furnace.

Furnace #2

The facility operates a natural gas-fired glass Furnace #2 [South] (PTO #C-801-2-5), with a potential production throughput (pull rate) of 538 tons/day of glass melted.

As part of the proposed project, the existing regenerative furnace will be replaced with an oxy-fuel fired furnace with a potential production throughput (pull rate) of 600 tons/day of glass melted and SO_x and PM₁₀ emission controls will be added. The proposed new Furnace #2 is being constructed specifically for the facility and, therefore, does not have a make or model number. The burners used will be Eclipse Primefire 400 low-NO_x flat flame burners. This furnace will have ten burners including six burners with a capacity between 5 and 20 MMBtu/hr and four burners with a capacity between 2 and 8 MMBtu/hr. The total heat input to the burners will be limited to 85 MMBtu/hr. The furnace will also be equipped with 3,600 kVa electric boost.

The facility has proposed modifications to the existing permit units:

- Installation of a scrubber and electrostatic precipitator (ESP) on the existing 75 MMBtu/hr natural gas-fired container glass melting Furnace #1 (C-801-1-9). The facility is proposing to install these controls to reduce SO_x and PM₁₀ emissions as a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) as described in the USEPA Consent Decree.



- Replacement of the existing 75 MMBtu/hr natural gas-fired container glass melting Furnace #2 (C-801-2-5) with an expanded oxy-fuel fired glass melting furnace. Installation of a scrubber and ESP on the oxy-fuel fired glass melting furnace. The facility is proposing the furnace replacement to expand production and reduce NO_x emissions and the installation of the scrubber and ESP to reduce SO_x and PM₁₀ emissions. The USEPA Consent Decree requires emissions reductions.
- Additional throughput for the existing mold swabbing operations (C-801-11-2) and the existing hot end bottle treatment system (C-801-12-2).
- Replacement of the existing diesel-fired 250 kW emergency generator (C-801-7-2), and existing emergency natural gas-fired internal combustion engine powering exhaust fan for Furnace #2 during power failures (C-801-10-2) diesel-fired backup generator.
- Replacement of the existing 7.9 MMBtu/hr natural gas-fired distributor for Furnace #2 with a 10 MMBtu/hr natural gas-fired distributor.
- Replacement of the three existing 5 MMBtu/hr natural gas-fired lehr shops #21, #22, and #23 for Furnace #2 with one 8 MMBtu/hr natural gas-fired lehr shop (#21) and one 10 MMBtu/hr natural gas-fired lehr shop (#22).
- Replacement of the three existing natural gas-fired forehearths for Furnace #2 (less than 5 MMBtu/hr each) with four new natural gas-fired forehearths (less than 5 MMBtu/hr each). Based on the rating of the new forehearths, these are insignificant emission units and are exempt from permitting requirements.

9. Other Agencies Whose Approvals Are Required and Permits Needed:

A building permit from the County of Madera will be required for construction related to project and is a ministerial action. Therefore, the District will be the lead agency regarding California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project site is currently zoned for Heavy Industrial land uses. The project will occur at the existing facility.

Adjacent Properties Zoning And Existing Land Use:

North Zoning: Heavy Industrial (HI)
North Current Land Uses: Winery



East Zoning: Heavy Industrial (HI)
East Current Land Uses: Agriculture

West Zoning: Heavy Industrial (HI)
Current West Land Uses: Winery Waste Disposal Area

South Zoning: Agricultural Exclusive (AE)
Current South Land Uses: Agricultural

10. Name of Person Who Prepared Initial Study:

Debbie Johnson
San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 230-5817



Figure 1

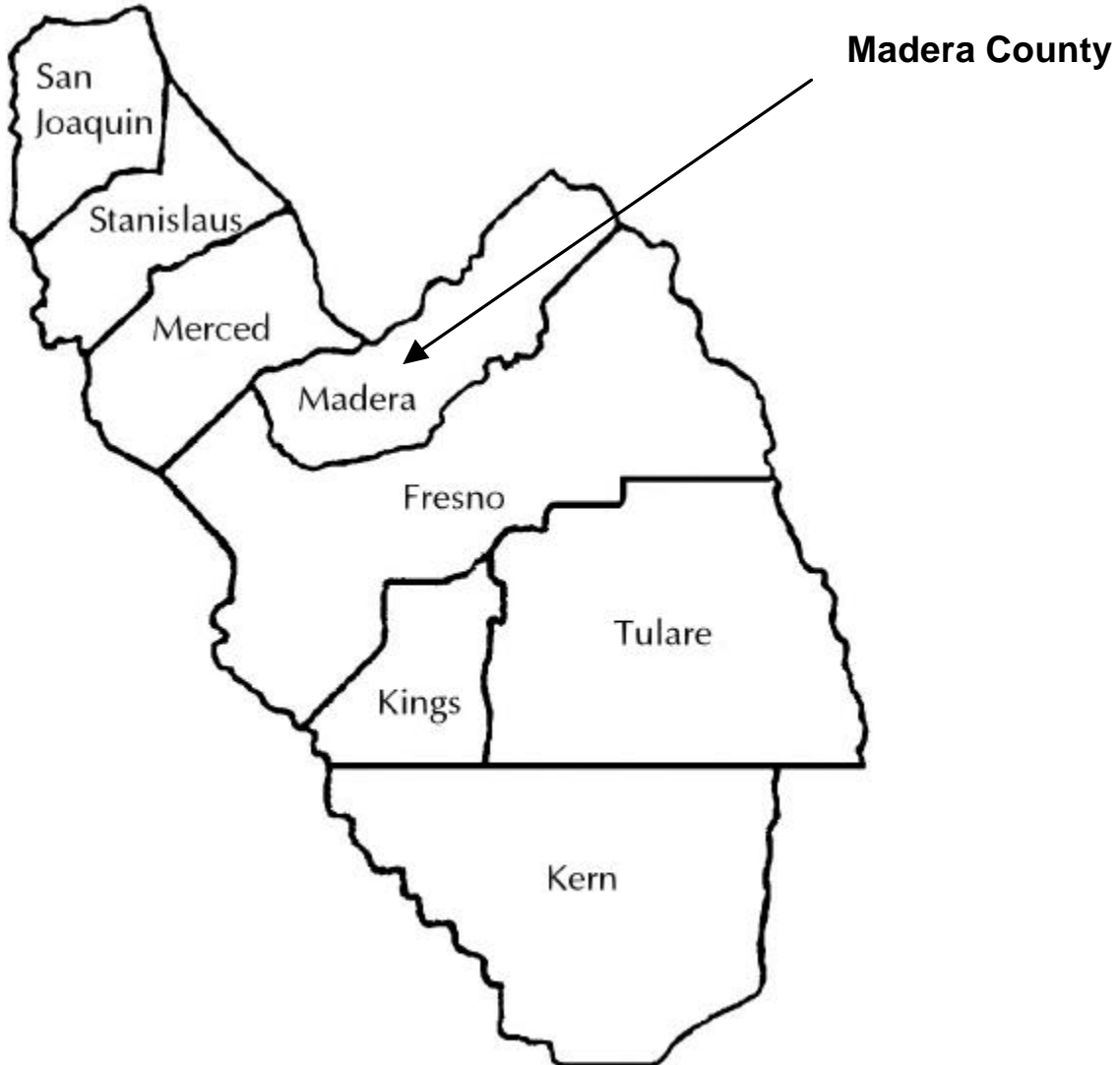
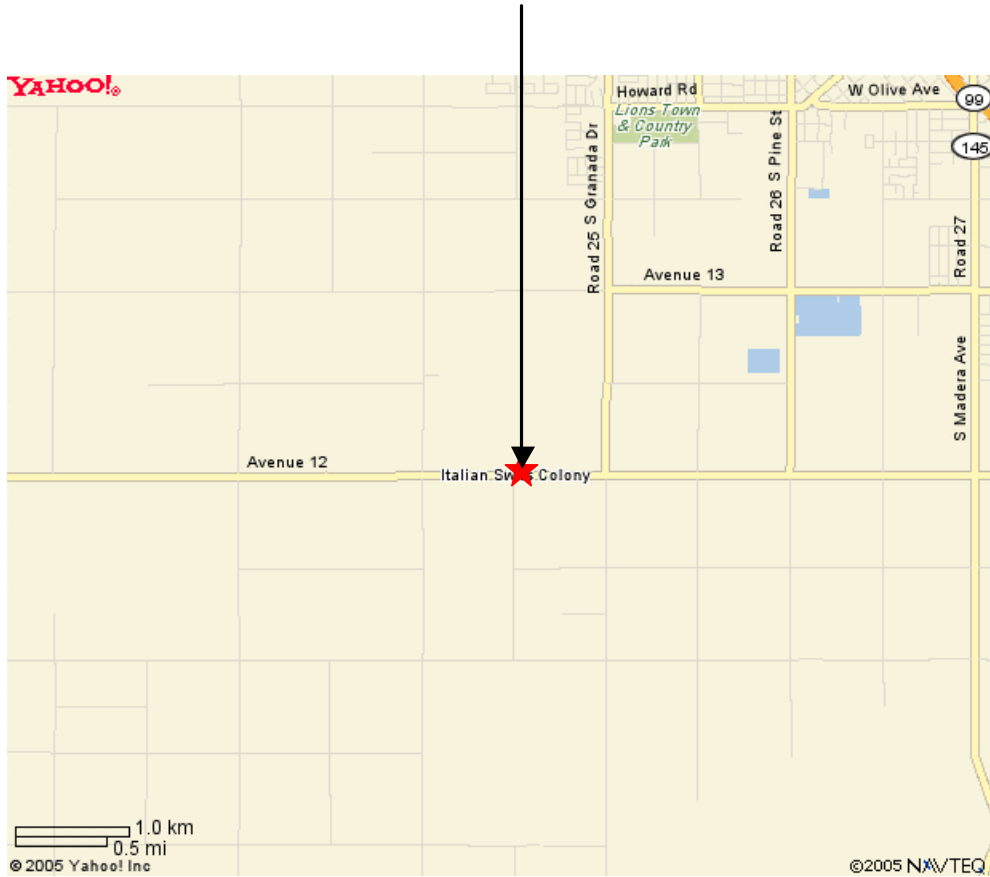




Figure 2
Saint-Gobain Containers, Inc. is located at 24441 Avenue 12, at Road 24 1/2





B. ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by the proposed project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" or "Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated", as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> | Agriculture Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hazards & Hazardous
Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hydrology/Water
Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> | Land Use/Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> | Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> | Population/Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> | Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Utilities/Service
Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mandatory Findings of
Significance | | |



C. DETERMINATION

I certify that this project was independently reviewed and analyzed and that this document reflects the independent judgment of the District.

- I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect(s) on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets, if the effect is a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated.” An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed name: Debbie Johnson
Title: Air Quality Specialist



D. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT CHECKLIST

Explanations of all answers on the check-off list are located in Section E.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS Would the proposal:				
a) Affect a scenic vista or scenic highway?				v
b) Have a demonstrable negative aesthetic effect?				v
c) Create light or glare?				v
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				v
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				v
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?				v
III. AIR QUALITY Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				v
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				v
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				v
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				v
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				v



IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?
- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?
- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?
- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?
- f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in '15064.5?
- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to '15064.5?
- c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?
- d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				v
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				v
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				v
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				v
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				v
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				v
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a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in '15064.5?				v
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to '15064.5?				v
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				v
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				v



VI. GEOLOGY/SOILS Would the project:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
 - i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.
 - ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?
 - iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?
 - iv) Landslides?
- b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?
- c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?
- d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?
- e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VII. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

- a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?
- b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?
- c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?



- d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?
- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?
- g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				v
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				v
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				v
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				v
VIII. HYDROLOGY/WATER QUALITY Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				v
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				v
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?				v
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				v
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				v



	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				v
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				v
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				v
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				v
IX. LAND USE/PLANNING Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?				v
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				v
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				v
X. MINERAL RESOURCES Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				v
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				v
XI. NOISE Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				v
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				v
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				v
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				v



	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				v
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				v
XII. POPULATION/HOUSING Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				v
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				v
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				v
XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?				v
Police protection?				v
Schools?				v
Parks?				v
Other public facilities?				v
b) Cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?				v
c) Induce substantial growth in an area either directly or indirectly (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?				v
d) Displace existing housing, especially affordable housing?				v



XIV. RECREATION

- a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?
- b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC Would the project:

- a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?
- b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?
- c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?
- d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?
- e) Result in inadequate emergency access?
- f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?
- g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?

XVI. UTILITIES/SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project:

- a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?
- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?
- c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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			v





- d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?
- e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?
- f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?
- g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

- a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
- b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively Considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?
- c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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E. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT CHECKLIST COMMENTS

I. AESTHETICS

The existing container glass manufacturing facility is located in a designated Heavy Industrial (HI) zoned area. There will be no new adverse aesthetic impact from the proposed project because the site is already developed to an industrial facility. The proposed project will not create any additional aesthetically offensive impacts.

II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES

The project will not have an adverse impact on agricultural resources. The project is located in a heavy industrial zoned area.

None of the planned activities in the proposed project are of a type that may have a negative impact on adjacent farmland. Most activities will be conducted in one of the buildings so there are minimal impacts off site. None of the project site is devoted to agricultural use; therefore there will be no impact to agricultural sources caused by the proposed project.

III. AIR QUALITY

The project will not obstruct implementation of air quality plans, violate any air quality standard, result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in any criteria pollutant, expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutants or create any objectionable odors. Modifying existing equipment and installing new equipment will not result in NO_x, SO_x, PM₁₀, and VOC emissions that will exceed the District's Threshold of Significance adopted in the Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts. The impacts to air quality would be considered less than significant and therefore are not cumulatively significant.

District rules and regulations constitute adopted performance standards that must be met to obtain approval of an Authority To Construct (ATCs). The emission limits and control requirements contained in the rules and regulations prohibit a regulated source from causing a significant air quality impact (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064(h) and Section 15064(i)).

The District's new and modified source review rule (Rule 2201) provides a regulatory structure that ensures that new and expanding facilities do not cause a cumulative impact on attainment of air quality standards in the San Joaquin Valley. The Saint-Gorbain project meets all requirements of District Rule 2201; therefore, cumulative effects on regional pollution levels are less than significant. Similarly, District Rule 2201 prohibits



new or modified sources of emissions from causing local effects such as pollutant hot spots and significant increases in cancer risk, and Rule 4102 (Nuisance) prohibits the creation of offensive odors. Analyses prepared in support of the ATC indicate that the project will not create significant local air quality effects.

Saint-Gobain received their Title V Permit on July 10, 1998. The Title V permit was subsequently renewed and expires January 31, 2008. Since the current project proposes lower emission limits for the facility, no offsets are required. The project relies on changes in potential to emit for determining offset requirements; therefore, this modification is being classified as a significant Title V modification, pursuant to District Rule 2520 (Federally Mandated Operating Permits) 3.20.3. The applicant does not request to have this application processed with a Certificate of Conformity (COC) with Title V requirements. Therefore, Saint-Gobain will be required to submit a Title V minor modification application prior to operating under the revised provisions of the ATC issued with the project.

For determining Saint-Gobain's Major Source Status, each criteria pollutant's potential to emit (PE) is considered. The potential to emit is the maximum capacity of an emissions unit (equipment) to emit a pollutant under its physical and operational design. The facility is currently classified as a major source of NO_x, CO, PM₁₀, and SO_x and will remain a major source for these pollutants after the facility is modified. However, this Project's Pre-Project Stationary Source Potential to Emit (SSPE1) at Saint-Gobain's facility is greater than the Post Project Stationary Source Potential to Emit (SSPE2). Therefore, with the modification of existing equipment and installation of new equipment the project does not exceed major modification thresholds.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This site has already been developed for industrial uses. Due to the historic industrial uses of the site where development is proposed it does not have any habitat value. The project will not have a substantial adverse effect on the habitat of sensitive species, riparian areas, federally protected wetlands, or interfere with any migratory fish or wildlife species with established migratory corridors. The project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources or conflict with any Habitat Conservation Plan. The project will not conflict with the Madera County General Plan.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

No cultural resources are known to exist on the container glass manufacturing facility site, therefore, no impacts to known cultural resources are expected to occur. The site is already established with structures. There is no possibility that this project could have any adverse effect on cultural resources including: historical resources, archaeological resources, paleontological resources, geologic features, or the disturbance of any human



remains. The proposed uses do not include any substantial excavation, however, in the unlikely event that any archeological or paleontological resources or buried human remains are uncovered at the project site, excavation activities will cease immediately. If this should occur, the contractor or project official shall consult Central California Information Center (CCIC), State Office of Historic Preservation in Sacramento, or the Native American Heritage Commission in Sacramento for recommended procedures, as required under Section 7050 of the Health and Safety Code and Section 5097 of the Public Resources Code.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

No significant adverse impacts are anticipated from the proposed project. There is an extremely low chance of geologic hazards due to the project location toward the center of the San Joaquin Valley floor. The project is not located in a known earthquake fault zone. It is not subject to landslides nor will it result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil.

VII. HAZARD & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Specific hazardous materials to be present in the proposed project and project design are discussed in this section. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated from the proposed project. Each material will be handled and contained with all required technology to minimize the chances of a release. The following potentially hazardous materials will be stored and utilized on the project site:

Furnace Slag – There will not be any furnace slag from the oxy-fuel furnace (Furnace#2). Slag from Furnace #1 will continue to either be cleaned out periodically using a vacuum truck or removed manually into a roll –off container. The slag will then be shipped to an approved waste treatment facility.

Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP) dust - will be stored in a 4,000-ft.³ batch silo. The dust is to be recycled back into the furnace.

Dry soda ash – Stored in 1,500-ft³ vertical storage bin.

Soda ash liquid mixture – Stored in a 1,800-gallon storage bin. Average soda ash to water ratio will be 10%.

Employees will be trained in the proper use, handling, and storage of potentially hazardous materials.

Proper training, handling techniques, and buffers will be utilized to ensure that any potential hazards or hazardous materials spills are minimized to the extent practicable. The project is not located on a private airstrip and the existing buildings are in compliance



with the applicable airport and land use plan. This project will not interfere with an adopted emergency response/evacuation plan.

VIII. HYDROLOGY/WATER QUALITY

No significant adverse impacts are anticipated from the proposed project. There is no water quality or water use impacts associated with the proposed the modifications.

IX. LAND USE/PLANNING

The site is in an area zoned for heavy industrial uses. The project site is an existing an industrial facility. The proposed project will not result in any alteration of the present or planned land use.

X. MINERAL RESOURCES

The project will not have an adverse effect on mineral resources. There are no known mineral resources on the site or in the immediate vicinity of the site. No impact on mineral resources is anticipated.

XI. NOISE

The project will not have significant noise level impacts.

XII. POPULATION/HOUSING

The proposed project is not expected to induce substantial population growth, displace housing units or people. The proposed project will not require the construction of replacement housing.

XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES

The proposed project is not anticipated to create significant adverse public service impacts.

XIV. RECREATION

No land use or planning requirements, including those related to recreational facilities, would be altered by the proposed project.

XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

The proposed project is not anticipated to generate any significant changes in vehicle activity; therefore no adverse impacts to transportation or traffic systems are expected.



XVI. UTILITIES/SERVICE SYSTEMS

The proposed project is not expected to have any significant adverse impacts to the utilities/service systems.

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

This project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

Based upon consideration of the information provided in the comments to the Environmental Checklist and other analyses performed for this project, it does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment or to interfere with either short-term or long-term environmental goals. There will not be any significant cumulative impacts.

F. Reference:

1. San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, "Authority to Construct Application Review: Container Glass Production Facility."