PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
INITIAL STUDY/PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

DATE: December 22, 2006

Project Title: Baker Commodities, Inc., Authority to Construct Application No. C-0072-1-2

Project Location/City: 16801 W Jensen Avenue

Project Location – City: Kerman, California

Project Location - County: Fresno

Description of Project: Baker Commodities requests an Authority to Construct (ATC) permit from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) for the installation of a third Dupps Model 1200 cooker to their existing rendering operation. No other local agency permits are required; consequently, the District is the lead agency under CEQA.

The facility is proposing an increase from 18.9 tons per hour (454 tons, or 908,000 lb per day) of raw material to 29.0 tons per hour (696 tons, or 1,392,000 pounds per day) of raw material. No increase in annual throughput is proposed. A potential does exist for minor spikes in daily truck traffic, however, the potential increase in diesel emissions is not expected to have a significant health impact to nearest resident or worksite. Nuisance emissions, in the form of objectionable odors, are expected to increase from the greater throughput of raw material, however, nuisance conditions are not expected to be significant, provided equipment is well maintained. The project will not obstruct implementation of air quality plans, result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in any criteria pollutant, expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutants or create any objectionable odors and no other significant impacts have been identified in the initial study.

The project’s discharge to land of wastewater is regulated by Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order No. 95-245 (WDRs). The wastewater treatment system is not adequately sized for current flow rates and nitrogen loadings. The addition of the third cooker will cause periodic increases in wastewater flow and nitrogen loading. Baker Commodities proposes to upgrade the wastewater treatment system and reclamation area, mitigating the project’s impact on water quality to less than significant.

Lead Agency: San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

Lead Agency Contact Person: Daniel Barber, Ph.D., Senior Air Quality Specialist (559) 230-5840

Addresses where document may be obtained:

District website at: www.valleyair.org/notices/public_notices_idx.htm

Any office of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, as identified below.


Anyone interested in this matter is invited to comment on the document by written response on or before 5:00 P.M January 21, 2007.