

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-48
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Applicant: Sun-Maid Growers of California

Project Title: Demonstrating a Fully Electric Raisin Dryer at the Sun-Maid Raisins Facility

Project Location – Specific: 13525 S Bethel Ave

Project Location – City: Kingsburg 93631 **Project Location – County:** Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will install a state-of-the-art, electric, raisin dryer including product conveyor, heating system, cleaning system, control hardware, and associated mechanical and electrical components at the Sun-Maid Raisins processing facility in Kingsburg, CA. The fully electric dryer will replace an existing natural-gas fueled dryer resulting in significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sun-Maid Growers of California

Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- Ministerial Exemption (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(4); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number
Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15301; Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15303
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project will involve minor alteration of existing mechanical equipment at an existing food processing facility and will result in negligible or no expansion of the existing use. The electric dryer consists of product conveyor, heating system, cleaning system, control hardware, and associated mechanical and electrical components. The materials used to construct the system are chemically inert, not hazardous to human health, and do not have a significant effect on the environment. In addition, all required permits for installation and operation of the system will be obtained prior to system installation and demonstration. The demonstrations will not have a significant impact on local air quality, noise, or traffic, and is expected to reduce local criteria pollutant emissions. For these reasons, the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and falls under the categorical exemption listed in 14 C.C.R. §15301.

Additionally, this project involves the construction, location, and installation of new, small facilities, structures, and equipment. In order to perform the demonstration, the system must be installed at the demonstration site. The installation will require minimal construction activity. The equipment will be placed

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

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within the existing industrial facility. It is possible additional small concrete pads will be poured or small enclosures will be built for supporting systems such as electrical support equipment. This minimal construction is well within the size limits listed in the examples given in 14 C.C.R. §15303 (e.g., it is less than a single-family residence, duplex, and the 2,500 square feet - or 10,000 square feet in urban areas - for a store, motel, office, restaurant, or similar structure). This construction will not have a significant impact on local air quality, noise, or traffic and will not induce additional operations at the site. For these reasons, the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and falls under the categorical exemption listed in 14 C.C.R. §15303.

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

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Kevin Uy **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-327-1533

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: Kevin Uy **Date:** 04/23/2020 **Title:** Mechanical Engineer

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 23 2020

Date received for filing at OPR: STATE CLEARINGHOUSE