

E202110000190

PLEASE POST FOR THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM FILING

## NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING:

TO: Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: CITY OF FRESNO  
Planning and Development Department  
2600 Fresno Street, Room 3043  
Fresno, CA 93721-3604

**FILED**  
SEP 30 2021  
TIME 2:00pm  
By Jessica Munoz FRESNO COUNTY CLERK  
DEPUTY

☒ County Clerk  
County of Fresno  
2220 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**SUBJECT:** Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code

**PROJECT TITLE:**

City of Fresno Environmental Assessment No. P18-03189 for Conditional Use Permit Application No. P18-03189.

**State Clearinghouse Number**  
**(If subject to Clearinghouse)**

**Lead Agency Contact Person**

**Area Code/Telephone**

2021080094

City of Fresno  
Planning and Development  
Dept.  
Jose Valenzuela, Planner III

(559) 621-8070

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

Conditional Use Permit Application No. P18-03189, pertains to approximately 2.1 acres of property located on the southside of East North Avenue, between South Cedar Avenue and South Golden State Boulevard in the City and County of Fresno, California. The project site is located in Mount Diablo Base & Meridian, Township 14S, Range 20E, Section 25.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Conditional Use Permit Application No. P18-03189 proposes an amendment to the previously approved Conditional Use Permit Application No. 15-030 by adding a Biomass Cogeneration Plant (BCP) and a wood pellet mill to the existing West Coast Waste Material Recovery Facility (MRF). The majority of the BCP equipment will be stored within an approximately 24,000 square-foot metal building on an approximately 2.1-acre area.

Currently, the MRF accepts 1,500 tons per day (TPD) of clean (pre-sorted) and green organic materials, wood waste, and wood chips suitable for recycled use by others. Some of this material cannot be recycled and must be disposed at a local landfill. The project will divert a maximum of 200 TPD of this waste organic and wood material from disposal at a local landfill which instead will be utilized as feedstock in the new BCP.

The proposed BCP will generate renewable electricity via a fully enclosed gasification/combustion process to create steam to run a turbine generator. The turbine will generate approximately five (5) megawatts (MW), of which 1.2 to 2.0 MW will be used to offset grid power used by the new process and to power new electric grinders. The remaining 3 MW will be sold to PG&E through an interconnection at the north edge of the site on South Golden State Frontage Road.

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The project has already secured Power Purchase and Interconnect Agreements with PG&E. Excess heat and energy generated from the BCP will be used for previously approved, but not yet constructed, anaerobic digesters to be located south of the existing 30,000 square-foot building. Ash a byproduct of the BCP will be captured and blended into mulch, soil amendments, and compost, for eventual sale.

The project will also require dedications and/or acquisitions for public street rights-of-way and utility easements as well as the construction of public facilities and infrastructure in accordance with the standards, specifications, and policies of the City of Fresno in order to facilitate the future proposed development of the subject property.

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This is to advise and certify that the City of Fresno, the Lead Agency, approved the environmental finding and assessment prepared for the above-described project on September 30, 2021. The following determinations have been made regarding this project:

1. The project (☐ will ☒ will not) have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☐ An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
☒ A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures (☒ were ☐ were not) made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan (☒ was ☐ was not) adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations (☐ was ☒ was not) adopted for this project.
6. Findings (☐ were ☒ were not) made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The above-described environmental assessment, together with the full initial study, comments and responses and record of project approval, is available to the general public at the City of Fresno Planning and Development Department, 2600 Fresno Street, Room 3043, Fresno, California 93721-3604.



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Jose Valenzuela  
Planner III

9-30-2021

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Date

Attachments: Project Vicinity Map