

Notice of Exemption**Appendix E**

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Sonoma

585 Fiscal Drive, Ste 103

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

From: (Public Agency): Sonoma County
Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures
133 Aviation Blvd, Ste 110, Santa Rosa CA 95403

(Address)

Project Title: VESCO Amendments for Replanting Cultivated Lands and Permit Extensions

Project Applicant: County of Sonoma

Project Location - Specific:

Countywide

Project Location - City: _____ Project Location - County: Sonoma

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project is to amend provisions of Chapter 36 of the Sonoma County Code (Vineyard and Orchard Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance) (VESCO)) to establish a replant permitting process to convert cultivated lands to vineyard or orchard and to clarify the process for extending the term of vineyard and orchard replanting permits.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sonoma County Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: _____

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Sections 15061(b)(3), 15307, 15308, and 15301
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Existing cultivated lands have the same impacts as developing and maintaining vineyards and orchards and thus it can be seen with certainty that there will not be a significant impact from permitting crop conversion. Additionally, VESCO imposes additional environmental restrictions that would otherwise not be applicable to other cultivated lands thereby enhancing protections to the environment and natural resources. And because permitting crop conversion involves the minor alteration of topographical features with no or negligible expansion of use.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: _____ Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 565-2371

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: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

▪ Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

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

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____