



San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution Control District

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

January 17, 2006

Project Title: Wickstrom Dairy/Valsigna Farms- Application No. N-5753-1-1, 2-1, 3-1 and 4-1

Project Location: 6071 Larson Rd

Project Location-City: Hilmar, California

Project Location-County: Merced County

Description of Project: Wickstrom Dairy is applying for an Authority to Construct (ATC) permit to modify their existing operation. The existing as-built capacity of the dairy is physically limited to 1,800 cows. The applicant proposes to install a fourth freestall barn to house an additional 600 milk cows. This will bring the dairy's milk cows capacity to the 2,400 maximum allowed by the conditional use permit issued by Merced County in October 1997. The increased capacity will result in additional liquid manure being flushed into the lagoons, and additional emissions from the liquid manure system. In order to mitigate lagoon emissions due to the increase in the number of milk cows, the applicant is proposing to stop flushing from the heifer corrals. This will result in additional manure being handled as a solid and an increase in potential emissions from the solid manure management system. The expected increase in emissions is below the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District's Threshold of Significance for Reactive Organic Gases (10 tons/year) and is considered to have a less than significant impact on air quality.

Lead Agency: San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

Lead Agency Contact Person: Ms. Elena Nuño (559) 230-5800

Addresses where document may be obtained:

San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District:

Central Regional Office
1990 E. Gettysburg Ave.
Fresno, CA 93726

Southern Regional Office
2700 'M' Street, Ste 275
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Northern Regional Office
4800 Enterprise Way
Modesto, CA 95356

Or on the internet at: http://www.valleyair.org/notices/public_notices_idx.htm

Public Review Period: Begins: January 17, 2006 and Ends: February 6, 2006

Anyone interested in this matter is invited to comment on the document by written response on or before 5:00 P.M., February 6, 2006.