



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING
Agriculture Offset Exemption

LNG-1022
08/08/2017

Date: _____ Intake Planner Name: _____

Active APN(s): _____

Owner/Applicant Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Authorized Exemptions:

Ordinance 3308 includes the following exemptions for agriculture in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. (Check one.)

- Sites with existing irrigated annual or rotational crop production, where satisfactory evidence is shown that those crops have been planted within the last five years.
- Replanting of a site with the same crop type, as identified in Tables 2 and 3 below, where satisfactory evidence is shown that those crops have been planted within the last five years. Replanting must not exceed the acreage of the crop production being replaced.
- Expanded irrigated crop production on sites with crop types that involve implementation of new water efficiency technologies, where satisfactory evidence, as defined by resolution adopted by Board of Supervisors, is shown that crops have been planted within the last five years, and shall not exceed the average water use of the existing crop production, as identified in Tables 2 and 3.
- For the purpose of new crop production overlying the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (excluding the Atascadero Sub-basin), sites that do not have any existing crop production and are not within the area of severe decline (50 feet or greater Spring Groundwater Elevation Change 1997-2013) may be eligible for a one-time only de minimis exemption. The one-time only de minimis exemption is limited to the establishment of crop production representing a new total of no more than 5.0 AF per year per site. If a one-time only de minimis exemption is granted, the resulting crop production cannot be used as a source of Agricultural Offset Clearance credits in any future application. (An additional application (LNG-1005) must be submitted and approved prior to receiving this exemption)

Agriculture Offset Exemption

Table 2: Crop Group and Commodities Used for the Agricultural Demand Analysis

Crop Group	Primary Commodities
Alfalfa	Alfalfa
Nursery	Christmas trees, miscellaneous nursery plants, flowers
Pasture	Miscellaneous grasses, mixed pastures, sod/turf, sudangrass
Citrus	Avocados, grapefruits, lemons, oranges, olives, kiwis, pomegranates (non-deciduous)
Deciduous	Apples, apricots, berries, peaches, nectarines, plums, figs, pistachios, persimmons, pears, quinces
Strawberries	Strawberries
Vegetables	Artichokes, beans, miscellaneous vegetables, mushrooms, onions, peas, peppers, tomatoes
Vineyard	Wine grapes, table grapes

Source: Table 3 of the Agricultural Water Offset Program, Paso Robles Groundwater Basin, October 2014.

Table 3: Existing Crop-Specific Applied Water by Crop Type

Crop Group	Applied Water (AF/Ac/Yr)
Alfalfa	4.5
Citrus	2.3
Deciduous	3.5
Strawberries	2.3 ⁽¹⁾
Nursery	2.5
Pasture	4.8
Vegetables	1.9
Vineyard	1.25 ⁽¹⁾

1. Information obtained from RCD Program, UCCE, UC Davis (Strawberries 2011 data) Source: *Table 9 of the Agricultural Water Offset Program, Paso Robles Groundwater Basin, October 2014.*

Agriculture Offset Exemption

Site Description:

Describe the current state of the site, the site's planting and irrigation history (if any) and the reason for exemption application. Please include dates of plantings, crop types, and crop acreages (attach additional pages if needed):

Date Planted	Crop Type	Acreage	Water Duty (From Table 2 and 3)	Water Demand
Total				

Describe proposed planting on the site (crop types and acreages):

Crop Type	Acreage	Water Duty (From Table 2 and 3)	Water Demand
Total			

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Attachments:

Please attach the following to this application either electronically or in hard copy.

1. Site Plan(s) showing past, existing, and proposed planting (as applicable)
2. Evidence supporting the exemption. Please refer to the following list for examples of possible evidence for each exemption.
 - Existing Annual or Rotational Crop Production
 - a. Dated aerial photographs
 - b. Documentation indicating the existence of irrigated crops on site within the past five years
 - i. Ex: Contracts/receipts indicating purchase and/or sale of crops
 - c. Evidence of irrigation equipment
 - Replanting
 - a. Dated aerial photographs
 - b. Documentation indicating the existence of irrigated crops on site within the past five years
 - i. Ex: Contracts/receipts indicating purchase and/or sale of crops
 - c. Evidence of irrigation equipment
 - ii. Ex: Receipts, photographs, rental contracts
 - Improved Efficiency
 - a. Must provide verifiable evidence showing that the total water use of the site will not increase as a result of the expansion. Water use data for three years preceding the installation of the water efficient technology and one year following installation must be provided for this exemption. Evidence provided must indicate a water use reduction significant enough that the proposed acreage of the expanded irrigated crop production will not exceed the total average water use of the existing acreage of irrigated crop production, as identified in Tables 2 and 3 of Ordinance 3308.
 - New planting on a vacant site where water use will not exceed 5 acre feet per year
 - a. Location of site (must not overlie the area of severe decline)
 - b. Title report or lot book guarantee (a site is defined as a parcel or contiguous parcels under the same ownership. Only one exemption per site will be issued.)
 - c. Current aerial photographs showing no existing planting on site
 - d. Completed De Minimis Exemption Application (LNG-1005)

Agriculture Offset Exemption

I _____, the property owner of the parcel listed above, understand that Title 22 Section
Print First/Last Name
22.30.204 prohibits new or expanded irrigated agriculture without first obtaining an agricultural offset clearance. By signing below I certify that if at any time new or expanded agriculture is proposed for the subject property, the provisions of Title 22.30.204 may apply and I will contact the Department of Planning and Building to obtain the necessary clearances.

Signature

Date

Action (Staff Only):

- Approved
- Additional Information Requested (Describe)
- Denied

Processed By: _____

Date: _____