

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING THE  
EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
DUE TO ACCUMULATING LIVESTOCK  
MORTALITY /

PROCLAMATION NO. 20-03

WHEREAS, the facility Baker Commodities, Inc. (“Facility”) located at 7480 Hanford-Armona Road, Hanford receives and de-hides deceased livestock, then transfers the carcasses to its rendering facility in Kerman to complete the processing; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2020, the Facility suspended the collection of carcasses; and

WHEREAS, the Kings County Office of Emergency Services and the Kings County Health Department were advised of this situation; and

WHEREAS, the Kings County Health Department determined that the accumulation of such carcasses at the Facility and at other locations throughout the County will result in a public health hazard and that emergency disposal measures are necessary to protect the public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the adoption by the Legislature of Government Code section 8570.5 as a part of the State Emergency Services Act clearly indicates the State has determined alternative measures to deal with unusually high numbers of unprocessed carcasses are necessary in times of emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joe Neves, Kings County Emergency Services Director, do hereby proclaim as follows:

1. Based upon the extraordinary accumulation of carcasses at the Facility and throughout Kings County resulting from high temperatures and humidity and the lack of other alternatives, a health hazard exists and, effective immediately, it is hereby proclaimed that a local emergency exists in Kings County under the provisions of California Government Code section 8630 and Section 6-7 of the Kings County Code of Ordinances.

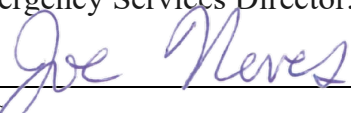
2. Based upon the above proclamation of local emergency, the Kings County Health Department and the Kings County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office are hereby authorized to take such actions as they deem appropriate and necessary to provide for the safe and orderly disposal of carcasses. Such disposal will be at a location and under the conditions determined by the Health Department and the Agricultural Commissioner to be necessary to create minimal risk to the environment and to the health and safety of the public. Actions taken hereunder shall comply with all applicable State statutes and regulations.

3. This Proclamation and the acts of disposal of the carcasses are hereby determined to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") under the provisions of CEQA Guidelines section 15269, which provides an exemption for emergency projects.

4. The Emergency Services Coordinator, the Kings County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, and the Kings County Health Department are hereby authorized to take other appropriate action which are deemed necessary in response to this local emergency.

5. The Emergency Services Coordinator shall take appropriate steps to notify the State Office of Emergency Services of this Proclamation and of the steps taken hereunder to address this local emergency.

This emergency is proclaimed on August 20, 2020, in Hanford, California, Kings County, California by Joe Neves, Kings County Emergency Services Director.

  
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Joe Neves  
Kings County Emergency Services Director