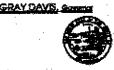
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1352 West Office Avenue Post Office Box 12616 Fresno, California 93778 TOD (559) 488-4066 OFFICE (559) 445-5465 FAX (559) 488-4088



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10-3

February 5, 2001

2135-IGR/CEQA KIN-VARIOUS DRAFT DAIRY ELEMENT OF THE KINGS COUNTY GENERAL PLAN

Mr. Bill Zumwalt Kings County Planning Agency 1400 W. Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230

Dear Mr. Zumwalt:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Program EIR for the Draft Dairy Element of the Kings County General Plan. Caltrans has the following comments:

The cumulative impact of future dairy developments together with other local projects was not considered. The proposed dairy developments coupled with all the other local projects could generate a significant traffic impact that needs to be studied. It would be very difficult to monitor and record the cumulative impact from all the individual and dairy developments on a project-by-project basis. We recommend a mitigation monitoring program, based on the project traffic impacts, be established within this new Dairy Element or amend the Transportation/Circulation Element of the County General Plan per the Public Resources Code, Section 21081.6, Subdivision (a).

Caltrans endeavors to maintain a minimum level of service (LOS) "C" on State highway facilities. Caltrans utilizes the methods outlined in the Highway Capacity Manual determining the level of service for State facilities. Caltrans considers the Florida Tables acceptable for planning purposes. Please consult the "Caltrans Guide for Traffic Impact Studies, January 2001" for details on our LOS recommendations. We request that our staff and your staff-meet to discuss methodology and set a scoping meeting

If you have any questions, please call me at (559) 488-7306.

Sincerely,

Al Dias

Office of Transportation Planning

District 6

Enclosure