# ☑ NEGATIVE DECLARATION ☑ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Initial Study & Environmental Analysis For:

HV 1-13 Alan & Mary Bornt Annexation

Prepared By:

#### IMPERIAL LAFCO

1122 State Street, Suite D El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 353-4115 www.iclafco.com

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SE</u>	CTION 1	PAGE
I.	INTRODUCTION	1-1
<u>SE</u>	CTION 2	
II.	ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST	2-1
	PROJECT SUMMARY	2-3
	ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS	2-4
	I. AESTHETICS	2-7
	II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES	
	III. AIR QUALITY	
	IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	
	V. CULTURAL RESOURCES	2-10
	VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS	2-11
	VII.GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION	2-12
	VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	2-12
	IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY	2-13
	X. LAND USE AND PLANNING	2-14
	XI. MINERAL RESOURCES	2-14
	XII. NOISE	2-14
	XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING	2-15
	XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES	2-15
	XV. RECREATION	
	XVI. TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC	
	XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS	2-17
<u>SE</u>	ECTION 3	

III.	MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE	3-1
IV.	PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED	3-2
V.	REFERENCES	3-3
VI.	MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION-COUNTY OF IMPERIAL	3-4
VII.	FINDINGS	3-5

#### SECTION 4

VIII.	RESONSE TO COMMENTS (IF ANY)
IX.	MITIGATON MONITORING & REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP) (IF ANY)

XX XX

### SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

#### A. PURPOSE

This document is a  $\Box$  policy-level,  $\boxtimes$  project level Initial Study for evaluation of potential environmental impacts resulting with the proposed Alan & Mary Bornt Annexation (Refer to Exhibit "A" & "B"). For purposes of this document, the Bornt Application & Annexationwill be called the "proposed applications".

# B. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) REQUIREMENTS AND THE LAFCO GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING CEQA

As defined by Section 15063 of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and Section 7 of the County's Guidelines for Implementing CEQA, an **Initial Study** is prepared primarily to provide the Lead Agency with information to use as the basis for determining whether an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Negative Declaration, or Mitigated Negative Declaration would be appropriate for providing the necessary environmental documentation and clearance for any proposed project.

According to Section 15065, an EIR is deemed appropriate for a particular proposal if the following conditions occur:

- The proposal has the potential to substantially degrade quality of the environment.
- The proposal has the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
- The proposal has possible environmental effects that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.
- The proposal could cause direct or indirect adverse effects on human beings.
- According to Section 15070(a), a **Negative Declaration** is deemed appropriate if the proposal would not result in any significant effect on the environment.
- According to Section 15070(b), a Mitigated Negative Declaration is deemed appropriate if it is determined that though a proposal could result in a significant effect, mitigation measures are available to reduce these significant effects to insignificant levels.

This Initial Study has determined that the proposed applications will not result in any potentially significant environmental impacts and therefore, a Negative Declaration is deemed as the appropriate document to provide necessary environmental evaluations and clearance because of the small area of annexation (1 acre).

This Initial Study and Negative Declaration are prepared in conformance with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et. seq.); Section 15070 of the State & LAFCO's Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15000, et. seq.); applicable requirements of the LAFCO; and the regulations, requirements, and procedures of any other responsible public agency or an agency with jurisdiction by law.

Pursuant to the LAFCO Rules & Regulations to Implement CEQA, depending on the project scope, the LAFCO

and/or Executive Officer is designated the Lead Agency, in accordance with Section 15050 of the CEQA Guidelines. The Lead Agency is the public agency which has the principal responsibility for approving the necessary environmental clearances and analyses for any project being annexed into any city within Imperial County.

#### C. INTENDED USES OF INITIAL STUDY AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION

This Initial Study and Negative Declaration are informational documents which are intended to inform City & County decision makers, other responsible or interested agencies, and the general public of potential environmental effects of the proposed applications. The environmental review process has been established to enable public agencies to evaluate environmental consequences and to examine and implement methods of eliminating or reducing any potentially adverse impacts. While CEQA requires that consideration be given to avoiding environmental damage, the Lead Agency and other responsible public agencies must balance adverse environmental effects against other public objectives, including economic and social goals.

The Initial Study and Negative Declaration, prepared for the project will be circulated for a period of 20 days (*30-days if submitted to the State Clearinghouse for a project of area-wide significance*) for public and agency review and comments. At the conclusion, if comments are received, LAFCO will prepare a document entitled "Responses to Comments" which will be forwarded to any commenting entity and be made part of the record within 10-days of any project consideration.

#### D. CONTENTS OF INITIAL STUDY & NEGATIVE DECLARTION

This Initial Study is organized to facilitate a basic understanding of the existing setting and environmental implications of the proposed application(s).

#### SECTION 1

**I. INTRODUCTION** presents an introduction to the entire report. This section discusses the environmental process, scope of environmental review, and incorporation by reference documents.

#### SECTION 2

**II. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM** contains LAFCO's Environmental Checklist Form. The checklist form presents results of the environmental evaluation for the proposed applications and those issue areas that would have either a significant impact, potentially significant impact, or no impact.

**PROJECT SUMMARY, LOCATION AND EVIRONMENTAL SETTINGS** describes the proposed project entitlements and required applications. A description of discretionary approvals and permits required for project implementation is also included. It also identifies the location of the project and a general description of the surrounding environmental settings.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS** evaluates each response provided in the environmental checklist form. Each response checked in the checklist form is discussed and supported with sufficient data and analysis as necessary. As appropriate, each response discussion describes and identifies specific impacts anticipated with project implementation.

#### SECTION 3

**III. MANDATORY FINDINGS** presents Mandatory Findings of Significance in accordance with Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines.

**IV. PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED** identifies those persons consulted and involved in preparation of this Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

V. REFERENCES lists bibliographical materials used in preparation of this document.

#### VI. MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

VII. FINDINGS

#### SECTION 4

#### VIII. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS (IF ANY)

#### IX. MITIGATION MONITORING & REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP) (IF ANY)

#### E. SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

For evaluation of environmental impacts, each question from the Environmental Checklist Form is summarized and responses are provided according to the analysis undertaken as part of the Initial Study. Impacts and effects will be evaluated and quantified, when appropriate. To each question, there are four possible responses, including:

- 1. **No Impact:** A "No Impact" response is adequately supported if the impact simply does not apply to the proposed applications.
- 2. Less Than Significant Impact: The proposed applications will have the potential to impact the environment. These impacts, however, will be less than significant; no additional analysis is required.
- 3. Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated: This applies where incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact".
- 4. **Potentially Significant Impact:** The proposed applications could have impacts that are considered significant. Additional analyses and possibly an EIR could be required to identify mitigation measures that could reduce these impacts to less than significant levels.

#### F. POLICY-LEVEL or PROJECT LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

This Initial Study and Negative Declaration will be conducted under a D policy-level, D project level analysis.

Regarding mitigation measures, it is not the intent of this document to "overlap" or restate conditions of approval that are commonly established for future known projects or the proposed applications. Additionally, those other standard requirements and regulations that any development must comply with, that are outside LAFCO's jurisdiction, are also not considered mitigation measures and therefore, will not be identified in this document.

#### G. TIERED DOCUMENTS AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

Information, findings, and conclusions contained in this document are based on incorporation by reference of tiered documentation, which are discussed in the following section.

#### 1. <u>Tiered Documents</u>

As permitted in Section 15152(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, information and discussions from other documents can be included into this document. Tiering is defined as follows:

"Tiering refers to using the analysis of general matters contained in a broader EIR (such as the one prepared for a general plan or policy statement) with later EIRs and Negative Declarations on narrower projects; incorporating by reference the general discussions from the broader EIR; and concentrating the later EIR or Negative Declaration solely on the issues specific to the later project."

Tiering also allows this document to comply with Section 15152(b) of the CEQA Guidelines, which discourages redundant analyses, as follows:

"Agencies are encouraged to tier the environmental analyses which they prepare for separate but related projects including the general plans, zoning changes, and development projects. This approach can eliminate repetitive discussion of the same issues and focus the later EIR or negative declaration on the actual issues ripe for decision at each level of environmental review. Tiering is appropriate when the sequence of analysis is from an EIR prepared for a general plan, policy or program to an EIR or negative declaration for another plan, policy, or program of lesser scope, or to a site-specific EIR or negative declaration."

Further, Section 15152(d) of the CEQA Guidelines states:

"Where an EIR has been prepared and certified for a program, plan, policy, or ordinance consistent with the requirements of this section, any lead agency for a later project pursuant to or consistent with the program, plan, policy, or ordinance should limit the EIR or negative declaration on the later project to effects which:

(1) Were not examined as significant effects on the environment in the prior EIR; or

(2) Are susceptible to substantial reduction or avoidance by the choice of specific revisions in the project, by the imposition of conditions, or other means."

#### 2. Incorporation By Reference

Incorporation by reference is a procedure for reducing the size of EIRs/MNDs and is most appropriate for including long, descriptive, or technical materials that provide general background information, but do not contribute directly to the specific analysis of the project itself. This procedure is particularly useful when an EIR or Negative Declaration relies on a broadly-drafted EIR for its evaluation of cumulative impacts of related projects (*Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation v. County of Los Angeles* [1986, 177 Ca.3d 300]). If an EIR or Negative Declaration relies on information from a supporting study that is available to the public, the EIR or Negative Declaration cannot be deemed unsupported by evidence or analysis (*San Francisco Ecology Center v. City and County of San Francisco* [1975, 48 Ca.3d 584, 595]). This document incorporates by reference appropriate information from the "Final Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Assessment for the "County of Imperial General Plan EIR" prepared by Brian F. Mooney Associates in 1993 and LAFCO's Rules & Regulations to Implement CEQA.

When an EIR or Negative Declaration incorporates a document by reference, the incorporation must comply with Section 15150 of the CEQA Guidelines as follows:

• The incorporated document must be available to the public or be a matter of public record (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[a]). The Rules & Regulations to Implement CEQA and Negative Declaration are available, along with this document, at the County of Imperial Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 Ph. (760) 482-4236.

• This document must be available for inspection by the public at an office of the lead agency (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[b]). These documents are available at the LAFCO Office, 1122 State Street, Suite D, El Centro, CA 92243 Ph. (760) 353-4115.

 These documents must summarize the portion of the document being incorporated by reference or briefly describe information that cannot be summarized. Furthermore, these documents must describe the relationship between the incorporated information and the analysis in the tiered documents (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[c]). As discussed above, the tiered EIRs address the entire project site and provide background and inventory information and data which apply to the project site. Incorporated information and/or data will be cited in the appropriate sections.

• The material to be incorporated in this document will include general background information (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[f]). This has been previously discussed in this document.

## II. Environmental Checklist

- 1. Project Title: Alan & Mary Bornt Annexation
- 2. Lead Agency: Imperial Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)
- 3. Contact person and phone number: Jurg Heuberger, AICP, CEP, Executive Officer, (760) 353-4115
- 4. Address: 1122 State Street, Suite D, El Centro CA, 92243
- 5. **E-mail:** jurgh@iclafco.com
- 6. Project location: 3015 Bonds corner Road, Holtville, CA 92250
- 7. Project sponsor's name and address: AJ Bornt, 2307 E Highway 98, Holtville, CA 92250

Jeff Lyon, Lyon Engineering, 780 North 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243

- 8. Existing Zoning: M2U
- 9. Proposed Zoning: I-1 (Light Industrial)
- 10. Description of project:

Annex a 1 acre parcel into the City of Holtville for farm equipment storage and maintenance yard. This parcel is contiguous to an existing parcel owned and operated by Bornt. Upon annexation, the Bornts may apply to the City of Holtville to merge the two parcels.

11. Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings:

Farmland to the south and east, City of Holtville, predominately industrial to the north and west.

12. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.):

City of Holtville is required to accept the annexation conditions.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources	Air Quality
Biological Resources		Cultural Resources	Geology /Soils
Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials	Hydrology / Water Quality
Land Use / Planning		Mineral Resources	Noise
Population / Housing		Public Services	Recreation
Transportation/Traffic	$\boxtimes$	Utilities / Service Systems	Mandatory Findings of Significance

# ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION DETERMINATION

After Review of the Initial Study, the Environmental Evaluation Committee has:

Found that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a <u>NEGATIVE DECLARATION</u> will be prepared.

Found that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. <u>A MITIGATED</u> <u>NEGATIVE DECLARATION</u> will be prepared.

Found that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an <u>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT</u> <u>REPORT</u> is required.

Found that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

Found that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE DE MINIMIS IMPACT FINDING: X Yes No

Jurg Heuberger, AICP, CEP, Executive Officer to LAFCO

Date:

#### A. Project Location:

3015 Bonds Corner Road, Holtville, CA 92250;

South of Bonds Corner Road, East of First Street

#### B. Project Summary:

Annex a 1 acre parcel into the City of Holtville for farm equipment storage and maintenance yard. This parcel is contiguous to an existing parcel owned and operated by Bornt. Upon annexation, the Bornts may apply to the City of Holtville to merge the two parcels.

#### C. Environmental Setting:

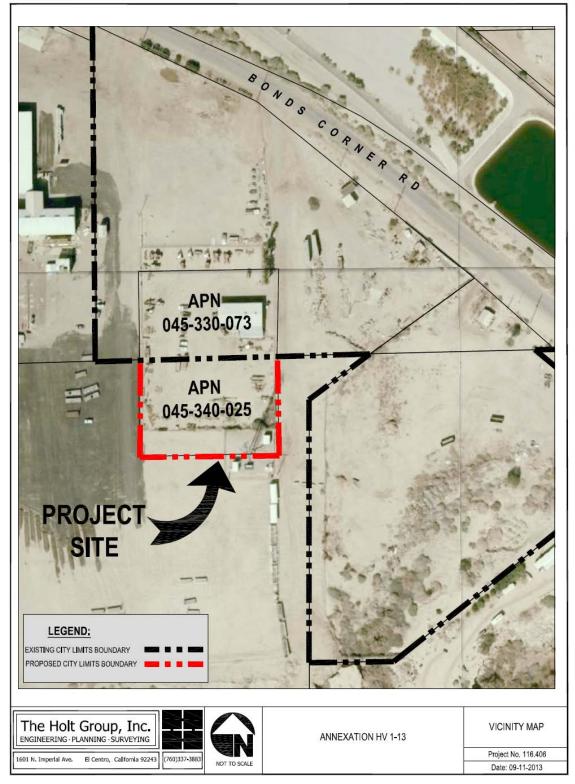
The project location is general at the southeast side of the City of Holtville surrounded by agricultural land on the south and east and the industrial areas of the City to the north and west. Along the south side the Alamo River meanders to the northwest. **D. Analysis**:

This project is simply the annexation of a small parcel to the City of Holtville. The applicant owns the adjacent parcel and has already applied to the County to merge this parcel with the existing parcel.

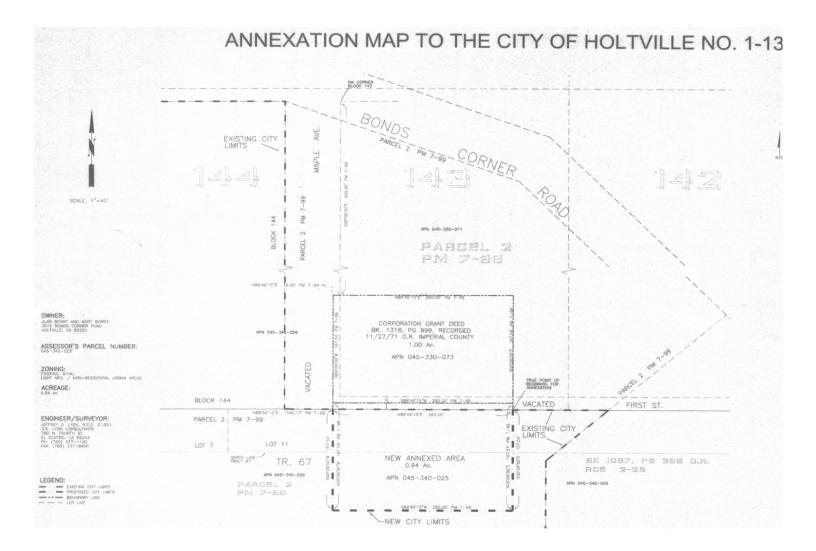
#### E. General Plan Consistency:

This project is consistent with the General Plans of both the City of Holtville and Imperial County.

Exhibit "A" Vicinity Map



# Exhibit "B" Annexation Map



#### EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
Ι.	AESTHETICS				
Would	d the project:				
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista or scenic highway?				$\boxtimes$
	a) The proposed project is not located near a s	scenic vista or s	scenic highway as	described in	the
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and histor buildings within a state scenic highway?	ic			$\boxtimes$
	<ul> <li>b) The proposed project is located within cul scenic resources trees, rock outcroppings,</li> </ul>				
c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				$\boxtimes$
	c) The current land use for the proposed proje proposed land use is Light Industrial for the proposed development and will not degrad its surrounding area.	farm equipment	t storage and ma	intenance. Th	ere is no
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime view in the area?	us			

d) The proposed project is to store farm equipment and use as a maintenance yard. There will be no impact.

#### II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. --Would the project:

- a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?
  - a) The proposed project site does not intend to convert prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide importance. The proposed project is to store farm equipment and use as a maintenance yard, therefore there will be no impact.

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				$\boxtimes$
	b) The proposed project does not conflict wit Therefore there is no impact.	h existing ag	ricultural zoning	or the Willian	nson Act.
c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Cod section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zone Timberland Production (as defined by Governmen Code section 51104(g))?	ic ed			
	c) The proposed project is located within exist for or cause rezoning of forest land, timberland				
d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				$\boxtimes$
	d) The proposed project will not result in the lo forest use. Therefore there is no impact.	oss of forest l	and or conversion	n of forest lan	d to non-
e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				
	e) The current land use for the proposed project proposed land use is Light Industrial. Neith contains/will contain agricultural use. Therefore agricultural use or conversion of forest land	er current no	r proposed land result in conversion	use of the pro	ject area
III.	AIR QUALITY				
	e available, the significance criteria established by the strand by the			nt or air pollutic	on control
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				$\boxtimes$
	<ul> <li>The proposed project is to store farm equip will be no conflict with or obstruct implement</li> </ul>				ore there
b)	Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	,			
	b) There is no development being proposed the contribute substantially to an existing or proj would be required to conform to the requirent	jected air qual	ity violation. Any		
c)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	r J			

_			Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
		c) The proposed project is to store farm equipm result in a cumulative net increase of any cr				
	d)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutants concentrations?				$\boxtimes$
		<ul> <li>d) The proposed project is to store farm equipm expose sensitive receptors to substantial po</li> </ul>			/ard, therefore	will not
	e)	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				$\boxtimes$
		<ul> <li>e) The proposed project is to annex a 1 acre pa yard. Therefore the action of this subdivision</li> </ul>				ntenance
IV.		BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES				
١	Noul	d the project:				
	a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or specia status species in local or regional plans, policies, o regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	S al vr			
		a) The proposed project site is to annex a 1 acr (M2U) to Light Industrial for the storage of project does not propose any new developm directly or through habitat modification, any status species in local or regional plan, pol Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Serv	farm equipment nent and does species identificies, or regula	nt and use as a not appear to su fied as a candida	maintenance bstantially affe ite, sensitive, o	yard. The ect, either or special
	b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	, ,			$\boxtimes$
		b) As mentioned above, the 1 acre site is locate have a substantial effect on any riparian ha local or regional plan, policies, regulation or Fish and Wildlife Services.	bitat or other s	ensitive natural	community ide	entified in
	c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direc removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or othe means?	o, st			
		c) The proposed project is located within exist effect on federal protected wetlands as defi but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, cos interruption, or other means.	ined by Section	1 404 of the Clea	n Water Act (i	ncluding,

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or established native resident or migratory wil corridors, or impede the use of native wil nursery sites?	with Idlife			
	d) The proposed project is located within development. It will not interfere substant or wildlife species or with established re native wildlife nursery sites.	ntially with the mo	ovement of any re-	sident or migr	atory fish
e)	Conflict with any local polices or ordinances				$\boxtimes$
	e) This project is consistent with local plans	and ordiancnes t	both for the City a	nd the County	
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habita Conservation Plan, Natural Commu Conservation Plan, or other approved lo regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				
	f) This project does not conflict with any Ha	ibitat plans.			
V.	CULTURAL RESOURCES				
Woul	ld the project:				
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as define §15064.5?	ed in			
	<ul> <li>The proposed project is located with development and will not cause a subs as defined in §15064.5.</li> </ul>				
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource purs to §15064.5?	uant			$\boxtimes$
	<ul> <li>As stated above, the proposed project i any new development. Therefore it will r of an archaeological resources pursuant</li> </ul>	not cause a substa			
c)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontolo resource or site or unique geologic feature?	ogical			$\boxtimes$
	<ul> <li>Again, the proposed project is located development and will not directly or indi unique geological feature.</li> </ul>				
d)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				$\boxtimes$

d) The proposed project is located within existing M2U zone and does not foresee any disturbance of any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

				Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
VI.	(	GEO	LOGY AND SOILS				
Wou	ıld the	e proje	ect:				
a)	ad	verse	people or structures to potential substantial effects, including risk of loss, injury, or volving:				$\boxtimes$
	1)	delir Eart State subs Divis	ture of a known earthquake fault, as neated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo hquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the e Geologist for the area or based on other stantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to sion of Mines and Geology Specia lication 42?	e r D			
		a1)	The proposed project area could be e degree, but no more than the surround		occurrence of s	eismic activity	to some
	2)	Stro	ng Seismic ground shaking?			$\boxtimes$	
		a2)	As stated above, the proposed projec activity to some degree, but no more the			occurrence o	f seismic
	3)		mic-related ground failure, including afaction and seiche/tsunami?			$\boxtimes$	
		a3)	The proposed project area could be e degree. However according to the Alqu at risk for significant liquefaction or se	uist-Priolo Eart			
	4)	Land	dslides?				$\boxtimes$
		a4)	The proposed project lies within gene or indirectly affected by a landslide.	erally flat topo	graphy and there	fore will not b	e directly
b)	Re	sult in	substantial soil erosion or the loss of topso	bil?			$\boxtimes$
c)	or pro lan	that v ject, dslide	ed on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable vould become unstable as a result of the and potentially result in on- or off-site s, lateral spreading, subsidence on or collapse?	) )			$\boxtimes$
d)	late	est Ur	ed on expansive soil, as defined in the niform Building Code, creating substanti e or property?	al			$\boxtimes$
e)	use dis	e of posal	Is incapable of adequately supporting the septic tanks or alternative waste water systems where sewers are not available sposal of waste water?				
	b)	liquif	d) and e): the project will not affect ication. The soil may exhibit some expa ing is already required.				

	Potentially Significant		
Potent	tially Unless	Less Than	
Signific	cant Mitigation	Significant	No
Impa	ct Incorporated	Impact	Impact
(PSI	) (PSUMI)	(LTSI)	(NI)

#### VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION

Would the project:

a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?		
b)	Conflict with an applicable plan or policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?		

a) & b) This project is an annexation and not a development project therefore there will not be any GHG emissions.

#### VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?		$\boxtimes$
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonable foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?		
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?		
d)	Be located on a site, which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?		
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?		
f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?		

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
g)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan emergency evacuation plan?	or			$\boxtimes$
h)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, includ where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	0			

a) – h): The project being an annexation and not a development project will not generate hazardous materials or hazardous waste.

#### IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			$\boxtimes$
b)	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses of planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	t		
c)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?			
d)	Substantially alter the existing drainage patterns of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off- site?			
e)	Create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?			
f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?			$\boxtimes$
g)	Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?			$\boxtimes$

h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect the flood flows?

 $\boxtimes$ 

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
i)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				$\boxtimes$
j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				$\boxtimes$
	a) – j): the project being an annexation will not a	ffect water qua	ality or hydrology.		
Х.	LAND USE AND PLANNING				
Woul	d the project:				
a)	Physically divide an established community?				$\boxtimes$
b)	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (include, but not limited to the general plan specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding o mitigating an environmental effect?	) )			
c)	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				$\boxtimes$
	<ul> <li>a) - c); the project will not divide a community, conservations plans.</li> </ul>	nor conflict wi	th any applicable	land use plans	s nor
XI.	MINERAL RESOURCES				
Woul	d the project:				
a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				
b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally-importan mineral resource recovery site delineated on a loca general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				$\boxtimes$
	a) - b) the project will not affect mineral resour	ces nor result	in the loss thereo	of.	
<b>XII.</b> Woul	<b>NOISE</b> d the project result in:				
a)	Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				$\boxtimes$

		Potentially Significant Impact ( <b>PSI)</b>	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
 b)	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				$\boxtimes$
c)	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	 }			
d)	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	, ,			
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or where such a plan has not been adopted, withir two miles of a public airport or public use airport would the project expose people residing on working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	) , r			
f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				$\boxtimes$

a) - f): the project by itself will not generate noise nor will it be affected by surrounding noise.

#### XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

	a)	Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?			
	b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			
	c)	Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			$\boxtimes$
		<ul> <li>a) - c):the project will not affect growth, population people</li> </ul>	, nor displace an	y homes or	
XIV.		PUBLIC SERVICES			
	a)	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times			

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
	or other performance objectives for an public services:	y of the			
	1) Fire protection?				$\boxtimes$
	2) Police protection?				$\boxtimes$
	3) Schools?				$\boxtimes$
	4) Parks?				$\boxtimes$
	5) Other public facilities?				$\boxtimes$
	a) this project will not require new or ac	lded public service.			
XV.	RECREATION				
a	a) Would the project increase the use of the e neighborhood and regional parks of recreational facilities such that substantial deterioration of the facility would occu accelerated?	or other physical			
b	Does the project include recreational faciliti require the construction or expan recreational facilities which might have an effect on the environment?	sion of			
XVI.	TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC				
Wo	buld the project:	_	_	_	_
e	a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance establishing measures of effectiveness performance of the circulation system, ta account all modes of transportation includ transit and non-motorized travel and components of the circulation system, inclu- not limited to intersections, streets, highv freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, a transit?	for the king into ing mass relevant uding but vays and			
t	conflict with an applicable congestion man program, including but not limited to level of standard and travel demand measures, standards established by the congestion/management agency for de roads or highways?	of service or other county			
C	c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, inc either an increase in traffic levels or a c location that results in substantial safety ris	hange in			

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
d)	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				
e)	Result in inadequate emergency access				$\boxtimes$
f)	Conflicts with adopted policies, plans, programs, regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestriar facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance of safety of such facilities?				

a) - f): this project being an annexation will not generate nor affect or be affected by substantial new traffic.

#### XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

a)	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?			$\boxtimes$
b)	Require or result in the construction of new water or water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			
c)	Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			
d)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?		$\boxtimes$	
e)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?			
f)	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?		$\square$	
g)	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?		$\boxtimes$	

a) - c) this project will not require new or substantially new or altered services from the City.

Significant Mitigation Significant No
Impact Incorporated Impact Imp (PSI) (PSUMI) (LTSI) (N

#### **III. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The following are Mandatory Findings of Significance in accordance with Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines.

a)	Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?		
b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)		
c)	Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		

#### IV. PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED

This section identifies those persons who prepared or contributed to preparation of this document. This section is prepared in accordance with Section 15129 of the CEQA Guidelines.

#### A. IMPERIAL LAFCO

- Jurg Heuberger, AICP, CEP, Executive Officer
- Danielle Bruce, Clerk
- Imperial County Air Pollution-Control District
- Department of Public Works
- Fire Department
- Ag Commissioner
- Environmental Health Services
- Sheriff's Office

#### **B. OTHER AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS**

- \_County of Imperial\_\_\_\_\_
- City of Holtville\_\_\_\_\_

#### VI. REFERENCES

- 1. "County of Imperial General Plan EIR", prepared by Brian F. Mooney & Associates in 1993; and as Amended by County in 1996, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2006 & 2008
- 2. "Rules & Regulations to Implement the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)", prepared by Imperial Local Agency Formation Commission.

#### VII. NEGATIVE DECLARATION – County of Imperial

The following Negative Declaration is being circulated for public review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act Section 21091 and 21092 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Name:	Alan & Mary Bornt Annexation
Project Applicant:	Alan & Mary Bornt
Project Location:	3015 Bonds Corner Road, Holtville, CA 92250
Description of Project:	Annex a 1 acre parcel into the City of Holtville for farm equipment storage and maintenance yard. This parcel is contiguous to an existing parcel owned and operated by Bornt. Upon annexation, the Bornts may apply to the City of Holtville to merge the two parcels.

#### FINDING

This is to advise that the County of Imperial, acting as the lead agency, has conducted an Initial Study to determine if the project may have a significant effect on the environmental and is proposing this Negative Declaration based upon the following findings:



The Initial Study shows that there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

The Initial Study identifies potentially significant effects but:

- (1) Proposals made or agreed to by the applicant before this proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration was released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur.
- (2) There is no substantial evidence before the agency that the project may have a significant effect on the environment.
- (3) Mitigation measures are required to ensure all potentially significant impacts are reduced to levels of insignificance.

A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

If adopted, the Negative Declaration means that an Environmental Impact Report will not be required. Reasons to support this finding are included in the attached Initial Study. The project file and all related documents are available for review at the County of Imperial, Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 482-4236.

#### NOTICE

The public is invited to comment on the proposed Negative Declaration during the review period.

Date of Determination

Jurg Heuberger, AICP, CEP, Executive Officer

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