

# **DAIRY REVIEW LETTER**

## **APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

FOR

**EXISTING DAIRY CAPACITY  
DETERMINATIONS**

UNDER THE PROCEDURES OF THE:

***DAIRY ELEMENT* OF THE KINGS COUNTY  
GENERAL PLAN**

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# KINGS COUNTY DAIRY REVIEW LETTER APPLICATION GUIDELINES

## I. INTRODUCTION:

These guidelines are intended as a guide for the preparation of applications for *Dairy Review Letters* for the determination of the baseline capacity of existing dairies in Kings County pursuant to Policy DE 2.2a of the *Dairy Element* of the *Kings County General Plan* which states:

**Policy DE 2.2a:** Dairies that existed prior to 1979 that have not been the subject of a previously issued zoning permit may expand up to the calculated capacity of the dairy site, including the land that is currently under the dairy owner or operator's control, either by ownership or agreement, as of the date of adoption of this *Element*. Upon the request of the dairy owner or operator, the Zoning Administrator shall prepare a *Dairy Review Letter* providing the dairy owner or operator with the calculated capacity of the existing dairy site based on the capacity model described in Section II of this *Dairy Element*. The addition of new physical improvements or increase in the areal extent of the Dairy Facility, e.g., lagoons and separation pits, feed storage structures, barns, and expansion of corrals on to land that was not previously occupied by the dairy's facilities, will require approval of a new SPR by the Zoning Administrator.

Dairies with existing zoning permits are subject to the limits of their current zoning permit.

The information provided in the application by the owner or operator of the dairy will be used to determine the existing capacity of the dairy in animal units (AU). This calculated capacity, based on the dairy's available facility and cropland capacity as of the date of the adoption of the *Dairy Element* (July 30, 2002), will be used as the baseline for determining two primary objectives:

- First, it will determine the herd capacity in animal units (AU) of the existing operation, as of July 30, 2002, and
- Second, it will establish a dairy's baseline capacity for determining when future changes to a dairy will trigger the requirement for a new zoning permit.

The results of this review will be only used to determine a baseline capacity for the existing dairy facility and site, and is not a zoning permit.

## A. APPLICATION FORM:

Exhibit A of these guidelines is the application form for applying for a *Dairy Review Letter*. The applicant must include all of the information identified in the application form, and the attachments.

## II. DAIRY REVIEW LETTER CHECKLIST:

Exhibit B is the checklist the Zoning Administrator will use to evaluate the application.

### **III. DAIRY CAPACITY MODEL CALCULATIONS:**

Based on the information submitted in the application, the Zoning Administrator will evaluate the dairy's capacity for the maximum allowed herd level in animal units (AU) of the dairy as it existed on July 30, 2002. The calculations are based on the capacity model described in Section II in the *Dairy Element*, and physical limits of the dairy facility related to lagoon storage capacity, corral capacity, etc.

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