NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Project Title: Animal Care Staff Locker/Office and Central Supply Building

Project Location: West of County Road 98 at western end of Hutchison Drive; University of California, Davis

County: Yolo

The UC Davis campus (the campus) proposes to construct and operate an 8,166 gross square feet (gsf) (7,029 assignable square feet [asf]) building at the California Regional Primate Research Center (CRPRC) on the UC Davis campus. Vacated space in the CRPRC would be renovated for reuse by currently overcrowded operations. The CRPRC is located in the west campus, at the western end of Hutchison Drive and west of County Road 98.

The new building would be located in the CRPRC on an undeveloped site south of the Animal Wing and west of Parking Lot 31. Approximately 1,659 square feet of paved area would be provided outside the building for vehicle access, loading, and walkways. The project would remove a few ornamental redwood trees located on the site. The building would provide the following: (1) a centralized locker/shower facility for Animal Care staff; (2) a centralized office area for Animal Care staff; and (3) relocation of the existing Central Supply to a more convenient location.

Space vacated by operations relocated to the new building would serve to alleviate currently overcrowded conditions. Existing Animal Care staff locker and shower facilities (dispersed throughout six different locations at the CRPRC) would be used by research staff, veterinary staff, and visitors who currently use other overcrowded facilities. The existing Animal Care staff offices are in three locations: the Corn Crib Office, the Primate Colony Office, and in a portion of Temporary Building 175. These spaces would be vacated by the Animal Care staff. The vacated Corn Crib Office (a space in very poor condition) would be used as file storage space. The vacated Primate Colony Office would remain as office space for other CRPRC staff, serving to alleviate existing overcrowded office space. No new staff is proposed. The Animal Care staff office
located in Temporary Building 178 and the Central Supply space in Temporary Building 177 were originally designed as animal holding and testing spaces. These spaces, when vacated, would be renovated to return to their original uses and would serve as holding and testing space for animals. These renovations would not result in a net increase in the size of the CRPRC colony.

The project is determined generally exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15061 (b)(3), and Categorically Exempt under Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities), 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and 15332 (In-Fill Development Projects). The project is covered by the general rule that CEQA does not apply to activities where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that a significant effect on the environment could occur (Section 15061). The project is categorically exempt because a portion of the work performed would consist of interior modifications to existing facilities (Section 15301). The project is also categorically exempt because the proposed Animal Care Locker/Office and Central Supply Building would be under 10,000 square feet in size, would not involve the use of significant amounts of hazardous substances, would be served by all necessary public services and facilities, would be located in an urbanized area zoned for such use where the surrounding area is not environmentally sensitive, and would include utility extensions (including street improvements) of a reasonable length to serve the new building (Section 15303). Furthermore, the project is exempt because the proposed Animal Care Locker/Office and Central Supply Building is in-fill development that would be consistent with the campus Long Range Development Plan; would not result in any significant effects to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality; would be adequately served by all required utilities and public services; and would occur on a site less than five acres that is substantially surrounded by urban uses and has no value as habitat (Section 15332). Thus, the project would not have a significant effect on the environment.

In accordance with State Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA and the University of California Procedures for Implementation of CEQA, the campus hereby approves the Animal Care Locker/Office and Central Supply Building Project on May 15, 2001. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Sid England, Environmental Planner at (530) 752-2432.

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