

Update of the “AE” (Exclusive Agricultural) Zoning District for “Uses Permitted With A Conditional Use Permit”

(Section 15.330.040 of the Glenn County Code)

On August 18, 2015, the Glenn County Board of Supervisors (Board) imposed a moratorium on the issuance of Conditional Use Permits issued under Title 15, Division 3, Part 1, Section 15.330.040 (M) of the Glenn County Code. Further, the Board directed staff to review the matter of “power generation” activities in the “AE” Zoning District and consider new guidelines for how, where, or if these types of facilities could be permitted in agricultural areas in the “AE” Zone.

The Planning Division of the Glenn County Planning & Public Works Agency is developing an update to the “AE” Zone for allowed conditional uses related to power generation. The following are guiding principles used to develop the updated ordinance:

- Preserve Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, and Unique Farmland as defined by the California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
- Allow uses that meet compatibility principles in California Government Code, Section 51238.1(a) and Section 15.330.010 of the Glenn County Code
- Clearly define circumstances where conjunctive agricultural and power generation activities can be permitted as uses “by right” and where they should be “conditionally permitted”

Further, provisions will be added to further expedite the permitting of small residential rooftop solar energy systems in accordance with Section 65850.5 (g)(1) of the California Government Code along with the establishment of a fee schedule and permit submittal requirements.

The Planning Division will also incorporate its periodic review of Title 15 into this update and incorporate necessary clarifications, corrections, or any other changes required by law.

Planning Division staff will be presenting a draft ordinance at the Wednesday, October 21, 2015 meeting of the Glenn County Planning Commission. We invite you to participate in the discussion and provide input into this important issue.