Glen E. Stephens, P.E. Air Pollution Control Officer

January 7, 2021

Board of Directors Eastern Kern APCD 2700 "M" Street, Suite 302 Bakersfield, CA 93301

SUBJECT: FARMER Program Grant Fund Projects with Pentangeles Farms

Honorable Board:

The Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (District) participates in the Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) Grant Program. The FARMER program provides incentive funds to reduce agricultural sector emissions through equipment replacement.

Pentangeles Farms has proposed two projects that meet eligibility criteria of the FARMER Program. Agreement 01-002-2021 will provide up to \$23,320 in FARMER funds to replace a 1984, uncontrolled Tier 0 diesel-fueled John Deere tractor with a new low-emitting Tier IV certified Kioti tractor. Agreement 01-003-2021 will provide up to \$26,462 in FARMER funds to replace a 1959 uncontrolled Tier 0 diesel-fueled Michigan loader with a new low-emitting Tier IV certified Kioti tractor. Both pieces of equipment are used 100 percent of the time within Eastern Kern County for agricultural operations associated with a pistachio farm in Inyokern. Staff recommends both projects be approved for funding.

Three copies of each proposed agreement, a copy of each is attached, were sent to the applicant to approve by signature and are expected to be returned to the District prior to the Board Meeting. If any significant changes are identified by the applicant, the items will be withdrawn and the Agreements will be held to the March 2021 Board Meeting.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** your Board approve and authorize Chairman to sign Agreements 01-002-2021 and 01-003-2021 with Pentangeles Farms, each for the purchase of a new lower-emission Tier IV certified diesel fueled tractor.

Sincerely,

Glen E. Stephens, P.E. Air Pollution Control Officer

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