

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS - ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

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January 4, 1990

**INFORMATION BULLETIN EH 90-01**

**TO:** LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES  
OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES  
OPERATORS - PERMITTEES  
DIVISION STAFF

**SUBJECT:** DAIRY FARM HOUSING

This Information Bulletin is issued to clarify the requirements for annual Permits to Operate a labor camp, employee housing facilities and available exemptions.

As mandated by the Legislature in Health and Safety Code (HSC hereafter) Section 17056, the department completed a statewide survey to identify illegal labor camps and employee housing facilities. The survey identified a large number of dairy farms providing housing for five or more employees without a valid Permit to Operate.

HSC 17030 requires all persons operating labor camps or employee housing facilities to have a valid Permit to Operate from the appropriate enforcement agency unless in possession of an exemption. HSC 17030 allows the enforcement agency to consider applications for and grant exemptions from the Permit to Operate requirement for dairy farms<sup>1</sup> consisting of permanent housing (not tents, recreational vehicles, etc.).

Therefore, dairy farms which provide housing for five or more employees must hold a valid Permit to Operate employee housing, or apply to the appropriate enforcement agency and be granted an exemption.

Dairy farms seeking an exemption must apply in writing to the appropriate enforcement agency. The enforcement agency shall inspect the housing facilities and grant exemptions to only those dairy farms which provide housing for employees that is in compliance with the State Housing Law, and building standards published in the State Building Standards Code relating to employee housing, or other regulations adopted pursuant to the State Housing Law.

If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact our Employee Housing Program Manager, Miguel Mejia at (916) 445-9471

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ellis".

John Ellis  
Chief

JE/MM:klh

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<sup>1</sup> Food and Agriculture Code Section 32505 reads as follows:

“Dairy Farm’ means any place or premises upon which milk is produce for sale or other distribution and where more than two cows or six goats are in lactation.”