

DOCKETED	
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Project Title:	Prairie Song Reliability Project
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July 11, 2025

Notice of Receipt of Opt-In Application for Prairie Song Reliability Project (25-OPT-02)/
Agency Request for Comments and Information

This letter serves as notification that the California Energy Commission (CEC) has received an Opt-In application for the Prairie Song Reliability Project. Prairie Song Reliability Project, LLC (applicant), proposes to construct, own, and operate the Prairie Song Reliability Project (project). The project is a 1,150-megawatt (MW), approximately 9,200-megawatt hour (MWh), battery energy storage system that would be constructed on privately owned land in the Antelope Valley of northern Los Angeles County. The energy storage project includes the containerized battery energy storage system with individualized fire prevention systems, a project substation, inverters, and other appurtenant facilities, such as fencing, operations and maintenance buildings, stormwater retention and infiltration basins, and communication systems. The project would connect to the existing Southern California Edison (SCE) Vincent Substation via either a 1.1-mile or a 1.8-mile generation intertie (gen-tie) line route, installed overhead using monopoles and steel lattice towers.

As stated in the application, the project would store electricity from the power grid, providing additional capacity to the electrical grid to assist with serving load during periods of peak demand by charging when demand is low and discharging when demand is high. The project would also serve as an additional local/regional capacity resource that would enhance grid reliability, particularly to the Los Angeles Basin local reliability area, and may allow for the deferral or avoidance of regional transmission facilities.

The Project Description (TN 264413) section of the application can be accessed at the following link:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=264413&DocumentContentId=101199>.

In 2022, Assembly Bill 205 established a new Opt-In Certification Program for eligible non-fossil-fueled power plants, energy storage, and manufacturing and assembly facilities to optionally seek certification through the CEC. Upon receipt of an application, the CEC has the exclusive authority to certify the site and related facility. With certain exceptions, the issuance of a certificate by the CEC is in lieu of any permit, certificate, or similar document required by any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law, and supersedes any applicable statute, ordinance, or regulation of any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law. The CEC is the lead agency under the California

Environmental Quality Act and is required to prepare an environmental impact report for any facility that elects to opt into the CEC's jurisdiction.

The CEC provides the following notice pursuant to Public Resources Code section 25545.8, which states that subsections (f) and (k) of Public Resources Code section 25519 apply to an opt-in application. The relevant language from Public Resources Code section 25519 is as follows:

(f) Upon receipt of an application, the commission shall forward the application to local governmental agencies having land use and related jurisdiction in the area of the proposed site and related facility. Those local agencies shall review the application and submit comments on, among other things, the design of the facility, architectural and aesthetic features of the facility, access to highways, landscaping and grading, public use of lands in the area of the facility, and other appropriate aspects of the design, construction, or operation of the proposed site and related facility.

(k) The commission shall transmit a copy of the application to any governmental agency not specifically mentioned in this act, but which it finds has any information or interest in the proposed site and related facilities, and shall invite the comments and recommendations of each agency. The commission shall request any relevant laws, ordinances, or regulations that an agency has promulgated or administered.

Note that the CEC staff does not expect the county to develop exhaustive analysis on the application or to procure expertise to review an application. Local jurisdictions generally focus their comments on topical areas of local concern and identify local laws that the jurisdiction wants to highlight for staff such as noise ordinances, local methods of calculating vehicle miles traveled, or local architectural standards. For samples of prior comment letters from local jurisdictions, see:

- Willow Rock Energy Center, 21-AFC-02 (previously Gem Energy Storage Center)
Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department Comments - Agency Participation in Review of AFC for GEM Energy Storage Center Project, TN 243152

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=243152&DocumentContentId=76834>

Kern County's Additional Comments, TN 245911

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=245911&DocumentContentId=80088>

- Huntington Beach Energy Project, 12-AFC-02
City of Huntington Beach's Comment Letter Re Proposed Project, TN 68804

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=68804&DocumentContentId=46742>

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1877, subsection (f), the CEC staff shall provide information to the local government for review and comment. The relevant language from California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1877 is as follows:

(f) The opt-in application shall contain preliminary information demonstrating overall net positive economic benefit to the local government that would have had permitting authority over the site and related facility, consistent with Public Resources Code section 25545.9. Staff shall provide the submitted information to the local government for review and comment.

The CEC webpage for the project can be found at the following link:
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/battery-storage-system/prairie-song-reliability-project>.

The documents which comprise the Opt-In application can be found in the project docket, which is accessible via the project webpage or directly at the following link: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=25-OPT-02>. The applicant has provided information in an effort to demonstrate that the project would provide a net positive economic benefit to the local government that would have had permitting authority in Appendix 1 B Community Benefits Plan and 1 E Net Benefits Analysis (TN 264412). We look forward to receiving Los Angeles County's comments pursuant to Public Resources Code sections 25519(f) and 25519(k), and California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1877(f) at your earliest convenience.

The CEC also wishes to make Los Angeles County aware that Public Resources Code section 25538 applies to an opt-in application. The language from Public Resources Code section 25538 is as follows:

Upon receiving the commission's request for review under subdivision (f) of Section 25519 and Section 25506, the local agency may request a fee from the commission to reimburse the local agency for the actual and added costs of this review by the local agency. The commission shall reimburse the local agency for the added costs that shall be actually incurred by the local agency in complying with the commission's request.

California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1878.1 specifies local agency costs eligible and ineligible for reimbursement, procedures for approving reimbursement budgets and invoices, and procedures for resolving disputes. To apply for reimbursement, a local agency shall, within 21 days of receiving a request for review from the commission, file an itemized proposed budget with the staff and the applicant

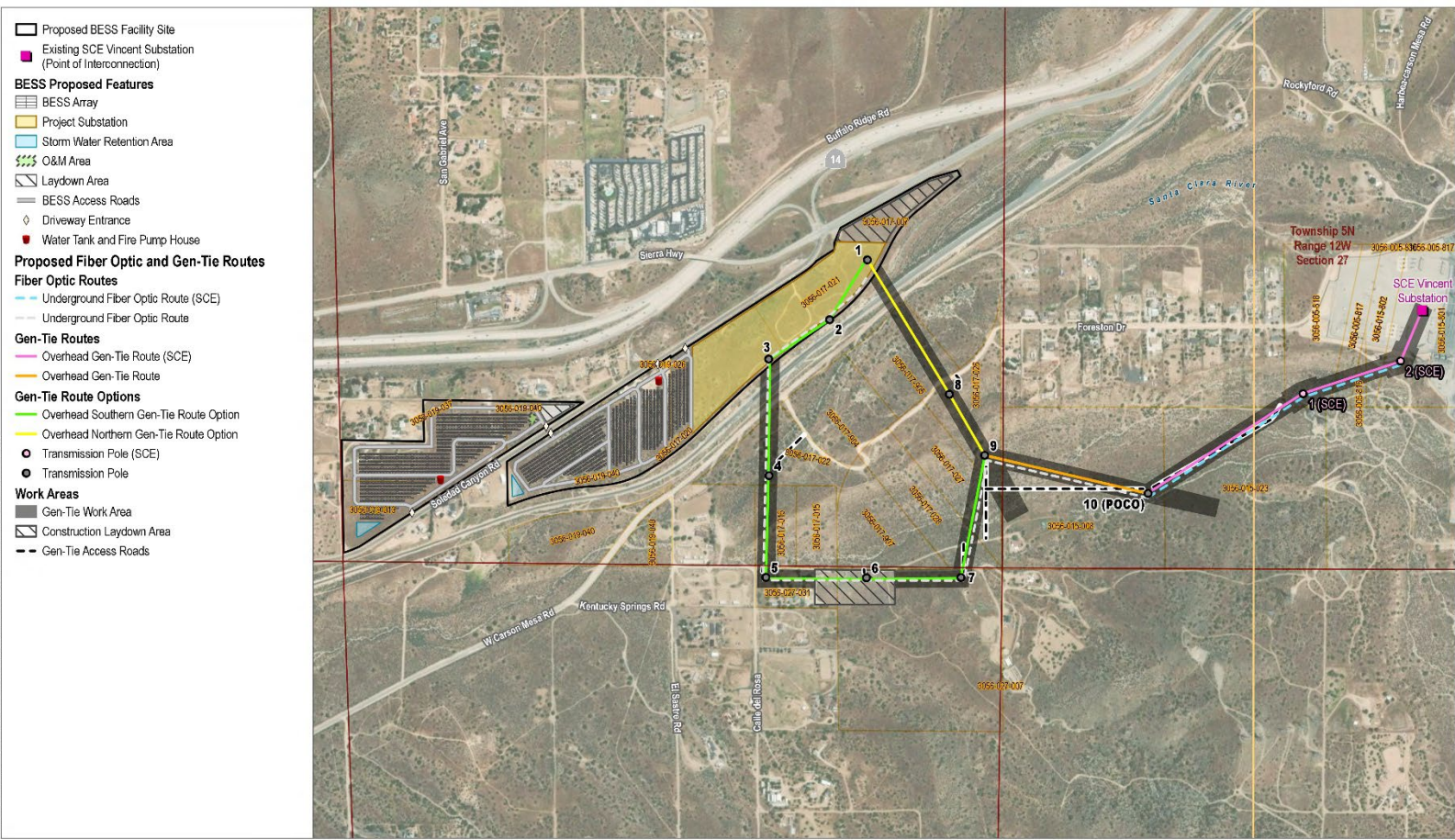
estimating the actual and added costs that are likely to be incurred during such review. Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1878.1, subd. (c)(2).

To stay informed about this project and receive notice of upcoming public meetings, sign up to the project subscription, which can be accessed on the project webpage. Once enrolled, automatic email notifications are sent via govDelivery when documents and notices are posted to the project docket.

Feel free to reach out to us directly via email if you have any questions about this notice. Thank you.

Lisa Worrall
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Enclosures: Figure 1-1 Regional Map (from application, TN 264413)
Figure 1-3 Site Layout (from application, TN 264413)



SOURCE: World Imagery

FIGURE 1-3

Site Layout

Prairie Song Reliability Project