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### CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

715 P Street Sacramento, California 95814

energy.ca.gov

CEC-70 (Revised 7/22)



### IN THE MATTER OF:

Potentia-Viridi Battery Energy Storage System Opt-In Application for Certification DOCKET NO. 24-OPT-04

NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL and ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETING

RE: Potentia-Viridi Battery Energy Storage System (SCH 2025090227)

# Notice of Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting for the Proposed Potentia-Viridi Battery Energy Storage System

Hybrid Meeting In-Person and via Zoom September 18, 2025 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

In-person at:

Tracy Transit Center – Meeting Room 50 E. 60<sup>th</sup> Street Tracy, CA 95376

Remote Access via Zoom: See attendance instructions below.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) will host an informational and environmental scoping meeting pursuant to Public Resources Code section 25545.7.2 to present and solicit information on the proposed Potentia-Viridi Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (project). Members of the public can participate in the meeting consistent with the attendance instructions below. This will be a hybrid meeting with a publicly accessible physical location and access online or by phone through Zoom<sup>™</sup>. The meeting will include informational presentations and time for public comment.

## Please see the CEC project webpage for more information on the project:

https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-04.

The CEC aims to begin promptly at the start time posted and the end time is an estimate based on the proposed agenda. The meeting may end sooner or later than the posted end time. Breaks will be announced during the meeting.

An event recording will be posted on the event webpage (linked above).

### Agenda:

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. CEC staff presentation on the Opt-In Certification Program
- 3. Applicant presentation on the proposed project
- 4. CEC staff presentation on the scope and content of the Staff Assessment and environmental analysis
- 5. CEC Office of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity, and Tribal Affairs presentation on public participation and California Native American tribal consultation opportunities
- 6. Government Comments: California Native American tribes and federal, state and local government entities
- 7. Public Comments
- 8. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

# **Background**

CEC's Opt-In Certification Program, authorized in Public Resources Code sections 25545 - 25545.13, allows specified clean energy projects to seek consolidated permitting at the CEC until June 30, 2029. These projects include, but are not limited to, energy storage systems capable of storing 200 megawatt-hours (MWh) or more, electric transmission lines associated with these storage facilities to the first point of interconnection, and other facilities specified in statute.

Under this program, the CEC permit is in lieu of any permit that would normally be required by the local land use authority and most, but not all, state permits. More information about the Opt-In Certification Program can be found at <a href="https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program">https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program</a>.

Under the Opt-In Certification program, CEC is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and, after an application is deemed complete, does the following:

- 1. Prepare a Staff Assessment, which includes an environmental impact report (EIR).
- 2. Hold public informational and scoping, public workshop, and other public meetings, as close as practicable to the proposed project site.

- 3. Invite consultation with California Native American tribes that are culturally and traditionally associated with the geographic area of the proposed site.
- 4. Certify compliance with requirements for community benefits, labor standards, and economic benefits.
- 5. Approve or deny the proposed project at a publicly noticed business meeting.

Levy Alameda, LLC (applicant), filed an Opt-In application on August 7, 2024, for the Potentia-Viridi BESS project proposed in Alameda County, California. On September 6, 2024, and April 7, 2025, the CEC deemed the application incomplete and docketed letters detailing the information deficiencies. On August 15, 2025, the CEC sent applicable California Native American tribes a letter inviting tribal consultation on the Potentia-Viridi BESS project. On August 29, 2025, after receiving additional data, the CEC determined that the application was complete. The CEC sent a Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR (NOP) to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the project to the State Clearinghouse (Land Use and Climate Innovation, LCI), and mailed the NOP on August 29, 2025, to the trustee agency, Alameda County Clerk, and local, regional, and federal agencies. These and other documents are available on the CEC docket for this proceeding at: <a href="https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-04">https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-04</a>

# **Project Summary**

Levy Alameda, LLC (Applicant), a wholly owned subsidiary of Obra Maestra Renewables, LLC, proposes to construct, operate, and eventually repower or decommission the 400-megawatt (MW) Potentia-Viridi BESS project on approximately 102 acres in eastern Alameda County. Development of the BESS facility would be within a 70-acre leased portion, which currently consists of fallowed annual grasslands suitable for grazing. Of the leased area, approximately 58.8 acres would be permanently disturbed for development of the BESS facility. In addition to the 70-acre leased portion, approximately 32 acres were evaluated in the application for the overhead intertie transmission (gen-tie) study area, and approximately 1.9 acres would be permanently disturbed for the gen-tie and interconnecting facilities. Under remote operation, the project would draw electricity from the power grid to charge and store electrical energy and discharge back to the power grid when the stored energy is needed.

The primary components of the project would include an up to 3,200-megawatt-hour (MWh) BESS facility, an operations and maintenance (O&M) building, a project substation, a 500-kilovolt (kV) gen-tie line, and interconnection facilities within the Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) owned and operated Tesla Substation.

For more details about the project, see Chapter 2 Project Description in TN 261401, at the following link:

DR Response 2 - Attachment 7, Revised Section 2, Project Description, <a href="https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=261401&DocumentContentId=97784">https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=261401&DocumentContentId=97784</a>

The CEC maintains a website for this project with proposed project information, a link to the docket, email subscription sign-up, and more at: <a href="https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/battery-storage-system/potentia-viridi-battery-energy-storage-system/">https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/battery-energy-storage-system/</a>

## **Purpose of the Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting**

The Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting will provide an opportunity for interested members of the public, including surrounding communities, to learn about the proposed project and the CEC's Opt-In Certification process. The public will be able to obtain information, identify areas of environmental concern to be addressed during the CEC's environmental review of the project, and provide comments.

During the public meeting, the applicant will explain its proposed plans for constructing and operating the project and related facilities. CEC staff will describe the CEC and staff's role and responsibilities in reviewing the Opt-In application and engaging with government agencies, the public, and California Native American Tribes to inform this review. The CEC's Public Advisor will describe how interested members of the public can participate in the process, including during the environmental review and CEC decision-making.

The CEC will prepare a Staff Assessment (SA). The SA will include a Draft EIR following the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, div. 6, ch. 3). The Notice of Preparation of the Draft EIR is available at:

https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=265893&DocumentContentId=102895. As discussed in the Notice of Preparation, the CEC is conducting public outreach to solicit input on the Potentia-Viridi Battery Energy Storage System project application to identify the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant effects to be analyzed in depth in the Draft EIR. The Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting also assists CEC staff in obtaining additional information to prepare the Draft EIR and determining whether the project meets all program requirements.

### **Attendance Instructions**

# Hybrid Meeting with in-person and remote attendance options

**In-person** participants may join the meeting at:

Tracy Transit Center – Meeting Room 50 E. 60th Street Tracy, CA 95376

**Remote** participants may join via Zoom by internet or phone.

- **To join via Zoom.** Click on <a href="https://energy.zoom.us/j/84176987091?pwd=aSqaga2i2NSWYhKzUIUbtyaGnHE2QO.1">https://energy.zoom.us/j/84176987091?pwd=aSqaga2i2NSWYhKzUIUbtyaGnHE2QO.1</a>
- or login in at <a href="https://zoom.us/">https://zoom.us/</a> and enter the Webinar ID 841 7698 7091 and passcode 392582 and follow all prompts.
- **To join by telephone.** Call at (669) 219-2599. When prompted, enter the Webinar ID 841 7698 7091 and passcode 392582.

**Zoom Closed Captioning Service.** At the bottom of the screen, click the Live Transcript CC icon and choose "Show Subtitle" or "View Full Transcript" from the pop-up menu. To stop closed captioning, close the "Live Transcript" or select "Hide Subtitle" from the pop-up menu. If joining by phone, closed captioning is automatic and cannot be turned off. While closed captioning is available in real-time, it can include errors. A more accurate transcript of the meeting will be docketed and posted as soon as possible after the meeting concludes.

**Zoom Difficulty.** Contact Zoom at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or the CEC Public Advisor at <u>publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov</u>, or by phone at (916) 957-7910.

### **Public Comment**

A public comment period will be provided at the meeting. Comments may be limited to two minutes or less depending on the number of comments. Comments can be made whether attending in-person or via Zoom (online or by phone).

Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine.

If participating via Zoom's online platform, use the "raise hand" feature to indicate you would like to make a comment. The CEC will open your line to speak. Please restate and spell your name for the record, indicate if you have an affiliation, and begin your comments.

If participating by telephone, press \*9 to "raise your hand" and \*6 to mute/unmute. The CEC will announce the last three digits of the phone number listed and open your line. Make sure to unmute your phone before speaking then restate and spell your name for the record, indicate if you have an affiliation, state your position on the proposed project, if any, and begin your comments.

The CEC encourages the use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the e-commenting page for this docket California Energy Commission: e-comment: Submit Comment at <a href="https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-04">https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-04</a>. Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat®. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB.

**Written comments** may be submitted to the Docket Unit by 5:00 p.m. on October 3, 2025. Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine. Written comments may also be submitted by email. Include docket number 24-OPT-04 and Potentia-Viridi Battery Energy Storage System in the subject line and email to <a href="mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov">docket@energy.ca.gov</a>.

A paper copy may be mailed to: California Energy Commission Docket Unit, MS-4 Docket No. 24-OPT-04 715 P Street Sacramento, California 95814

**Public Advisor.** The CEC's Public Advisor assists the public with participation in CEC proceedings. To request assistance, interpreting services, or reasonable modifications and accommodations, call (916) 957-7910 or email <u>publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov</u> as soon as possible but at least five days in advance. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on availability.

**Media Inquiries.** Email <u>mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov</u> or call (916) 654-4989.

**Technical Subject and General Inquiries.** Email Eric Veerkamp at <a href="mailto:STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov">STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov</a> or call (916) 661-8458.

**Availability of Documents:** Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available at California Energy Commission: Docket Log at: https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-04.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those subscribed to the Potentia-Viridi BESS project. To receive these notices or notices of other email subscription topics, visit <a href="Subscriptions">Subscriptions</a>, at <a href="https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions">https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions</a>.

**Dated:** September 8, 2025, at Sacramento, California.

(Joseph Hughes, for Dian Vorters)

Dian Vorters, Deputy Director

Joseph Hughes

Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

# **Subscriptions:**

Potentia-Viridi Battery Energy Storage System

