DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	25-OPT-02
Project Title:	Prairie Song Reliability Project
TN #:	273180
Document Title:	Schedule Change for the Prairie Song Reliability Project (25-OPT-02) Letter
Description:	New Schedule Change for the Prairie Song Reliability Project (25-OPT-02) Letter
Filer:	Ali Jahani
Organization:	California Energy Commission
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October 21, 2026

Garrett Lehman
Coval Infrastructure
165 Broadway, 23rd Floor
New York, NY 10006

Applicability of Public Resource Code Section 25545.4(e)(2) and Schedule Change for the Prairie Song Reliability Project (25-OPT-02)

Dear Garrett Lehman:

This letter is to notify you that under Public Resources Code section 25545.4(e)(2), and California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1879(a), CEC staff will extend the time to issue the staff assessment (SA), which includes the draft environmental impact report (DEIR); therefore, the time for the project to be considered at a Business Meeting will also be extended. Under section 25545.4(e)(2), the time to certify the environmental impact report or issue a certificate for the site and related facilities may be extended if certain conditions occur. On August 18, 2026, the project applicant filed a Request for Schedule Modification letter (TN272028) based on a draft updated scope of work from Southern California Edison (SCE) affecting the interconnection facilities for the Project. The request sought a 60-day schedule extension. The CEC accepted the request on August 28, 2026 (TN 272239) and provided an October 26, 2026 target date for publication of the Staff Assessment. While concluding that the applicant had demonstrated a reasonable need for an extension, the CEC also concluded that an extension is warranted under section 25545.4(e)(2)(D). The letter closed by noting that the timeline may be adjusted again if warranted.

On October 2, 2026, the project applicant filed to the docket the four documents regarding the updated scope of work (SCE Interconnection Scope Changes) (TN 272998, 272999, 273000 and 273001). CEC staff reviewed the SCE Interconnection Scope Changes and, on October 9, 2026, issued a written request for additional data needed to complete the environmental analysis. The applicant subsequently informed staff that it requires additional time to prepare and submit the requested information. CEC biological staff must also conduct an

on-site field visit to verify and update the biological data. This site visit is scheduled for October 22, 2026. Staff will need adequate time following the visit to incorporate the field observations and updated technical information into the biological resources section and the broader Staff Assessment. Overall, the documents continue to indicate that the updated scope of work includes new information of substantial importance that requires additional analysis and consideration, particularly with respect to biological resources.

This information was previously unknown, is of substantial importance, and will delay staff's technical review and follow-up discovery. For these reasons, a further adjustment of the Staff Assessment timeline is warranted pursuant to Public Resources Code section 25545.4(e)(2)(D).

The CEC is extending the schedule by 75 days. The new timeline for the CEC to file the SA is January 11, 2027, and the new timeline for the CEC to vote on whether to certify the environmental impact report or issue a certificate for the Prairie Song project is May 11, 2027. This new timeline will be reflected in the CEC's Opt-In Certification Dashboard, available on the CEC's Opt-In Program Webpage, at https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program. This timeline may be adjusted again if warranted.

If you have any questions about this letter, please email Eric Knight, Siting and Environmental Branch Manager, at eric.knight@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Drew Bohan
Executive Director

cc: Commissioner Noemi Gallardo
Chair David Hochschild

Regina Galer, Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division Director