

Data Response Queries – January 13, 2010

BIO-DR: Per an email request from Amy Golden of the CEC on January 11, 2010, the following comprehensive tables of existing conditions and impacts for vegetation communities associated with the Blythe Solar Power Plant are included for review (Tables 1 and 2, respectively).

Table 1. Existing Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types (Acres)^a

Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types	Revised AFC DA	Transmission Line DA	Project DA^b	Revised Buffer Area	BRSA
Riparian					
Desert Dry Wash Woodland	175.2	0.2	175.3	554.6	729.9
Unvegetated Ephemeral Dry Wash	7.5	0.0	7.5	1.5	9.0
Creosote Bush–Big Galleta Grass	367.3	0.1	367.4	42.1	409.6
Subtotal Riparian	550.0	0.3	550.3	598.2	1,148.5
Upland					
Stabilized and Partially Stabilized Desert Dunes	0.0	37.1	37.1	649.7	686.8
Sonoran Creosote Scrub Brush	6,475.7	12.7	6,488.4	13,249.9	19,738.4
Subtotal Upland	6,475.7	49.9	6,525.6	13,899.6	20,425.1
Other Cover Types					
Agriculture	0.8	0.0	0.8	1,621.6	1,622.3
Developed	0.0	0.0	0.0	147.3	147.3
Disturbed Habitat	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.2	16.2
Subtotal Other Cover Types	0.8	0.0	0.8	1,785.0	1,785.8
Total Acres^c	7,026.4	50.2	7,076.6	16,282.8	23,359.4

Table 1. Existing Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types (Acres)^a

Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types	Revised AFC DA	Transmission Line DA	Project DA^b	Revised Buffer Area	BRSA
<p>a The acreages for these vegetation communities were updated for responses to the December 7, 2009 data requests that were provided to the CEC on January 6, 2010. An example is delineating desert dry wash woodland 150 feet upstream of the Project Disturbance Area, resulting in changes to vegetation communicates within the buffer from the previous reports.</p> <p>b Project DA = Revised AFC DA + Transmission Line DA. DA = Disturbance Area.</p> <p>c Acreages in this table may not add due to rounding.</p>					

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Table 2. Anticipated Permanent Impacts to Vegetation Communities and Waters of the State in the AFC and Transmission Line Disturbance Area (Acres)^a

Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types	Permanent Direct Impacts			Permanent Indirect Impacts ^e	Total Permanent Impacts
	Revised AFC DA ^b	Transmission Line DA ^c	Project DA ^d		
Riparian					
Dry Desert Wash Woodland	175.2	0.2	175.3	94.3	269.6
Unvegetated Ephemeral Dry Wash	7.5	0.0	7.5	0.8	8.3
Creosote Bush– Big Galleta Grass ^f	367.3	0.1	367.4	38.5	406.0
Subtotal Riparian	550.0	0.3	550.3	133.7	683.9
Upland					
Active Desert Dunes	0.0	37.1	37.1	-	37.1
Sonoran Creosote Bush Scrub	6,475.7	12.7	6,488.4	-	6488.4
Subtotal Upland	6,475.7	49.9	6,525.6	-	6525.6
Other Cover Types					
Agricultural Fields	0.8	0.0	0.8	-	0.8
Developed	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Disturbed Habitat	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Subtotal Other Cover Types	0.8	0.0	0.8	-	0.8
Total Acres	7,026.4	50.2	7,076.6	133.7	7,210.3

a DA = Disturbance Area.

b The acreages for these vegetation communities were updated for responses to the December 7, 2009 data requests that were provided to the CEC on January 6, 2010. The acreage updates occurred in the buffer area and did not change calculations for impact areas from the last submittal included in the BSPP Supplemental Biological Resources Technical Report (November 25, 2009).

c Not previously reported in the AFC (AECOM 2009, Section 5.3.3.1, Table 5.3-8). Includes only the areas of disturbance associated with the construction of the transmission line features (the entire 7 mile Former Transmission Line Disturbance Area was calculated as the disturbance area in the previous supplemental report submitted October 2009).

d The Project DA described in the AFC has been revised to include the Revised AFC DA and the Transmission Line DA.

e Downstream waters containing wash dependent vegetation would likely be indirectly impacted by the rerouting of the on-site washes. The data presented here represent the full complement of washes downstream that may be indirectly impacted; however, a full determination of this impact will rely on hydrologic studies that are still in progress. It is anticipated that the indirect permanent impact estimate will be refined and potentially decrease due to rerouted drainages delivering water back into washes on the eastern and southern boundary of the project.

f Although CDFG considers the swale network as ecologically relational to the larger washes within the survey area and thus jurisdictional waters of the state, CDFG does not consider them a significant aquatic feature.

Data Response Queries – January 13, 2010

BIO-DR: Per an email request from Amy Golden of the CEC on January 11, 2010, the following comprehensive tables of existing conditions and impacts for vegetation communities associated with the Palen Solar Power Plant are included for review (Tables 1 and 2, respectively).

Table 1. Existing Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types (Acres)^a

Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types	Revised AFC DA ^b	Transmission Line DA	Project DA ^c	Revised Buffer Area ^d	BRSA
Riparian					
Desert Dry Wash Woodland	134.9	6.1	141.0	484.9	625.9
Unvegetated Ephemeral Dry Wash	161.8	0.0	161.8	40.4	202.2
Subtotal Riparian	296.7	6.1	302.8	525.3	828.1
Upland					
Active Desert Dunes	0.0	0.0	0.0	684.3	684.3
Desert Sink Scrub	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.4	9.4
Dry Lake Bed	0.0 ^b	0.0	0.0	270.1	291.0
Sonoran Creosote Bush Scrub	3,289.1	22.3	3,311.5	6,802.0	10,113.5
Stabilized and Partially Stabilized Desert Dunes	284.7	0.0	284.7	625.3	910.0
Subtotal Upland	3,573.9	22.3	3,596.2	8,391.1	11,987.3
Other Cover Types					
Agricultural Fields	0.0	0.0	0.0	750.2	750.2
Developed	0.2	0.0	0.2	149.1	149.4
Subtotal Other Cover Types	0.2	0.0	0.2	899.3	899.6
Total Acres	3,870.8	28.4	3,899.2	9,815.8	13,715.0

Table 1. Existing Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types (Acres)^a

Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types	Revised AFC DA^b	Transmission Line DA	Project DA^c	Revised Buffer Area^d	BRSA
<p>a DA = Disturbance Area.</p> <p>b The acreages for these vegetation communities were updated for responses to the December 7, 2009 data requests that were provided to the CEC on January 6, 2010. Examples include delineating desert dry wash woodland 150 feet upstream of the Project Disturbance Area, resulting in changes to vegetation communicates within the buffer from the previous reports and delineating jurisdictional areas downstream of the substation.</p> <p>c Project DA = Revised AFC DA + Transmission Line DA.</p> <p>d Acreages in this table may not add due to rounding.</p>					

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Table 2. Anticipated Permanent Impacts to Vegetation Communities and Waters of the State (Acres)^a

Vegetation Communities and Other Cover Types	Permanent Direct Impacts			Permanent Indirect Impacts	Total Permanent Impacts
	Revised AFC DA ^b	Transmission Line DA ^c	Project DA ^d		
Riparian					
Dry Desert Wash Woodland	134.9	6.1	141.0	27.5	168.5
Unvegetated Ephemeral Dry Wash	161.8	0.0	161.8	33.6	195.4
Subtotal Riparian	296.7	6.1	302.8	61.1	363.9
Upland					
Active Desert Dunes	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Desert Sink Scrub	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Dry Lake Bed	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Sonoran Creosote Bush Scrub	3,289.1	22.3	3,311.5	-	3,311.5
Stabilized and Partially Stabilized Desert Dunes	284.7	0.0	284.7	-	284.7
Subtotal Upland	3,573.9	22.3	3,596.2	-	3,596.2
Other Cover Types					
Agricultural Fields	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Developed	0.2	0.0	0.2	-	0.2
Subtotal Other Cover Types	0.2	0.0	0.2	-	0.2
Total Acres	3,870.8	28.4	3,899.2	61.1	3,960.3

a DA = Disturbance Area.

b The acreages for these vegetation communities have been updated for responses to the December 7, 2009 data requests that were provided to the CEC on January 6, 2010. The reason the impact acreages have changed is that additional impacts were identified downstream of the substation when the vegetation mapping was revised.

c Not previously reported in the AFC (AECOM 2009, Section 5.3.3.1, Table 5.3-8). Includes only the areas of disturbance associated with the construction of the transmission line features (the entire 1.2 mile Former Transmission Line Disturbance Area was calculated as the disturbance area in the previous supplemental report submitted October 2009).

d Project DA = Revised AFC DA + Transmission Line DA.