

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	19-SPPE-02
Project Title:	Walsh Data Center
TN #:	229091
Document Title:	Initial Tribal Consultation Letters
Description:	Commission staff's initial letters to California Native American tribes affiliated with the project area
Filer:	Matthew Braun
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	7/26/2019 11:16:52 AM
Docketed Date:	7/26/2019



July 25, 2019

Honorable Valentin Lopez, Chairperson
Amah Mutsun Tribal Band
P.O. Box 5272
Galt, CA 95632

RE: Walsh Data Center (19-SPPE-02) - Invitation to Participate in California
Energy Commission Consultation

Dear Honorable Valentin Lopez, Chairperson:

The California Energy Commission is responsible for preparing an environmental analysis for the proposed Walsh Data Center (WDC) and invites the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band to consult regarding this project because of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band's traditional and cultural affiliation, and knowledge within the geographic area of the proposed project.

This letter provides general information concerning the current project design, includes attached maps depicting the regional and project location, and invites you to participate in Energy Commission consultations, pursuant to the Energy Commission's Tribal Consultation Policy.

On June 28, 2019, 651 Walsh Partners, LLC (applicant) filed an application with the California Energy Commission for a Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE) for the Walsh Backup Generating Facility (WBGF), which would provide backup generation support to the Walsh Data Center (WDC) (19-SPPE-02). The WDC and associated WBGF would be located at 651 Walsh Avenue in Santa Clara, California.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The WDC would include demolition of the existing improvements on the site to construct a four-story data center building with an attached three-story administration building totaling 435,050 square feet, substation, generator equipment yard, surface parking and landscaping. The WBGF would consist of 32, 3-megawatt (MW) diesel fired generators with a total generation capacity of up to 80 MW to provide an uninterruptible power supply for WDC tenant's servers. The generators would be located in one generator yard in a two-level stacked configuration. The lower level generator package would integrate a

dedicated fuel tank with a capacity of 12,800 gallons. The upper level generators would have a day tank with a capacity of 600 gallons. The project would also include one 2-MW emergency generator that would provide backup electricity for the administrative building.

The new distribution substation would ultimately be owned and operated by Silicon Valley Power (SVP) as part of its distribution network. While SVP has not yet designed the 60-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines that would interconnect the new substation, SVP has estimated that one transmission line would come in to the site from the north and one from the south, both routes paralleling the existing Union Pacific Railroad rail lines. There may be up to six new transmission poles.

ENERGY COMMISSION'S SPPE PROCESS

The Energy Commission has the exclusive power to certify all thermal power plant (50 MW and greater) sites and related facilities proposed for construction in California. The Energy Commission's regulations setting forth the SPPE process are primarily located in Title 20, California Code of Regulations sections 1934-1947. The SPPE process allows applicants with projects between 50 and 100 MW to obtain an exemption from the Energy Commission's jurisdiction and proceed with local approval rather than requiring Energy Commission certification. The Energy Commission can grant an exemption if it finds that the proposed project would not create a substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy resources. In this case, the WBGF is subject to the Energy Commission's licensing authority unless the exemption is granted. Should the exemption be granted, the applicant would still need to secure the appropriate licenses and permits from relevant local, state, and federal agencies.

ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF EVALUATION OF THE SPPE APPLICATION AND FURTHER STEPS

Energy Commission staff (staff) has begun its review of the application. At the Energy Commission's July 15, 2019 Business Meeting a Committee of two Commissioners (Commissioner Douglas — Presiding Member, and Commissioner Monahan — Associate Member) was appointed to oversee the SPPE proceeding. Over the coming months, staff will evaluate the project and prepare an environmental analysis document—for SPPE projects this typically takes the form of an Initial Study. Following publication of that document and consideration of public comments, the assigned Committee will conduct a hearing to determine whether the proposed project should be exempt from the Energy Commission's power plant certification process. This hearing will provide the public as well as local, state and federal agencies and California Native American tribes the opportunity to provide input on the exemption request.

Subsequent steps include issuance of a proposed decision by the Committee, and possible adoption of that decision by the Energy Commission at a Business Meeting or hearing.

The Energy Commission maintains a website for this project at: <https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/walsh/>. The SPPE application and related project documents are viewable by clicking the "Documents for this Proceeding (Docket Log)" link located near the upper right corner of the project webpage. The direct link to the project docket is: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=19-SPPE-02>.

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Energy Commission staff would like to consult with you to better understand Native American concerns regarding this project. Please respond to this letter in writing within 30 days if the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band would like to consult.

Energy Commission staff welcomes your comments or questions. If you have comments or questions, please contact Matthew Braun at (916) 654-4543 or Matthew.Braun@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Gates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas Gates, Ph.D.

Tribal Liaison
Supervisor
Cultural Resources Unit
Siting, Transmission, & Environmental
Protection

Enclosures: Regional Location Map
Project Location Map



July 25, 2019

Honorable Irene Zwierlein, Chairperson
Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista
789 Canada Road
Woodside, CA 94062

RE: Walsh Data Center (19-SPPE-02) - Invitation to Participate in California
Energy Commission Consultation

Dear Honorable Irene Zwierlein, Chairperson:

The California Energy Commission is responsible for preparing an environmental analysis for the proposed Walsh Data Center (WDC) and invites the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista to consult regarding this project because of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista's traditional and cultural affiliation, and knowledge within the geographic area of the proposed project.

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Energy Commission staff welcomes your comments or questions. If you have comments or questions, please contact Matthew Braun at (916) 654-4543 or Matthew.Braun@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Thomas Gates, Ph.D.

Tribal Liaison
Supervisor
Cultural Resources Unit
Siting, Transmission, & Environmental
Protection

Enclosures: Regional Location Map
Project Location Map



July 25, 2019

Honorable Ann-Marie Sayers, Chairperson
Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan
P.O. Box 28
Hollister, CA 95024

RE: Walsh Data Center (19-SPPE-02) - Invitation to Participate in California
Energy Commission Consultation

Dear Honorable Ann-Marie Sayers, Chairperson:

The California Energy Commission is responsible for preparing an environmental analysis for the proposed Walsh Data Center (WDC) and invites the Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan to consult regarding this project because of the Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan's traditional and cultural affiliation, and knowledge within the geographic area of the proposed project.

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Honorable Ann-Marie Sayers, Chairperson

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Energy Commission staff welcomes your comments or questions. If you have comments or questions, please contact Matthew Braun at (916) 654-4543 or Matthew.Braun@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Thomas Gates, Ph.D.

Tribal Liaison
Supervisor
Cultural Resources Unit
Siting, Transmission, & Environmental
Protection

Enclosures: Regional Location Map
Project Location Map



July 25, 2019

Honorable Charlene Nijmeh, Chairperson
Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area
20885 Redwood Road, Suite 232
Castro Valley, CA 94546

RE: Walsh Data Center (19-SPPE-02) - Invitation to Participate in California
Energy Commission Consultation

Dear Honorable Charlene Nijmeh, Chairperson:

The California Energy Commission is responsible for preparing an environmental analysis for the proposed Walsh Data Center (WDC) and invites the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area to consult regarding this project because of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area's traditional and cultural affiliation, and knowledge within the geographic area of the proposed project.

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Sincerely,

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Thomas Gates, Ph.D.

Tribal Liaison
Supervisor
Cultural Resources Unit
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Protection

Enclosures: Regional Location Map
Project Location Map



July 25, 2019

Honorable Katherine Erolinda Perez, Chairperson
North Valley Yokuts Tribe
P.O. Box 717
Linden, CA 95236

RE: Walsh Data Center (19-SPPE-02) - Invitation to Participate in California
Energy Commission Consultation

Dear Honorable Katherine Erolinda Perez, Chairperson:

The California Energy Commission is responsible for preparing an environmental analysis for the proposed Walsh Data Center (WDC) and invites the North Valley Yokuts Tribe to consult regarding this project because of the North Valley Yokuts Tribe's traditional and cultural affiliation, and knowledge within the geographic area of the proposed project.

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Enclosures: Regional Location Map
Project Location Map



July 25, 2019

Andrew Galvan
The Ohlone Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 3388
Fremont, CA 94539

RE: Walsh Data Center (19-SPPE-02) - Invitation to Participate in California Energy Commission Consultation

Dear Andrew Galvan:

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Subsequent steps include issuance of a proposed decision by the Committee, and possible adoption of that decision by the Energy Commission at a Business Meeting or hearing.

The Energy Commission maintains a website for this project at: <https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/walsh/>. The SPPE application and related project documents are viewable by clicking the "Documents for this Proceeding (Docket Log)" link located near the upper right corner of the project webpage. The direct link to the project docket is: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=19-SPPE-02>.

You can subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices and announcements at: <https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index cms.html>. The listserve for this project is called "walsh" and the relevant check-box can be found under the "PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW" heading. By being on this email list, you will receive notice of all project-related events and documents pertaining to the project's review. Most notably, the Energy Commission will issue a public notice for the hearing at least 10 days prior to its occurrence.

Energy Commission staff would like to consult with you to better understand Native American concerns regarding this project. Please respond to this letter in writing within 30 days if the The Ohlone Indian Tribe would like to consult.

Energy Commission staff welcomes your comments or questions. If you have comments or questions, please contact Matthew Braun at (916) 654-4543 or Matthew.Braun@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Gates". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Thomas Gates, Ph.D.

Tribal Liaison
Supervisor
Cultural Resources Unit
Siting, Transmission, & Environmental
Protection

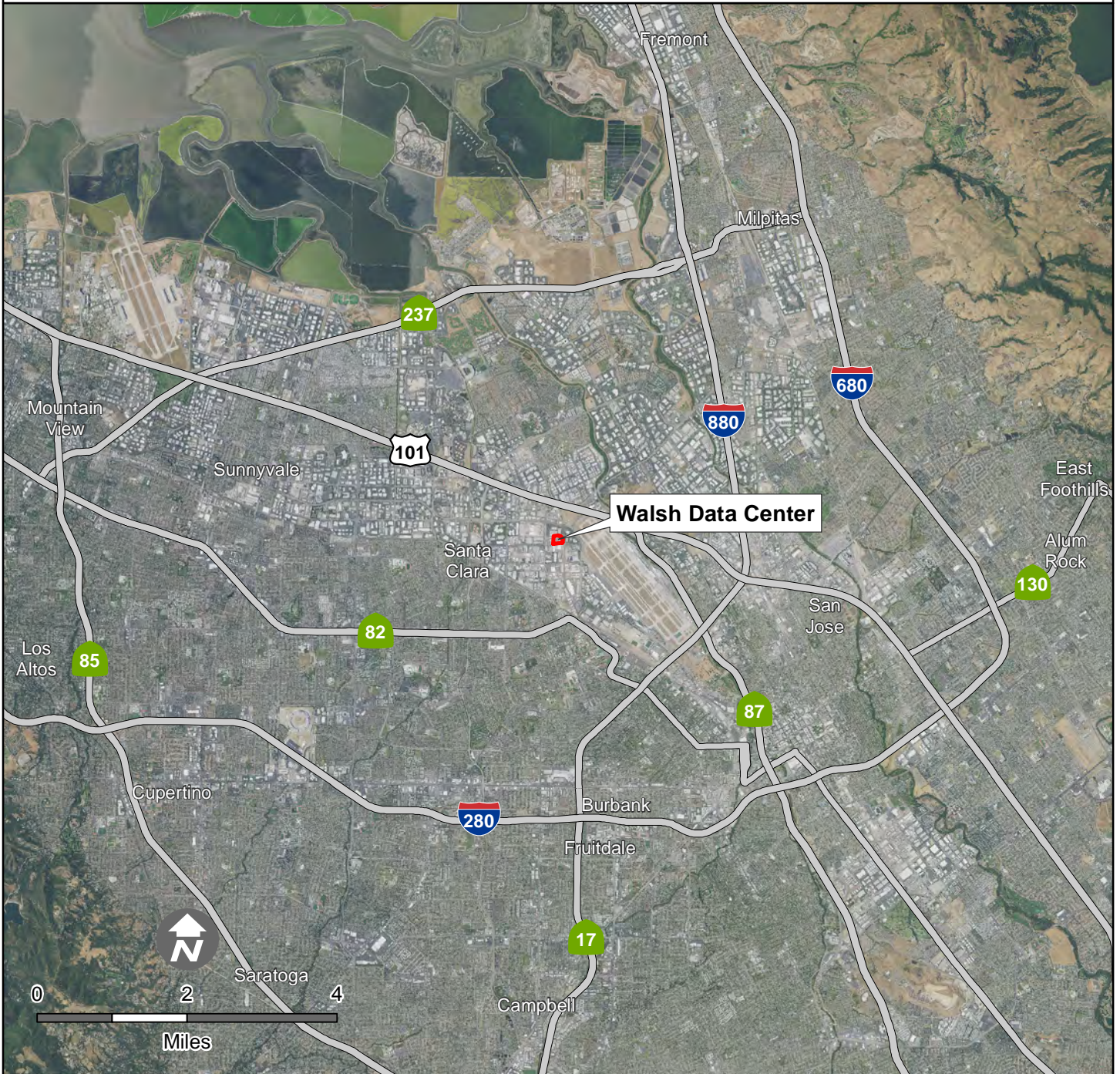
Enclosures: Regional Location Map
Project Location Map



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