

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	20-SPPE-01
Project Title:	Great Oaks South Backup Generating Facility Small Power Plant Exemption
TN #:	235194
Document Title:	CEC Memorandum Regarding Status Report #2
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Patty Paul
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	10/9/2020 4:01:46 PM
Docketed Date:	10/9/2020

M e m o r a n d u m

To: Commissioner Karen Douglas, Presiding Member
Chair David Hochschild, Associate Member

Date: October 9, 2020

From: California Energy Commission
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Subject: STATUS REPORT #2 FOR THE GREAT OAKS SOUTH BACKUP GENERATING FACILITY SMALL POWER PLANT EXEMPTION (20-SPPE-01)

In the *Committee Conference and Related Orders* filed on September 23, 2020, the Committee ordered "the parties to file a status report no later than the 10th of each month, beginning on September 10, 2020."

In Data Request Set 2, filed on April 7, 2020, staff requested the applicant conduct a vehicle-miles travelled (VMT) analysis for the project using the City of San Jose's Online VMT Evaluation Tool in accordance with Senate Bill 743 and the San Jose City Council Policy 5-1. On May 18, 2020, in response to staff's request, the applicant explained a VMT analysis is not required because the project was previously approved with no traffic impact and referenced an email from city staff confirming this (TN 233005-1 and TN 233005-4).

CEC and city staff have since met to discuss the project and agreed because the CEC is preparing a new CEQA document for the project as the lead agency, a transportation analysis (TA) report consistent with the city's Transportation Analysis Handbook¹, including an evaluation of the project's potential impacts related to VMT, is required to be in conformance with CEQA. In addition, a local transportation analysis (LTA) is required as part of the city's permitting process. An LTA analyzes the effects of a project on local transportation, access, circulation, and related safety elements.

On October 6, 2020 CEC staff met with city staff and the applicant's representatives to discuss outstanding transportation information required to complete the VMT portion of staff's transportation analysis. As a result, staff expects to receive a City Public Works approved final TA report including a detailed VMT analysis, a Transportation Demand Management Plan, and an LTA from the applicant.

¹ City of San Jose Transportation Analysis. Handbook and relevant city policies available online at: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments/public-works/development-services/transportation-analysis-reports>

Staff understands the applicant will be providing the construction emissions from the 21-kilovolt distribution line installation and street improvements required by the City of San Jose (widen sidewalks along the three frontages to 10 feet with tree wells).

Staff is anticipating one final report from the applicant in response to Data Request number 49, associated with the literature search conducted for the Cultural Resources Assessment.

Conclusion

Staff continues to work on the CEQA environmental document and awaits a Committee decision on the type of CEQA document staff should prepare. Staff has prepared a Notice of Preparation of an EIR to be circulated to responsible and trustee agencies in the event the Committee agrees with staff that an EIR is the appropriate level of environmental document for the project.