

DOCKETED

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Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	8/2/2021 1:42:46 PM
Docketed Date:	8/2/2021



July 1, 2021

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

Dear Honorable Valentin Lopez,

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact analysis for the proposed CA3 Backup Generating Facility (CA3BGF) and invites Amah Mutsun Tribal Band to consult regarding this project.

Background

The CEC has the exclusive authority to certify all thermal power plants (50 megawatts [MW] and greater) and related facilities proposed for construction in California. The small power plant exemption (SPPE) process allows applicants with facilities between 50 and 100 MW to obtain an exemption from CEC's jurisdiction and proceed with local permitting rather than requiring CEC certification. CEC can grant an exemption if it finds that the proposed facility would not create a substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy resources. In this case, the facility is subject to CEC's licensing authority unless the exemption is granted. Public Resources Code, section 25519(c) designates the CEC as the lead agency, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for all facilities seeking an SPPE.

Project Description

This letter provides general information concerning the proposed project and invites you to participate in CEC consultations, pursuant to its Tribal Consultation Policy.

The CEC received an SPPE application from Vantage Data Centers, LLC. (the applicant) on April 12, 2021 for the proposed CA3BGF (21-SPPE-01). The

CA3BGF would be part of the CA3 Data Center (CA3DC) to be located the city of Santa Clara. Both the CA3BGF and the CA3DC components are collectively the project pursuant to CEQA.

The project would be located at 2590 Walsh Avenue in Santa Clara. The parcel (APN 216-28-112) is zoned for light industrial uses and encompasses 6.69 acres. The irregularly shaped property is bound to the northwest by an existing microelectronics testing facility, to the northeast by a software research and development facility, to the south by an existing railroad line operated by CalTrain, to the east by Walsh Avenue, and the west by Silicon Valley Power's (SVP) Uranium Substation.

The project site is currently developed with an approximately 115,000 square foot single-story concrete, wood, and stucco office building and warehouse combined, with associated ground level parking lot and loading dock. The existing structures would be demolished along with the ancillary improvements, including landscaping, except for existing trees not in conflict with improvement plans. Adjacent land uses are predominantly commercial and industrial to the north and east, and residential to the south and west. The Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport is approximately 1.75 miles southeast of the site.

The applicant proposes to construct a four-story 469,482 square foot data center building, utility substation, a switching station, generator equipment yard (the CA3BGF), surface parking and landscaping, and a recycled water pipeline. The data center building would consist of two main components: the data center suites that house client servers, and the administrative facilities including support facilities such as the building lobby, restrooms, conference rooms, landlord office space, customer office space, loading dock and storage. The data center suite components would have four levels, each containing four data center suites and corresponding electrical/uninterruptable power supply rooms.

The new electrical substation would be located adjacent to the existing SVP Uranium Substation, along the western boundary of the project site. It would have a two-bay design which would allow one of the two transformers to be taken out of service, effectively providing 100 megavolt amperes of total power. The electrical substation would be made up of two halves; Vantage would own the new on-site substation and SVP would own the switching station directly to the south of and adjacent to the substation, providing 60 kilovolt service to the site. The substation would be capable of delivering electricity to the CA3DC from SVP's new adjacent switching station; however, no

electricity generated by the CA3BGF would be allowed to be delivered to the transmission grid.

A recycled water pipeline at the intersection of Walsh Avenue and Northwestern Parkway would be extended approximately 500 feet to the northeast (in Walsh Avenue) to serve as the project's secondary source of water.

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Valentin Lopez
July 1, 2021
Page 4

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Sincerely,



Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosures: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan,
and CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route



July 1, 2021

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

Dear Honorable Irene Zwierlein,

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact analysis for the proposed CA3 Backup Generating Facility (CA3BGF) and invites Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista to consult regarding this project.

Background

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Irene Zwielerlein
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Sincerely,

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Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosures: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan,
and CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route



July 1, 2021

Kanyon Sayers-Roods, MLD Contact
Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Coastanoan
1615 Pearson Court
San Jose, CA 95122

Dear Kanyon Sayers-Roods,

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Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosures: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan,
and CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route



July 1, 2021

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

Dear Honorable Ann Marie Sayers,

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Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

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July 1, 2021

Monica Arellano, Vice Chairwoman
Muwekm Ohlone Indian Tribe of the SF Bay Area
20885 Redwood Road, Suite 232
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Dear Honorable Monica Arellano,

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July 1, 2021

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

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Sincerely,



Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosures: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan,
and CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route



July 1, 2021

Timothy Perez
North Valley Yokuts Tribe
P.O. Box 717
Linden, CA 95236

Dear Honorable Timothy Perez,

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact analysis for the proposed CA3 Backup Generating Facility (CA3BGF) and invites North Valley Yokuts Tribe to consult regarding this project.

Background

The CEC has the exclusive authority to certify all thermal power plants (50 megawatts [MW] and greater) and related facilities proposed for construction in California. The small power plant exemption (SPPE) process allows applicants with facilities between 50 and 100 MW to obtain an exemption from CEC's jurisdiction and proceed with local permitting rather than requiring CEC certification. CEC can grant an exemption if it finds that the proposed facility would not create a substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy resources. In this case, the facility is subject to CEC's licensing authority unless the exemption is granted. Public Resources Code, section 25519(c) designates the CEC as the lead agency, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for all facilities seeking an SPPE.

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Timothy Perez
July 1, 2021
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Sincerely,



Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosures: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan,
and CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route



July 1, 2021

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

Dear Andrew Galvan,

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact analysis for the proposed CA3 Backup Generating Facility (CA3BGF) and invites The Ohlone Indian Tribe to consult regarding this project.

Background

The CEC has the exclusive authority to certify all thermal power plants (50 megawatts [MW] and greater) and related facilities proposed for construction in California. The small power plant exemption (SPPE) process allows applicants with facilities between 50 and 100 MW to obtain an exemption from CEC's jurisdiction and proceed with local permitting rather than requiring CEC certification. CEC can grant an exemption if it finds that the proposed facility would not create a substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy resources. In this case, the facility is subject to CEC's licensing authority unless the exemption is granted. Public Resources Code, section 25519(c) designates the CEC as the lead agency, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for all facilities seeking an SPPE.

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Andrew Galvan
July 1, 2021
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Sincerely,

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Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosures: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan,
and CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route



July 1, 2021

Dee Dee Ybarra, Chairperson
Rumsen Am:a Tur:ataj Ohlone
14671 Farmington Street
Hesperia, CA 92345

Dear Honorable Dee Dee Ybarra,

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact analysis for the proposed CA3 Backup Generating Facility (CA3BGF) and invites Rumsen Am:a Tur:ataj Ohlone to consult regarding this project.

Background

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Dee Dee Ybarra
July 1, 2021
Page 4

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Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosures: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan,
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July 1, 2021

Jonathan Wasaka Costillas, THPO
Tamien Nation
P.O. Box 866
Clearlake Oaks, CA 94523

Dear Jonathan Wasaka Costillas,

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact analysis for the proposed CA3 Backup Generating Facility (CA3BGF) and invites Tamien Nation to consult regarding this project.

Background

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Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
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July 1, 2021

Quirina Luna Geary, Chairperson
Tamien Nation
P.O. Box 8053
San Jose, CA 95155

Dear Honorable Quirina Luna Geary,

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electricity generated by the CA3BGF would be allowed to be delivered to the transmission grid.

A recycled water pipeline at the intersection of Walsh Avenue and Northwestern Parkway would be extended approximately 500 feet to the northeast (in Walsh Avenue) to serve as the project's secondary source of water.

The CA3BGF would have a generating capacity of up to 96 MW to support the need for the CA3DC to provide uninterruptible power supply for its servers. The CA3BGF would only be operated for maintenance, testing and during emergency utility power outages. The CA3BGF would consist of forty-four, 2.75-MW diesel-fired emergency backup generators, arranged in a single generation yard designed to serve the data center building that makes up the CA3DC.

Project elements would also include switchgear and distribution cabling to interconnect the two generation yards to their respective portion of the building. Eight of the 40 data center generators would be redundant, yielding the applicant's goal of 99.999 percent reliability factor. The remaining four emergency generators are house generators (two of which are redundant) that would support portions of the administration building and features necessary for emergency response.

CEC 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 Tamien Nation would like to request consultation.

Additionally, over the coming months the CEC may hold public meetings on the project to better understand impacts or concerns that may arise. These meetings will provide the public; local, state, and federal agencies; and tribal governments the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed project. The CEC will issue notices for these meetings at least 10 days prior to the meeting. If you would like to be notified by email whenever a public meeting is scheduled or a document is posted to the project website, you may sign up for the project listserv on the CEC's main web page listed below. To review the SPPE application and find more information about the project, please visit the project webpage: <https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/ca3/>

Should you request, CEC staff will arrange for a separate consultation meeting to discuss issues that you may wish to hold in confidence from the general public.

Quirina Luna Geary
July 1, 2021
Page 4

CEC staff welcomes your comments and questions. Please do not hesitate to contact Gabriel Roark at (916) 237-2544 or by email at Gabriel.Roark@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Gates". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosures: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan,
and CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route



July 1, 2021

Kenneth Woodrow, Chairperson
Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band
1179 Rock Haven Court
Salinas, CA 93906

Dear Honorable Chairperson Woodrow:

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact analysis for the proposed CA3 Backup Generating Facility (CA3BGF) and invites the Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band to consult regarding this project.

This letter provides general information concerning the current project and invites you to participate in CEC consultations, in accordance with the obligations pursuant to Public Resources Code, section 21080.3.1.

CA3BGF Background

The CEC has the exclusive authority to certify all thermal power plants (50 megawatts [MW] and greater) and related facilities proposed for construction in California. The small power plant exemption (SPPE) process allows applicants with facilities between 50 and 100 MW to obtain an exemption from CEC's jurisdiction and proceed with local permitting rather than requiring CEC certification. CEC can grant an exemption if it finds that the proposed facility would not create a substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy resources. In this case, the facility is subject to CEC's licensing authority unless the exemption is granted. Public Resources Code, section 25519(c) designates the CEC as the lead agency, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for all facilities seeking an SPPE.

CA3BGF Description

The CEC received an SPPE application from Vantage Data Centers, LLC. (the applicant) on April 12, 2021 for the proposed CA3BGF (21-SPPE-01). The CA3BGF would be part of the CA3 Data Center (CA3DC) to be located in the city of Santa Clara. Both the CA3BGF and CA3DC components collectively are referred to as the project pursuant to CEQA.

The project would be located at 2590 Walsh Avenue in Santa Clara. The parcel (APN 216-28-112) is zoned for light industrial uses and encompasses 6.69 acres. The irregularly shaped property is bound to the northwest by an existing microelectronics testing facility, to the northeast by a software research and development facility, to the south by an existing railroad line operated by CalTrain, to the east by Walsh Avenue, and the west by Silicon Valley Power's (SVP) Uranium Substation.

The project site is currently developed with an approximately 115,000 square foot single-story concrete, wood, and stucco office building and warehouse combined, with associated ground level parking lot and loading dock. The existing structures would be demolished along with the ancillary improvements, including landscaping, except for existing trees not in conflict with improvement plans. Adjacent land uses are predominantly commercial and industrial to the north and east, and residential to the south and west. The Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport is approximately 1.75 miles southeast of the site.

The applicant proposes to construct a four-story 469,482 square foot data center building, a utility substation, a switching station, generator equipment yard (the CA3BGF), surface parking and landscaping and a recycled water pipeline. Recycled water would be used for cooling when it is available, although potable water will also be available on site. The data center building would consist of two main components: the data center suites that house client servers, and the administrative facilities including support facilities such as the building lobby, restrooms, conference rooms, landlord office space, customer office space, loading dock and storage. The data center suite components would have four levels, each containing four data center suites and corresponding electrical/uninterruptable power supply rooms.

The proposed 100-megavolt-ampere electrical substation would be located adjacent to the existing SVP Uranium Substation along the western boundary of the project site. It would have a two-bay design which would allow one of the two transformers to be taken out of service, effectively providing 100 megavolt amperes of total power. The electrical substation would be made up of two halves; Vantage would own the new on-site substation and SVP would own the

switching station directly to the south of and adjacent to the substation, providing 60 kilovolt service to the site. The substation would be capable of delivering electricity to the CA3DC from SVP's new adjacent switching station; however, no electricity generated by the CA3BGF would be capable of being delivered to the transmission grid.

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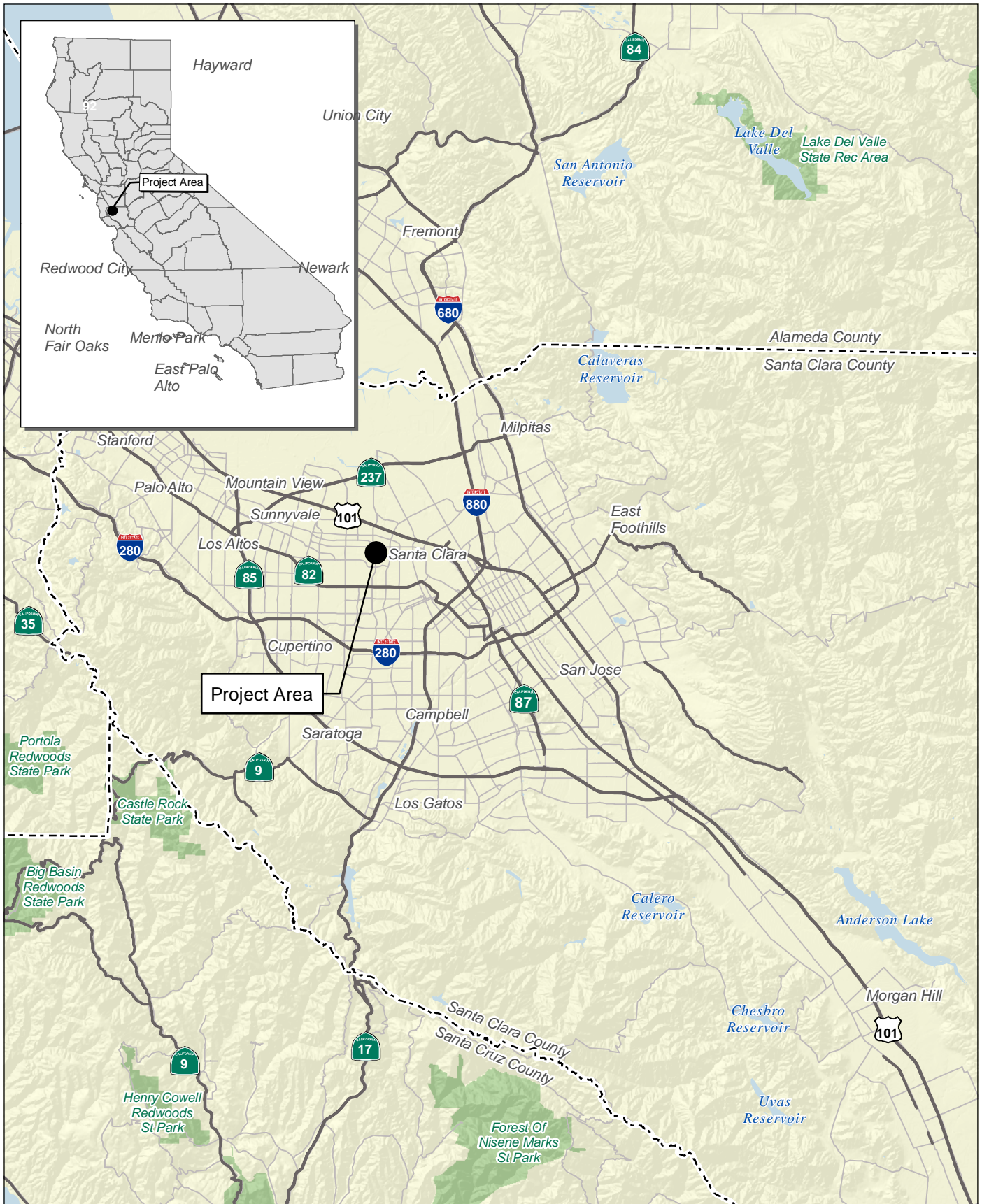
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Sincerely,

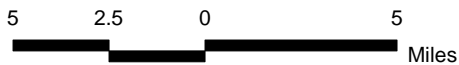
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Gates". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

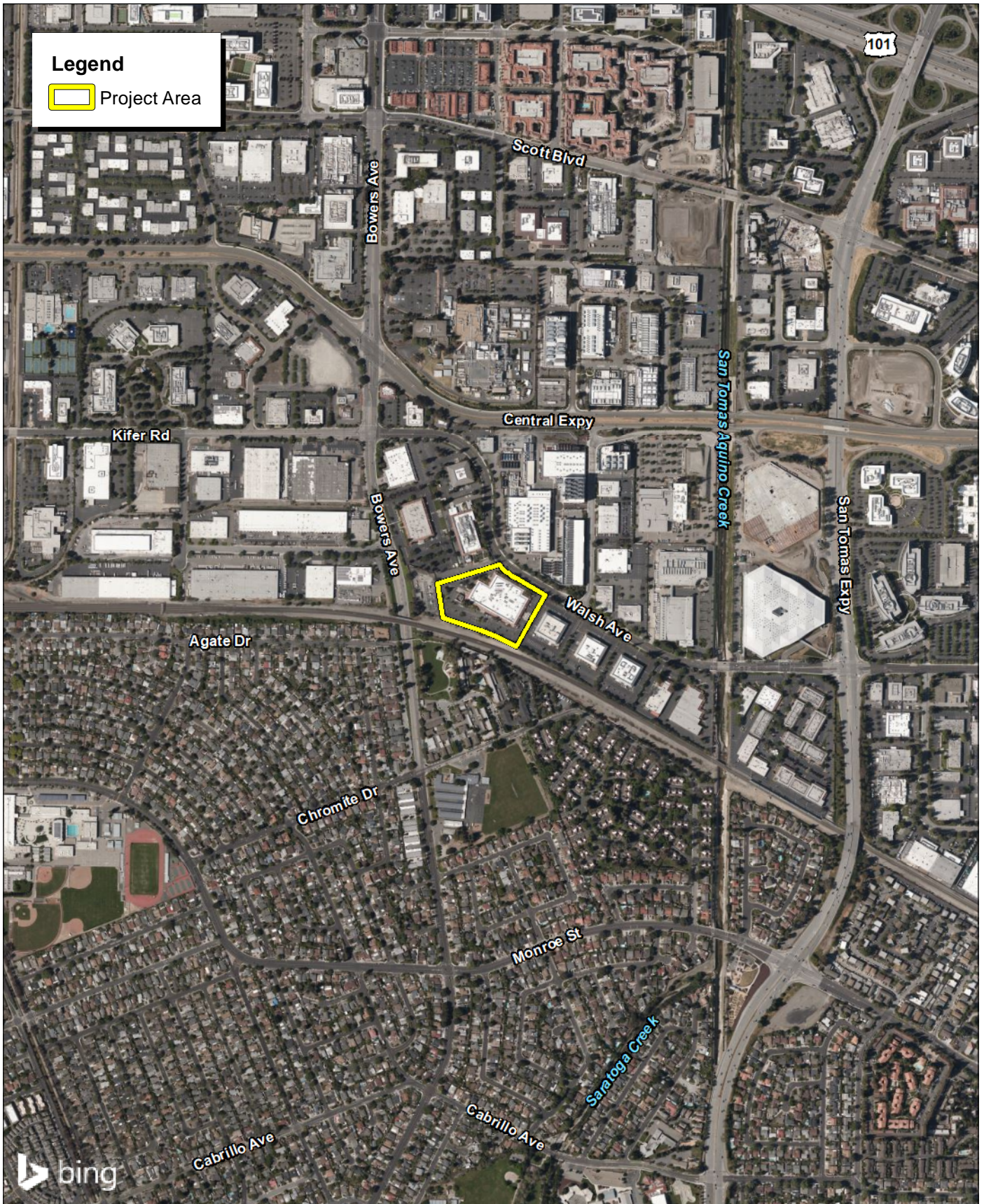
Thomas Gates, Ph.D.
California Energy Commission Tribal
Liaison

Enclosure: Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, Architectural Site Plan, and
CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route



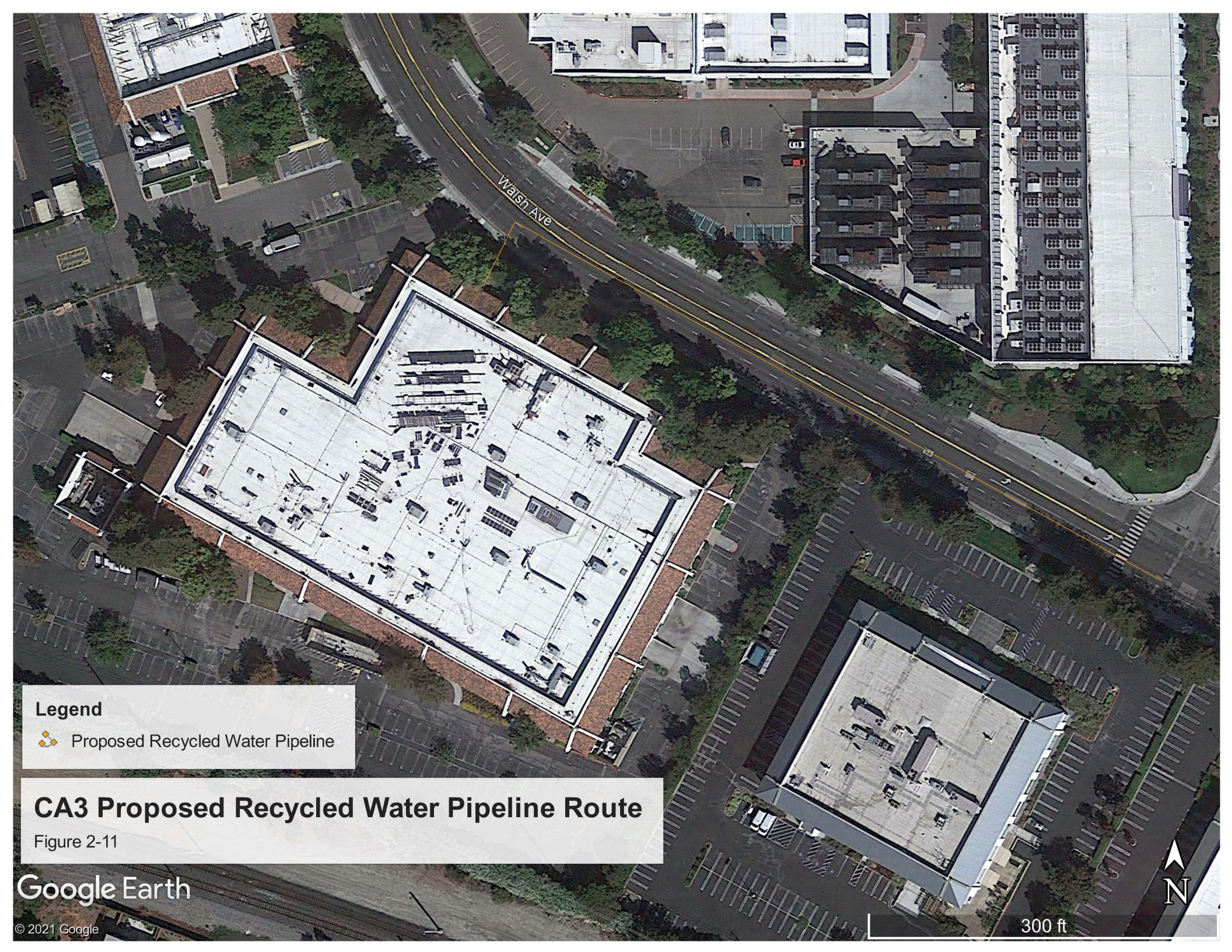
Source: Census 2000 Data, The California Spatial Information Library (CaSIL).






Source: Bing Aerial Imagery.





Legend

 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline

CA3 Proposed Recycled Water Pipeline Route

Figure 2-11

Google Earth



300 ft