

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	24-OPT-01
Project Title:	Perkins Renewable Energy Project
TN #:	254846
Document Title:	Questions to CPUC Regarding Need for CPCN
Description:	Includes notification of receipt of Opt-in Application. Emailed on March 5, 2024
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March 5, 2024

Notice of Receipt of Opt-in Application for Perkins Renewable Energy Project (24-OPT-01)/ Question regarding necessity of CPCN

Dear Elaine Sison-Lebrilla,

The purpose of this letter is to serve notice of the California Energy Commission's (CEC) receipt of an application for the proposed Perkins Renewable Energy Project, which is being processed under the CEC's new Opt-in licensing authority established by Assembly Bill (AB) 205 and the associated emergency regulations. AB 205 added sections 25545-25545.13 to the Public Resources Code, which expanded the CEC's existing power plant licensing authority by allowing specified clean energy projects to optionally seek consolidated permitting at the CEC by June 30, 2029.

Public Resources Code, section 25545.8, states that subdivision (j) of section 25519 is applicable to Opt-in applications. Accordingly, for any facility requiring a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN), the CEC shall transmit a copy of the application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and request the comments and recommendations of the CPUC. The CEC is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act for the Perkins Renewable Energy Project.

IP Perkins, LLC, IP Perkins BAAH, LLC, and related affiliates (collectively, "Applicant"), subsidiaries of Intersect Power, LLC propose to construct and operate the Perkins Renewable Energy Project, an approximately 1,150 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) and battery energy storage facility, on United States Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation administered public lands (approximately 5,611 acres), and private lands (approximately 515 acres) in Imperial County east of El Centro, California. The project would generate and store renewable electricity via arrays of solar PV panels, a battery energy storage system, and appurtenant facilities. The final project capacity would be based on optimization of buildable acreage and solar PV technology at the time of procurement. The project would construct a new generation interconnection (gen-tie) line that would connect the project substation to a new high-voltage breaker and a half (BAAH) switchyard. The gen-tie would be approximately 200 feet or 1.3 miles in length depending on the two optional locations of the substation. From the switchyard, two new 500 kilovolt (kV) loop-in transmission lines would be constructed to interconnect to the existing San Diego Gas & Electric Company's 500 kV Southwest Power Link Transmission Line that travels east-west just south of the project site. The Project Description section of the application can be accessed directly at the following link:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=254456&DocumentContentId=89847>.

The solar facility, BESS, project substation, and gen-tie line would be constructed, owned, and operated by IP Perkins, LLC and Affiliates. IP Perkins BAAH, LLC would construct the BAAH switchyard, which, upon commissioning, would be owned and operated by SDG&E in coordination with Imperial Irrigation District (IID). The two 500 kV loop-in transmission lines would be constructed by SDG&E and, upon commissioning, owned and operated by SDG&E in coordination with IID. IP Perkins, LLC, has a fully executed Engineering and Procurement (E&P) agreement with SDG&E and has filed for an interconnection position of 1,150 MW on SDG&E's Southwest Power Link line. IP Perkins, LLC is in the process of negotiating and, upon completion of interconnection studies, would execute an interconnection agreement with SDG&E to carry up to 1,150 MW of energy.

CEC has set up a webpage for the project at the following link:

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/solar-photovoltaic-pv/perkins-renewable-energy-project>.

The documents which comprise the Opt-in application can be found in the project docket, which is accessible via the project webpage or directly at the following link:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-01>.

We would appreciate knowing as soon as possible whether a CPCN will be required for the BAAH switchyard and two 500 kV loop-in transmission lines to be owned and operated by SDG&E, as these components will be included in the environmental impact report to be prepared by the CEC for the project. Please reach out if you have any questions. Thank you.

Lisa Worrall
Project Manager
California Energy Commission

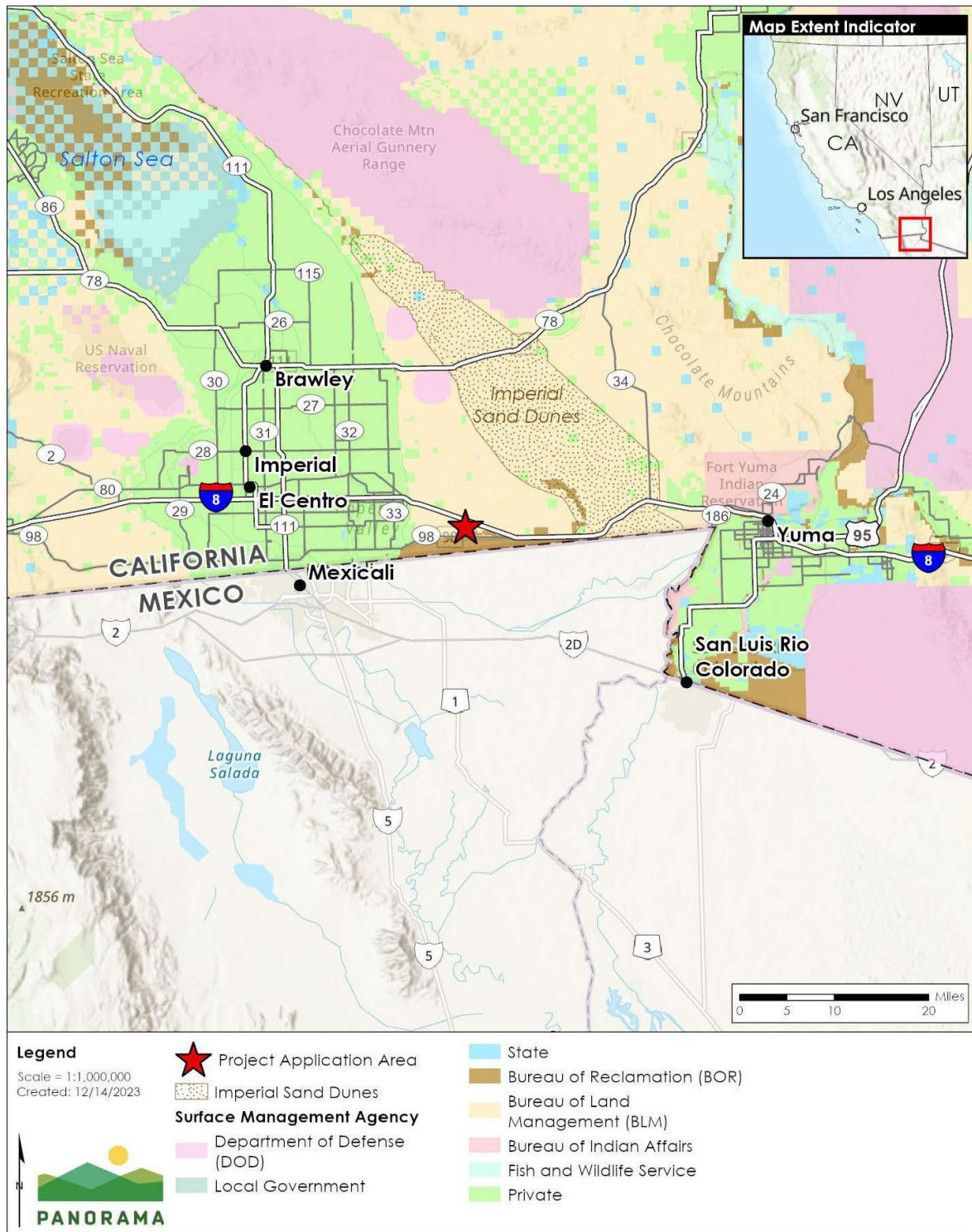
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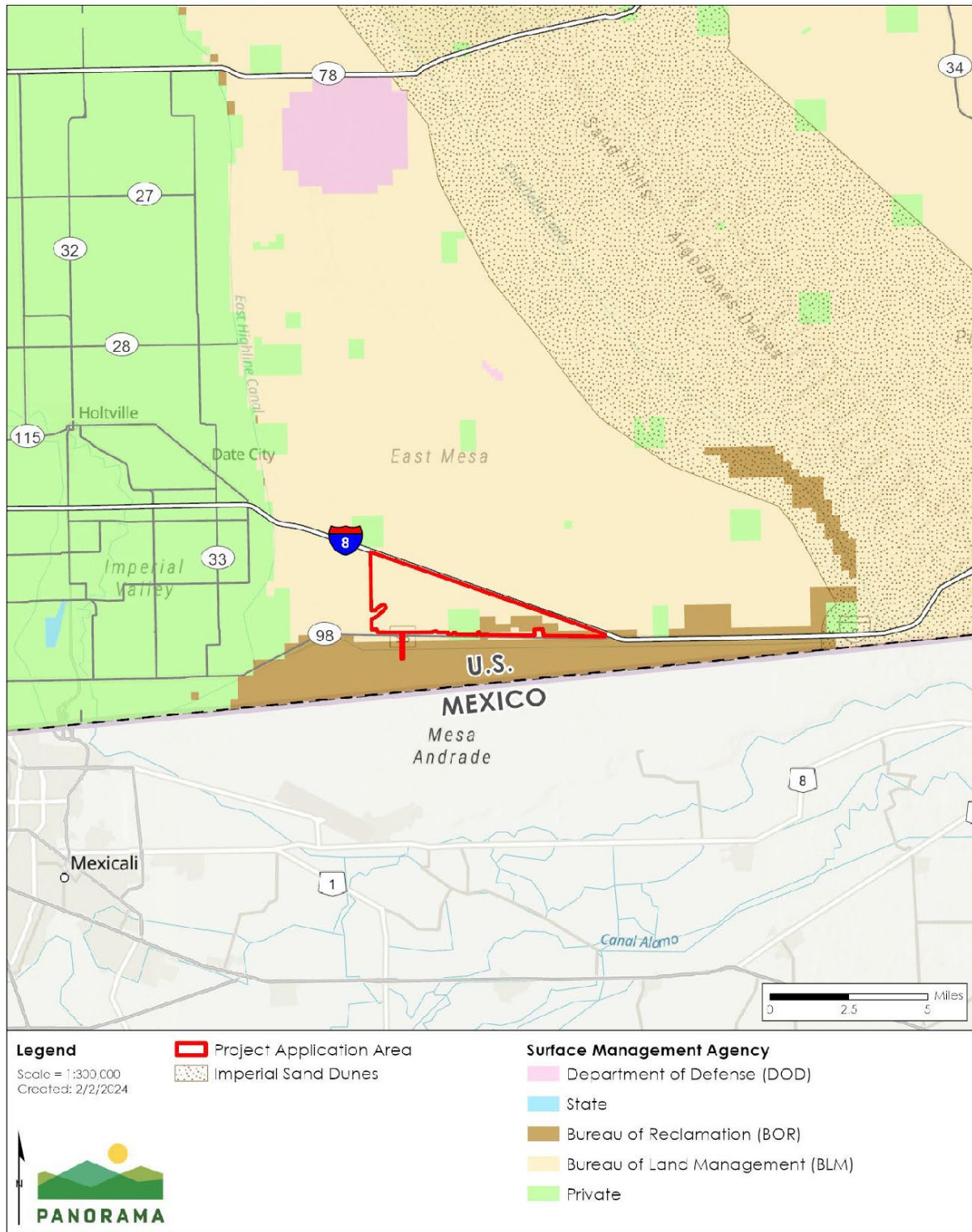
Enclosures: Figure 1.3-1 Regional Setting (from application, TN 254456)
Figure 2.1-2 Project Vicinity (from application, TN 254456)

Figure 1.3-1 Regional Setting



Source: (BLM 2022)(BLM 2012)

Figure 2.1-2 Project Vicinity



Source: (Intersect Power 2023)(BLM 2022)(BLM 2012)