

DOCKETED

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Document Title:	Staff Memorandum on Record of Proceedings_Attachment 1
Description:	N/A
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From: Tiffany Phan [phan@npalobby.com]
Sent: 10/11/2023 5:00:13 PM
To: Energy - OGA [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c9af912a8f71446f900d008596e2a19a-Energy - OG]
CC: Erin Niemela [niemela@npalobby.com]
Subject: mtg request - Intersect Power - Nov 1

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Good morning CEC Government Affairs team,

On behalf of our client Intersect Power, we are hoping a member of your legislative affairs team may be available on November 1st for a meeting to discuss green hydrogen issues. We also have some availability on November 2nd.

Intersect Power is hoping to provide you an update on our projects in California with U.S.-made solar modules and in-state manufactured batteries by 100% union labor. Our Darden project in Senator Caballero's and Assemblymember Soria's district is the largest hydrogen generation project in California's Hydrogen Hub/ARCHES proposal to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Meeting details are as follows.

Who: Michael Wheeler, Vice President Government Affairs, Intersect Power
Elizabeth Van Holt, Government Relations State Affairs, Intersect Power
Erin Niemela and Tiffany Phan, Niemela Pappas & Associates

What: Update on Intersect Power and their projects related to the Hydrogen Hub/ARCHES proposal

When: Nov 1st or 2nd

Where: Sacramento, CA (CEC office or coffee shop)

Let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you in advance.

Tiffany Phan
Niemela Pappas & Associates
915 L Street Suite 1130
Sacramento, CA 95814
phan@npalobby.com | [916.661.5365](tel:916.661.5365)



From: Weiner, Peter H. [PWeiner@coxcastle.com]
Sent: 11/9/2023 12:54:16 AM
To: Gallardo, Noemi@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6d80af906f4f4846958a22a1fbfc0795-Gallardo, N]
Subject: Meeting with Intersect Power

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Hi, Noemi. Long time no talk, but I'm pleased that the Fountain Wind project application has been deemed complete!

Intersect Power will be filing an application for its Darden Solar Project in Fresno County in the next month or two. Thankfully we do not have local opposition to the Darden project! We've had an introductory meeting with David and staff, but we all think it would be great to have one with you. Would that be possible? If so, when would be good?

Peter H. Weiner



Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP

50 California Street | Suite 3200 | San Francisco, CA 94111

direct: 415.262.5108 | *mobile:* 415.518.5000

main: 415.262.5100

PWeiner@coxcastle.com | [vcard](#) | [bio](#) | [website](#)

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From: Gallardo, Noemi@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6D80AF906F4F4846958A22A1FBFC0795-GALLARDO, N]
Sent: 11/10/2023 1:23:22 AM
To: Weiner, Peter H. [PWeiner@coxcastle.com]
CC: Qaqundah, James@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7da5ec0923de49488685fdaa76c71e51-Qaqundah, J]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Huber, Elizabeth@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93f40660c3d446578d63390926fd5e5a-Huber, Eliz]; Mitchell, Jann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=eb5b08fdbcea415cbdcc819c078d9b6f-Mitchell, J]
Subject: Re: Meeting with Intersect Power

Hello Peter -

Yes, I'd be willing to meet with you about Darden. I added my interim assistant Jann Mitchell to help find availability.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Weiner, Peter H. <PWeiner@coxcastle.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 10:23:24 AM
To: Gallardo, Noemi@Energy <noemi.gallardo@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with Intersect Power

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Hi again. I assume you are very busy, but your assistant may be looking at times. Just in case you are available sooner rather than later for an in-person meeting in Sacramento (or the Bay Area if convenient), we are generally available except Wednesdays 12-3, 11/14 (all day), and 11/17 (all day). Also not available 11/29-12/4. If you are incredibly busy this month, the week of Dec. 5-8 (Tuesday-Friday) might work well except for that Wednesday pm time.

Thanks again,
Peter

Peter H. Weiner



direct: 415.262.5108 | mobile: 415.518.5000

PWeiner@coxcastle.com | [vcard](#) | [bio](#) | [website](#)

From: Weiner, Peter H. <PWeiner@coxcastle.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 4:54 PM
To: Gallardo, Noemi@Energy <noemi.gallardo@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Meeting with Intersect Power

Hi, Noemi. Long time no talk, but I'm pleased that the Fountain Wind project application has been deemed complete!

Intersect Power will be filing an application for its Darden Solar Project in Fresno County in the next month or two. Thankfully we do not have local opposition to the Darden project! We've had an introductory meeting with David and staff, but we all think it would be great to have one with you. Would that be possible? If so, when would be good?

Peter H. Weiner



Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP

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From: Watson, Carol@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=84E32D50C7DC47D89812B468A50090ED-WATSON, CAR]
Sent: 11/20/2023 7:18:59 PM
To: Bonner, Lawrence(Larry)@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1869dadea1e4452e9802a366a8cd9d2a-WildlifeLaw]; Vang, Jim@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=32237e96460546779116e0d64096b692-WildlifeJim]
CC: Maher, Lani@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5dd1ddd3656b47ad999ed889a3382664-WildlifeLan]; Tomlinson, Krista@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0b9c5c6ec182444e9150d634cfda0969-WildlifeKri]; Pohlman, Jeremy@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3264ef4897ca4dfd8d40a52d52b301a0-WildlifePoh]; Stroud, Andrea@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9703ce11dc9547c78c64f22894500b5c-Martine, An]; Mulligan, Rhiannon@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a62a013861764f1e8556eaf023a2cc94-WildlifeRhi]; Hilliard, Jon@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=27a838bfda534669858cb8cf13dd12a4-Hilliard, J]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - Meeting Agenda
Attachments: 1st Interagency Kickoff meeting _Nov 20_2023.docx
Flag: Flag for follow up

Good morning,
 Attached please find the agenda for our 1pm meeting,
 Best,

Carol

Carol Watson
 Staff Biologist
 Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
 California Energy Commission
 715 P Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 11/22/2023 5:06:12 PM
To: Paco [pvillarreal@mcclatchy.com]
CC: Isabel Velasquez [icapps@fresnobee.com]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Haws, Marichka@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=952e0b50c8ae422588958c273050b0b0-Haws, Maric]
Subject: RE: Fw: Fresno Bee Legal Advertising

Hi Paco,

Is it possible to publish a notice in Spanish and in English in the Fresno Bee?

Please let me know.

Thanks,

Lisa

From: Paco <pvillarreal@mcclatchy.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 12:22 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Isabel Velasquez <icapps@fresnobee.com>
Subject: Re: Fw: Fresno Bee Legal Advertising

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Hi Ann,

Thanks for reaching out, unfortunately we do not and I don't believe there are any other Spanish publications in the area.

Regards,



Paco Villarreal
Vice President of Advertising
California

C 559-790-3071
E pvillarreal@mcclatchy.com
W winwithmcclatchy.com

On Tue, Oct 31, 2023 at 12:10 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Paco,

I am a project manager with the California Energy Commission. We need to find a newspaper of general circulation that we could use to post our CEQA related notices for Spanish in the vicinity of a proposed project. We will be using the Fresno Bee for the English notices.

Could the Fresno Bee's *Vida en el Valle* publish public notices in Spanish? If not, do you have a local Spanish language newspaper you would recommend?

We don't have a map yet for this project, but it is described in the project description as being "located approximately 4 miles northwest of the community of Five Points, with the utility switchyard located 5 miles south of the community of Three Rocks on the west side of Interstate 5"

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

Thanks!

Ann

From: icapps@fresnobee.com <icapps@fresnobee.com> on behalf of Legals West, MCC <legals.west@mcclatchy.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Fresno Bee Legal Advertising

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Hello Ann,

As far as I know we do not accept no public notices in Vida en el Valle. You may reach out to Paco Villarreal, VP of Advertising. Here is his email: pvillarreal@mcclatchy.com

I'm not aware of any other Spanish Newspaper in the Fresno County.

Thank you,

Isabel Capps
 McClatchy Legal Advertising
 E-mail: legals.west@mcclatchy.com

On Tue, Oct 31, 2023 at 10:05 AM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Isabel,

Thank you for the info....is there anywhere in the "Vida en el Valle" publication that we could post the notice? It does not have to be in a "legal notice" section but maybe a classified section or community news section or similar?

If not, do you know of another Spanish language publication in the area?

Thank you,

Ann

From: icapps@fresnobee.com <icapps@fresnobee.com> on behalf of Legals West, MCC
<legals.west@mcclatchy.com>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:59 AM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Fresno Bee Legal Advertising

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Ann,

The Fresno Bee reaches out to Six Counties:

Fresno
Kings
Tulare
Madera
Mariposa
Merced

We may publish your legal notice in The Fresno Bee in English & Spanish. We do not publish Spanish Legal Notices in our Spanish Newspaper Vida en el Valle no more.

Please email your Legal Notice to: legals.west@mcclatchy.com in the subject line "Fresno Bee"

Please email a word document and PDF doc and your Map when you are ready to publish your notice. We need at least 3-4 days in advance prior to the publication date.

Thank you,

Isabel Capps
Fresno Bee Legal Advertising
E-mail: legals.west@mcclatchy.com

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC [Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov]
Sent: 11/28/2023 7:25:11 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
CC: Cooney-Gam, David@DOC [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=44c110b3b58a4d2cba967b370c42e125-b21e4446-16]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Lisa,

I am currently working on the construction site well review report for Darden Clean Energy Project. I am sending this email to request a list of the assessor's parcel numbers (APNs) associated with this project. I was looking at the documents available and came upon appendix F.

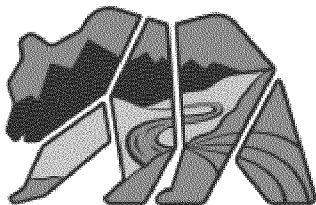
DESKTOP GIS DATA AND ARE NOT SURVEY GP

Identifier	APN	Zoning	Parcel Identifier	APN
1	04006010S	AE20	63	05003
2	04007029S	AE20	64	05003
3	04007030S	AE20	65	05003

However, the APN lists appear to be a bit distorted for OCR to work properly. A shape file or excel list of APNs would help tremendously.

Thank you in advance!

Sincerely,



Victor D. Medrano

Associate Oil and Gas Engineer | Central District

California Department of Conservation Geologic Energy Management Division

11000 River Run Blvd.

Bakersfield, CA 93311

T: (661) 322-4031 | C: (661) 201-8607

E: Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov

W: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem>



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From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 10:44 AM

Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello,

This email serves as notification of receipt of an Opt-in application under Public Resources Code 25519 for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project is proposed in unincorporated Fresno County. The attached letter outlines project information and the reasons under AB 205 why we are contacting you.

If you have questions, please contact me and Ann Crisp, project manager.

We appreciate your timely responses and look forward to coordinating with you as the project moves forward.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 11/28/2023 10:39:45 PM
To: Medrano, Victor@DOC [Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Cooley-Gam, David@DOC [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=44c110b3b58a4d2cba967b370c42e125-b21e4446-16]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies
Attachments: Darden Clean Energy Project_ProjectAPNs.docx

Here are the project apns. I will see if we can share the GIS shape files of the project boundaries and linears.

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:34 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cooley-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cooley-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

+Ann.

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 11:25 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cooley-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cooley-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello Lisa,

I am currently working on the construction site well review report for Darden Clean Energy Project. I am sending this email to request a list of the assessor's parcel numbers (APNs) associated with this project. I was looking at the documents available and came upon appendix F.

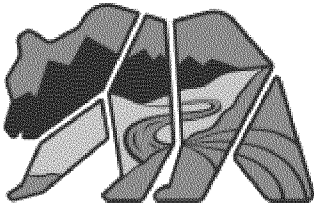
DESKTOP GIS DATA AND ARE NOT SURVEY GP

Identifier	APN	Zoning	Parcel Identifier	APN
1	04006010S	AE20	63	05003
2	04007029S	AE20	64	05003
3	04007030S	AE20	65	05003

However, the APN lists appear to be a bit distorted for OCR to work properly. A shape file or excel list of APNs would help tremendously.

Thank you in advance!

Sincerely,



Victor D. Medrano

Associate Oil and Gas Engineer | Central District

California Department of Conservation Geologic Energy Management Division

11000 River Run Blvd.

Bakersfield, CA 93311

T: (661) 322-4031 | C: (661) 201-8607

E: Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov

W: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem>



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From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 10:44 AM

Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello,

This email serves as notification of receipt of an Opt-in application under Public Resources Code 25519 for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project is proposed in unincorporated Fresno County. The attached letter outlines project information and the reasons under AB 205 why we are contacting you.

If you have questions, please contact me and Ann Crisp, project manager.

We appreciate your timely responses and look forward to coordinating with you as the project moves forward.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



Darden Clean Energy Project

Table 11 Project Site Assessor's Parcel Numbers

Assessor's Parcel Numbers	Section(s)-Township-Range	County
Solar Facility, and Options 1 and 2 Step-up Substation and BESS		
040-070-31	S22 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-070-32	S22 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-15	S35 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-16	S34 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-20	S36 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-21	S26 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-23	S26 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-25	S26 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-27	S27 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-28	S27 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-29	S27 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-30	S27 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-31	S26 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-32	S26 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
040-110-34	S25 - 16S - 16E	Fresno County
050-020-47	S4 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-04	S2 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-05	S2 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-07	S2 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-08	S2 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-10	S2 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-21	S3 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-24	S12 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-25	S12 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-26	S10 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-27	S10 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-29	S10 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-30	S3 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-31	S3 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-32	S02, 03 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-33	S3 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-49	S10 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-45	S21 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-46	S16 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-47	S16 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-48	S16 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County

050-070-02	S15 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-070-41	S15 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-070-42	S15 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-070-43	S15 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-070-64	S15 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-080-01	S18 - 17S - 17E	Fresno County
050-070-63	S15, 16 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
Gen-tie Line Easement and Extension		
045-160-24	S25 - 17S - 14E	Fresno County
045-160-23	S25 - 17S - 14E	Fresno County
045-160-22	S25 - 17S - 14E	Fresno County
045-171-01	S30 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-080-47	S19 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-080-38	S19 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-080-17	S20 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-080-49	S21 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-080-09	S16 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-51	S15 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-49	S15 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-04	S14 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-44	S14 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-45	S14 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-26	S13 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-32	S13 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-37	S13 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
045-070-35	S13 - 17S - 15E	Fresno County
050-060-27	S18 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-38	S17 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-24	S17 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-48	S16 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-20	S16, 21 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-070-43	S15 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-070-02	S15 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-070-42	S15 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-27	S10 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-26	S10 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-030-21	S3 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
Green Hydrogen Facility (Option 1 and Option 2)		
050-030-21	S3 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
050-060-45	S21 - 17S - 16E	Fresno County
Green Hydrogen Facility (Alternate)		

045-160-18	S25 - 17S - 14E	Fresno County
045-160-21	S25 - 17S - 14E	Fresno County
045-160-22	S25 - 17S - 14E	Fresno County
045-160-23	S25 - 17S - 14E	Fresno County
Utility Switchyard		
045-160-24	S25 - 17S - 14E	Fresno County

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Sent: 12/4/2023 7:04:15 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
Subject: Re: Darden (23-OPT-02) Docket Log Question

Got it, thanks, we will check in with Dockets - talk soon, Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 10:53 AM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden (23-OPT-02) Docket Log Question

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Ann,

Just wanted to let you know the document I just downloaded still has the Sara Gersen title and has the docket cover page on page 2 for Earth Justice comments.

 Sara Gersen - Earthjustice Comments on Compliance with Public Resources Code § 25664 in the Clean Hydrogen Program -
 File Edit View E-Sign Window Help

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	23-OPT-02
Project Title:	Darden Clean Energy Project
TN #:	253371
Document Title:	Sara Gersen - Earthjustice Comments on Compliance with Public Resources Code § 25664 in the Clean Hydrogen Program
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Marichka Haws
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	11/29/2023 11:39:00 AM
Docketed Date:	11/29/2023

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 10:33 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Knight,

Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: Darden (23-OPT-02) Docket Log Question

Good morning Becky,

Thanks for checking...this was a system error in dockets and IT has addressed it and now it has the correct title. There were no comments on Darden from Earth Justice.

↓ TN #	Docketed Date	Document Title	Exhibit #	To	From
253371	11/29/2023	Comments from Fresno County Fire Protection District on Darden Clean Energy Project  1 page(s)		CEC/Docket Unit	Fresno County Fire Protection District

Just to wrap up, all Confidential request letters to Drew will be docketed and that is how the PMs are notified of these requests.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 7:31 AM

To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: Darden (23-OPT-02) Docket Log Question

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Thanks, Ann. I thought I did a thorough scan of the documents but I appreciate your screen shots showing the others!

On a related note, the most recent upload includes comments from the Fire Protection District, but there appears to be another docket cover letter for comments from Earth Justice, but that comment letter was not in the PDF. Can you check to see if another document should have been included in that docket upload?

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 2:59 PM

To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: Darden (23-OPT-02) Docket Log Question

Hi Becky,

I will check in on the process for these being docketed but there others docketed, they just don't have "Confidential" as the 1st word. Hope this helps!

Ann

		271 page(s)		
253060-2	11/9/2023	Appendix U Incidental Take Permit Form_Volume 2_Darden Clean Energy California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit Application 88 page(s)	CEC/Docket Unit	Rincon Consultants
253060-3	11/9/2023	Appendix U Incidental Take Permit Form_Volume 3_Darden Clean Energy California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit Application 204 page(s)	CEC/Docket Unit	Rincon Consultants
253047	11/7/2023	Appendix I Application for Confidential Request_Darden Clean Energy Confidential Cultural Resources Technical Report. Appendix I-1 California Historical Resources Information System Records Search Results and Fresno Historical Society Outreach Appendix I-2 Native American Heritage Commission Sacred Lands Search Results and Native American Outreach Appendix I-3 Research Design Appendix I-4 California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 Series Forms Appendix I-5 State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Concurrence Letter for Determinations of Eligibility for the California Aqueduct (P-10-006207) 2 page(s)	CEC/Drew Bohan	Rincon Consultants
253046	11/7/2023	Confidential Appendix M Socioeconomics Study_Appendix B_Darden Clean Energy Application for confidential request for Appendix B Project Economic Employment and Assumptions of Appendix M Socioeconomics Study. 2 page(s)	CEC/Drew Bohan	Rincon Consultants
		20 page(s)		
253030-2	11/7/2023	CEC App_Cover Title Pages and TOC_Darden Clean Energy Title pages and Table of Contents for CEC Opt-in Application. 20 page(s)	CEC/Docket Unit	Rincon Consultants, Inc.
253027	11/7/2023	Appendix R Application for Confidential Request_Darden Clean Energy Application for confidential request for Appendix R Species Observed and with Potential to Occur and 10-mile CNDDB. 2 page(s)	CEC/Drew Bohan	Rincon Consultants
253025	11/7/2023	CEC App_Section 5-6_Socioeconomics_Darden Clean Energy This section describes the effects of the Darden Clean Energy Project on socioeconomic resources	CEC/Docket Unit	Rincon Consultants

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 1:12 PM

To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden (23-OPT-02) Docket Log Question

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Hello,

I was looking through the docket today and noticed document "Confidential Appendix M Socioeconomics Study_Appendix B_Darden Clean Energy" (TN # 253046). It is the submittal form for requesting the document be confidential. It doesn't appear any other confidential requests forms were made public so I'm wondering if this was put in the docket in error?

		2 page(s)		
253046	11/7/2023	Confidential Appendix M Socioeconomics Study_Appendix B_Darden Clean Energy Application for confidential request for Appendix B Project Economic Employment and Assumptions of Appendix M Socioeconomics Study. 2 page(s)	CEC/Drew Bohan	Rincon Consultants

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Gutierrez, Ashley@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9D45050672534309BD0A34878BDE286D-GUTIERREZ,]
Sent: 12/5/2023 6:11:00 PM
To: jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov
CC: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Subject: Request for Project Information - Heartland Hydrogen

Hi Jeremy,

I have a quick question regarding the Hartland Hydrogen project. I saw the NOP was posted and the comment period ended in November 2022. What's the status for the environmental document and can share the applicant's "application" for the hydrogen project with us? If you have a DEIR we'd love to check it out for our own review. This would be very helpful for us with the preparation of the Darden Project.

Best Regards,
Ashley Gutierrez | Compliance Project Manager
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division (STEP)
Safety and Reliability Branch
Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Unit
715 P Street, MS-2000, Sacramento, CA 95814
Work/Cell: (916) 839-0400
Email: ashley.gutierrez@energy.ca.gov



From: Medrano, Victor@DOC [Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov]
Sent: 12/4/2023 9:33:20 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=44c110b3b58a4d2cba967b370c42e125-b21e4446-16]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies
Attachments: TN252920_20231103T144534_Appendix F Project Design Layout and Elevations_Darden Clean Energy.pdf

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Attached is the Appendix F mentioned below.

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 1:28 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello Lisa,

I was comparing the APNs from the Appendix F (mentioned below) to the list provided in word and they seem to be different – such as missing ST or S.

In Word document:
04007031

From Appendix F:
04007031ST

Do you have the list from appendix f?

Parcel Identifier	APN	Zoning	Parcel Identifier	APN	Zoning
1	040060105	AE20	63	050030245T	AE20
2	040070295	AE20	64	050030255T	AE20
3	040070305	AE20	65	050030305T	AE20
4	040070325T	AE20	66	050040205	AE20
5	040070315T	AE20	67	050070525	AE20
6	040070255T	AE20	68	050070545	AE20
7	040070265T	AE20	69	050070555T	AE20
8	040160185T	AE20	70	050080015T	AE20
9	040160205T	AE20	71	050070305T	AE20
10	040160155	AE20	72	050070065T	AE20
11	04016014T	AE20	73	050080305	AE20
12	040160135T	AE20	74	050080295T	AE20
13	040160185T	AE20	75	050080125	AE20
14	040100305	AE20	76	050080255	AE20
15	040110305T	AE20	77	050060405	AE20
16	040110275T	AE20	78	050060495	AE20
17	040110315T	AE20	79	050060465T	AE20
18	040110325T	AE20	80	050060475T	AE20
19	040110235T	AE20	81	050060485T	AE20
20	040110345T	AE20	82	050060205	AE20
21	040110335	AE20	83	050030505	AE20
22	040110315	AE20	84	050070635	AE20
23	040110285T	AE20	85	050070645T	AE20
24	040110295T	AE20	86	050070415T	AE20
25	040110255T	AE20	87	050070425T	AE20
26	040110215T	AE20	88	050070435T	AE20
27	040100295	AE20	89	05007002T	AE20
28	040110185T	AE20	90	050070385	AE20
29	040110155T	AE20	91	050070355	AE20
30	040110205T	AE20	92	050060235	AE20
31	040120145	AE20	93	050060245	AE20
32	040100285	AE20	94	050060305	AE20
33	050020235	AE20	95	050060455T	AE20
34	050020385	AE20	96	050070155	AE20
35	050020395	AE20	97	050070185	AE20
36	050020475T	AE20	98	050070175	AE20
37	050030335T	AE20	99	050060445	AE20
38	050030325T	AE20	100	050060435	AE20
39	050030315T	AE20	101	050060365	AE20
40	050030305T	AE20	102	050100465	AE20
41	050030215T	AE20	103	050100475	AE20
42	050030045T	AE20	104	050100325	AE20
43	050030055T	AE20	105	050060385	AE20
44	050030075T	AE20	106	050060275	AE20
45	050030085T	AE20	107	045070355, 045070375	AE20
46	050030225	AE20	108	04507026	AE20
47	050020375	AE20	109	045070455	AE20
48	050020365	AE20	110	045070455	AE20
49	050020415	AE20	111	045070445	AE20
50	050020425	AE20	112	04507004	AE20
51	050020435	AE20	113	045070485, 045070495	AE20
52	050020485	AE20	114	045070505, 045070515	AE20
53	050020495	AE20	115	045080085, 045080095	AE20
54	050030295T	AE20	116	045080495	AE20
55	050030285T	AE20	117	045080175	AE20
56	050030485T	AE20	118	045080385	AE20
57	050030275T	AE20	119	045080475	AE20
58	050030455	AE20	120	04501622	AE20
59	050030435	AE20	121	045300195, 045300205	AE40
60	050030465	AE20	122	045300205	AE40
61	050030475	AE20	123	04501622	AE40
62	050030485	AE20	124	04501624	AE40

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:40 PM
To: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cooney-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cooney-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Here are the project apns. I will see if we can share the GIS shape files of the project boundaries and linears.

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:34 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cooney-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cooney-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

+Ann.

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 11:25 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello Lisa,

I am currently working on the construction site well review report for Darden Clean Energy Project. I am sending this email to request a list of the assessor's parcel numbers (APNs) associated with this project. I was looking at the documents available and came upon appendix F.

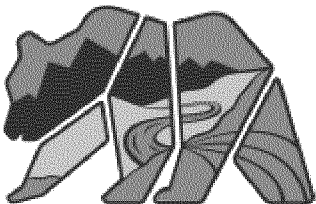
DESKTOP GIS DATA AND ARE NOT SURVEY GP

Identifier	APN	Zoning	Parcel Identifier	APN
1	04006010S	AE20	63	05003
2	04007029S	AE20	64	05003
3	04007030S	AE20	65	05003

However, the APN lists appear to be a bit distorted for OCR to work properly. A shape file or excel list of APNs would help tremendously.

Thank you in advance!

Sincerely,



Victor D. Medrano

Associate Oil and Gas Engineer | Central District

California Department of Conservation Geologic Energy Management Division

11000 River Run Blvd.

Bakersfield, CA 93311

T: (661) 322-4031 | C: (661) 201-8607

E: Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov

W: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem>



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From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 10:44 AM

Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello,

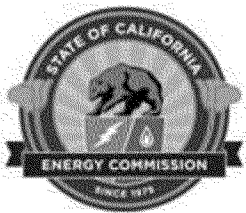
This email serves as notification of receipt of an Opt-in application under Public Resources Code 25519 for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project is proposed in unincorporated Fresno County. The attached letter outlines project information and the reasons under AB 205 why we are contacting you.

If you have questions, please contact me and Ann Crisp, project manager.

We appreciate your timely responses and look forward to coordinating with you as the project moves forward.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Knight, Eric@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BE42548337F44852A291A9845F226F62-KNIGHT, ERI]
Sent: 12/4/2023 5:21:49 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Fooks, Brett@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=870df74143964b71ada0039bf13c5a9a-Fooks, Bret]; Hughes, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7dd5e80572b644209e9607ba7bdc630-Hughes, Jos]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Tarik Ibrahim [tarik.ibrahim@intersectpower.com]; Brian Parrish [brian@intersectpower.com]
Subject: Darden - Post Certification Process
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Start: 12/6/2023 7:00:00 PM
End: 12/6/2023 7:30:00 PM
Show Time As: Busy

Required Attendees: Fooks, Brett@Energy; Hughes, Joseph@Energy; Becky Moores; Tarik Ibrahim; Brian Parrish

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 253 080 048 777

Passcode: beGimN

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 916-306-7589,,215581721#](#) United States, Sacramento

Phone Conference ID: 215 581 721#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

Sent: 12/12/2023 5:11:22 PM
To: Medrano, Victor@DOC [Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=44c110b3b58a4d2cba967b370c42e125-b21e4446-16]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hi Victor,

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner on your discoveries. I have added your comments as a data request to the applicant to clarify.

Yesterday we posted the letter

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 1:33 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

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Attached is the Appendix F mentioned below.

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 1:28 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello Lisa,

I was comparing the APNs from the Appendix F (mentioned below) to the list provided in word and they seem to be different – such as missing ST or S.

In Word document:
04007031

From Appendix F:
04007031ST

Do you have the list from appendix f?

Parcel Identifier	APN	Zoning	Parcel Identifier	APN	Zoning
1	040060105	AE20	63	050030245T	AE20
2	040070295	AE20	64	050030255T	AE20
3	040070305	AE20	65	050030305T	AE20
4	040070325T	AE20	66	050040205	AE20
5	040070315T	AE20	67	050070525	AE20
6	040070255T	AE20	68	050070545	AE20
7	040070265T	AE20	69	050070555T	AE20
8	040160185T	AE20	70	050080015T	AE20
9	040160205T	AE20	71	050070305T	AE20
10	040160155	AE20	72	050070065T	AE20
11	04016014T	AE20	73	050080305	AE20
12	040160135T	AE20	74	050080295T	AE20
13	040160185T	AE20	75	050080125	AE20
14	040100305	AE20	76	050080255	AE20
15	040110305T	AE20	77	050060405	AE20
16	040110275T	AE20	78	050060495	AE20
17	040110315T	AE20	79	050060465T	AE20
18	040110325T	AE20	80	050060475T	AE20
19	040110235T	AE20	81	050060485T	AE20
20	040110345T	AE20	82	050060205	AE20
21	040110335	AE20	83	050030505	AE20
22	040110315	AE20	84	050070635	AE20
23	040110285T	AE20	85	050070645T	AE20
24	040110295T	AE20	86	050070415T	AE20
25	040110255T	AE20	87	050070425T	AE20
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29	040110155T	AE20	91	050070355	AE20
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38	050030325T	AE20	100	050060435	AE20
39	050030315T	AE20	101	050060365	AE20
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Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:40 PM
To: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cooney-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cooney-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Here are the project apns. I will see if we can share the GIS shape files of the project boundaries and linears.

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:34 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cooney-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cooney-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

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+Ann.

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 11:25 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello Lisa,

I am currently working on the construction site well review report for Darden Clean Energy Project. I am sending this email to request a list of the assessor's parcel numbers (APNs) associated with this project. I was looking at the documents available and came upon appendix F.

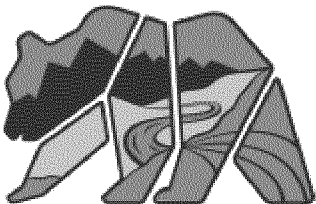
DESKTOP GIS DATA AND ARE NOT SURVEY GP

Identifier	APN	Zoning	Parcel Identifier	APN
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3	04007030S	AE20	65	05003

However, the APN lists appear to be a bit distorted for OCR to work properly. A shape file or excel list of APNs would help tremendously.

Thank you in advance!

Sincerely,



Victor D. Medrano

Associate Oil and Gas Engineer | Central District

California Department of Conservation Geologic Energy Management Division

11000 River Run Blvd.

Bakersfield, CA 93311

T: (661) 322-4031 | C: (661) 201-8607

E: Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov

W: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem>



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From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 10:44 AM

Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello,

This email serves as notification of receipt of an Opt-in application under Public Resources Code 25519 for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project is proposed in unincorporated Fresno County. The attached letter outlines project information and the reasons under AB 205 why we are contacting you.

If you have questions, please contact me and Ann Crisp, project manager.

We appreciate your timely responses and look forward to coordinating with you as the project moves forward.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 12/8/2023 4:16:03 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Selection of zero liquid discharge for brine disposal

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Hi Lisa - this updated statement is just for the wastewater generated from the feedstock water for the hydrogen electrolyzer. Other waste streams are discussed in Section 5.11 Waste Management, and if there are questions beyond that I assume they will be included in your deficiency letter? Or are there more details I can provide today?

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 9:05 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Selection of zero liquid discharge for brine disposal

Hi Becky,

Our water resources staff would like to know if there are other wastewater streams that won't be treated with the ZLD system? If not, you may want to add that into the statement.

Thanks,

Lisa

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 7:39 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy <Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov>; White, Adam@Energy <Adam.White@Energy.ca.gov>; Ackerman, James@Energy <james.ackerman@energy.ca.gov>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Selection of zero liquid discharge for brine disposal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lisa,

See attached statement and let me know if that is sufficient and I can submit it to the docket.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 1:32 PM

To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy <Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov>; White, Adam@Energy <Adam.White@Energy.ca.gov>; Ackerman, James@Energy <james.ackerman@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Selection of zero liquid discharge for brine disposal

Hi Becky,

It would be best if you can submit a formal statement into the docket now so that we are not tripling our data requests for water resources.

Thanks,

Lisa

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 1:45 PM

To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy <Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov>; White, Adam@Energy <Adam.White@Energy.ca.gov>; Ackerman, James@Energy <james.ackerman@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Selection of zero liquid discharge for brine disposal

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Hello Lisa,

Diligence on our end is pushing us towards the ZLD option and away from the others. Would it work to docket a formal statement along with responses to the deficiency letter?

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2023 2:28 PM

To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy <Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov>; White, Adam@Energy <Adam.White@Energy.ca.gov>; Ackerman, James@Energy <james.ackerman@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Selection of zero liquid discharge for brine disposal

Hi Becky,

Regarding your statement "at this time we are focusing on the zero liquid discharge option so you can focus your review for that one option," we want to make sure that if another brine disposal method is selected we have all the information we need on that method. As several options for brine disposal are discussed, we would want a statement put in the docket to note the selection of the zero liquid discharge option as soon as possible.

If you don't feel ready to make such a statement in the record, let us know and we can review all options until such time you select one or not. Until a statement is submitted to the docket, staff will continue to review all discharge options listed in the application.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 12/12/2023 5:13:19 PM
To: Medrano, Victor@DOC [Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=44c110b3b58a4d2cba967b370c42e125-b21e4446-16]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hi Victor,

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner on your discoveries. I have added your comments as a data request to the applicant to clarify.

Yesterday we posted the Determination of Incomplete Application and Request for Information for the Darden Clean Energy Project. The link below will connect to the document.

[Determination of Incomplete Application and Request for Information for the Darden Clean Energy Project](#)

Thanks for pointing out your concerns.

Lisa

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 1:33 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

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Attached is the Appendix F mentioned below.

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 1:28 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello Lisa,

I was comparing the APNs from the Appendix F (mentioned below) to the list provided in word and they seem to be different – such as missing ST or S.

In Word document:
04007031

From Appendix F:
04007031ST

Do you have the list from appendix f?

Parcel Identifier	APN	Zoning	Parcel Identifier	APN	Zoning
1	04006010S	AE20	63	05003024ST	AE20
2	04007029S	AE20	64	05003025ST	AE20
3	04007030S	AE20	65	05003026ST	AE20
4	04007032ST	AE20	66	05004020S	AE20
5	04007031ST	AE20	67	05007052S	AE20
6	04007025ST	AE20	68	05007054S	AE20
7	04007026ST	AE20	69	05007055ST	AE20
8	04016016ST	AE20	70	05008001ST	AE20
9	04016020ST	AE20	71	05007030ST	AE20
10	04016015S	AE20	72	05007006ST	AE20
11	04016014T	AE20	73	05008030S	AE20
12	04016013ST	AE20	74	05008029ST	AE20
13	04016018ST	AE20	75	05008012S	AE20
14	04016030S	AE20	76	05008025S	AE20
15	04011030ST	AE20	77	05006040S	AE20
16	04011027ST	AE20	78	05006049S	AE20
17	04011031ST	AE20	79	05006046ST	AE20
18	04011032ST	AE20	80	05006047ST	AE20
19	04011023ST	AE20	81	05006048ST	AE20
20	04011034ST	AE20	82	05006020S	AE20
21	04011033S	AE20	83	05003056S	AE20
22	04010031S	AE20	84	05007063S	AE20
23	04011028ST	AE20	85	05007064ST	AE20
24	04011029ST	AE20	86	05007041ST	AE20
25	04011025ST	AE20	87	05007042ST	AE20
26	04011021ST	AE20	88	05007043ST	AE20
27	04010029S	AE20	89	05007002T	AE20
28	04011016ST	AE20	90	05007036S	AE20
29	04011015ST	AE20	91	05007035S	AE20
30	04011020ST	AE20	92	05006023S	AE20
31	04012014S	AE20	93	05006024S	AE20
32	04010028S	AE20	94	05006030S	AE20
33	05002023S	AE20	95	05006045ST	AE20
34	05002038S	AE20	96	05007015S	AE20
35	05002039S	AE20	97	05007018S	AE20
36	05002047ST	AE20	98	05007017S	AE20
37	05003033ST	AE20	99	05006044S	AE20
38	05003032ST	AE20	100	05006043S	AE20
39	05003031ST	AE20	101	05006036S	AE20
40	05003030ST	AE20	102	05010046S	AE20
41	05003021ST	AE20	103	05010047S	AE20
42	05003004ST	AE20	104	05010032S	AE20
43	05003005ST	AE20	105	05006038S	AE20
44	05003007ST	AE20	106	05006027S	AE20
45	05003008ST	AE20	107	04507035S, 04507037S	AE20
46	05003022S	AE20	108	04507026	AE20
47	05002037S	AE20	109	04507045S	AE20
48	05002036S	AE20	110	04507046S	AE20
49	05002041S	AE20	111	04507044S	AE20
50	05002042S	AE20	112	04507004	AE20
51	05002043S	AE20	113	04507048S, 04507049S	AE20
52	05002048S	AE20	114	04507050S, 04507051S	AE20
53	05002049S	AE20	115	04508008S, 04508009S	AE20
54	05002029ST	AE20	116	04508049S	AE20
55	05002026ST	AE20	117	04508017S	AE20
56	05002049ST	AE20	118	04508038S	AE20
57	05003027ST	AE20	119	04508047S	AE20
58	05003045S	AE20	120	04501622	AE20
59	05003043S	AE20	121	045100319S, 045100320S	AE40
60	05003046S	AE20	122	04510020S	AE40
61	05003047S	AE20	123	04501622	AE40
62	05003048S	AE20	124	04501624	AE40

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:40 PM

To: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Here are the project apns. I will see if we can share the GIS shape files of the project boundaries and linears.

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC <Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:34 PM

To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

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+Ann.

Best regards,
Victor D. Medrano

From: Medrano, Victor@DOC

Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 11:25 AM

To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Cookey-Gam, David@DOC <David.Cookey-Gam@conservation.ca.gov>

Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello Lisa,

I am currently working on the construction site well review report for Darden Clean Energy Project. I am sending this email to request a list of the assessor's parcel numbers (APNs) associated with this project. I was looking at the documents available and came upon appendix F.

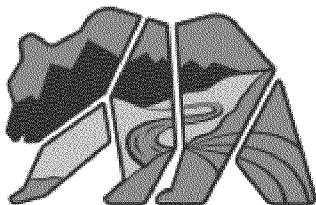
DESKTOP GIS DATA AND ARE NOT SURVEY GP

Identifier	APN	Zoning	Parcel Identifier	APN
1	04006010S	AE20	63	05003
2	04007029S	AE20	64	05003
3	04007030S	AE20	65	05003

However, the APN lists appear to be a bit distorted for OCR to work properly. A shape file or excel list of APNs would help tremendously.

Thank you in advance!

Sincerely,



Victor D. Medrano

Associate Oil and Gas Engineer | Central District

California Department of Conservation
Geologic Energy Management Division
11000 River Run Blvd.
Bakersfield, CA 93311

T: (661) 322-4031 | C: (661) 201-8607
E: Victor.Medrano@conservation.ca.gov
W: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/calgem>



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From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 10:44 AM

Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)- Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application for state, federal and other agencies

Hello,

This email serves as notification of receipt of an Opt-in application under Public Resources Code 25519 for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project is proposed in unincorporated Fresno County. The attached letter outlines project information and the reasons under AB 205 why we are contacting you.

If you have questions, please contact me and Ann Crisp, project manager.

We appreciate your timely responses and look forward to coordinating with you as the project moves forward.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 12/21/2023 11:19:27 PM
To: White, Adam@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d64512c47c48429dbdcf6845422b6bd1-74f7464f-8c]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Koch, Andrea@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8024cfdec6344412812ea6c8320f29b2-Koch, Andre]; Stroud, Andrea@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9703ce11dc9547c78c64f22894500b5c-Martine, An]; Sofi, Ardalan@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5599bba4aae5432a8f31f7346822a0dd-3a21e80b-4d]; Fooks, Brett@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=870df74143964b71ada0039bf13c5a9a-Fooks, Bret]; Travis, Cameron@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ffc3bb00117d4faa86c199b4737b63fe-Travis, Cam]; Watson, Carol@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=84e32d50c7dc47d89812b468a50090ed-Watson, Car]; Roark, Gabriel@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed87ff1e22cd49f3aaff644c82538d46-Roark, Gabr]; Record, Jacquelyn@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=80a752975c1d44efbd17fb602595a1e7-Leyva, Jacq]; Ackerman, James@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3cc35de240cf4253af9cc7d3d2cbb643-Ackerman, J]; Douglas, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f8e73200cd7441158eb7008a74e78c3d-Douglas, Jo]; Hughes, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7dd5e80572b644209e9607ba7bdc630-Hughes, Jos]; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c1ff1d38281a4068b2708271d22c0d94-Abulaban, A]; Salyphone, Kenneth@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f08aaa91182c441ea86fea05a2a09689-Salyphone,]; Hamblin, Mark@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=071cd87e7be047d7837b2754f0b5d7dd-Hamblin, Ma]; Hesters, Mark@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=adc98e7718ae442bab67f41b128d006-Hesters, Ma]; Turner, Michael@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=935d0fc8d435418da34fd4251ff83a5a-Turner, Mic]; Riordan, Patrick@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac5d55bd7fad49519eaa9e71fc43871d-Riordan, Pa]; Khoshmashrab, Shahab@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=debfeb665b7a45629f72eae824bce58-Khoshmashra]; Kerr, Steven@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d0d5a66bed2249fca830918f58b3b921-Kerr, Steve]; Ding, Yifan@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=49ee78637b0648578196965a7385b6f2-6d1c78d5-11]; agreenberg [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b9bfa77aaf044a8ca270ce3bcef10093-9afec475-67]; Paul Miller [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4d4ce365f8bd442a8cb7d479381e2476-8906af8e-0e]; Mike Ratte [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20a84d9cbf7c4ea195852cf6a8ea2d2b-6d8543ca-18]; Daniel Jones [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=352cfed2f4d849749d3d8f98a9563279-082cef18-97]; Nate Berls [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fe0eafe49304d06bb483e6825386151-c64c6081-b0]; Luis Rosas

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 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3c8166d9921d42d98e2d24be19aed620-d9a1de5a-39]; Mayer, Alex@Energy
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 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Edirisuriya,
 Sudath@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a5d6cd74e9024972b122d8344f69b3a8-Edirisuriya]
CC: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Haws, Marichka@Energy
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=952e0b50c8ae422588958c273050b0b0-Haws, Maric]
Subject: Project timing for Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Hi all,

We hear from Intersect that they plan on submitting all the responses to our data requests by January 31st. Once the last item is submitted, we have 30 days to review and determine whether the application is now complete and issue a data completeness letter.

This response is quicker than we anticipated so we wanted to alert you that we may determine that the application may be data complete as soon as the end of February, which will start the 270 day clock. By day 150 we have to publish the draft EIR (PSA). Here is a link to the opt-in schedule: [Darden Schedule.docx \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

Once we get a better idea of when we call the application complete, we can create calendar dates based on this schedule.

As the data responses come in we will need all staff to read all of them to make sure you are aware of what the applicant has said as it may affect your technical area. Staff with data requests will need to track whether complete responses have been received by DR number. We will also need to know if you consider the responses to be satisfactory for your needs. Here is a link to the tracker: [Darden Data Completeness Tracker.xlsx \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

Any preliminary work that you can start on for this project is advised. You will find the templates of your sections in this folder: [Siting & Environmental Branch Extranet - Staff Assessment Templates - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

When you are ready to start working on your section, move the document to the corresponding folder in this folder: [Siting & Environmental Branch Extranet - 1. Preliminary Staff Assessment - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

A master list of references has been prepared for the items docketed to date and they will be updated as more items are docketed. The link to the references is: [Siting & Environmental Branch Extranet - 3. Master List of References - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

Remember as you use a reference, please save a screenshot or excerpt of what you are referencing in your technical section folder for now. Once your section has been finalized through management and legal review, you will need to move your references cited to the following folder: [Siting & Environmental Branch Extranet - 4. Copy of References Cited - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#) Create a subfolder with the name of your technical section and move your references into that.

For any figures you need created, work with GIS staff (Gabriel Blossom Gabriel.blossom@energy.ca.gov and Travis David travis.david@energy.ca.gov). The figures will be put into a standard format with a standard legend style. You will at least need the png file for insertion into the document and sometimes a pdf version is helpful. You can save the figure to the following folder: [Siting & Environmental Branch Extranet - Project Figures to use in SA - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

If you have any questions, let me or Ann Crisp know. If in doubt, ask.

I will be out of the office tomorrow and will return in January 2, 2024. Ann and Eric will be around.

Have a wonderful holiday season.

Thank you all for your great work.

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 12/20/2023 7:42:11 PM
To: Becky Moores (becky.moores@intersectpower.com) [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]
CC: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Hughes, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7dd5e80572b644209e9607ba7bdc630-Hughes, Jos]
Subject: FW: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Question on DR AQ-1

Hi Becky and Marisa,

The email below is the response from our air quality supervisor regarding coordination with SJAPCD.

Lisa

From: Hughes, Joseph@Energy <Joseph.Hughes@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 11:30 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Ding, Yifan@Energy <Yifan.Ding@Energy.ca.gov>; Record, Jacquelyn@Energy <Jacquelyn.Record@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Question on DR AQ-1

Hi Lisa,

The background to DR AQ-1 and AQ-2 explains that, but for the California Energy Commission's (CEC's) jurisdiction and in lieu authority set forth in Public Resources Code section 25545.1(b)(1), any state or local air quality permit that would have been issued from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District or SJVAPCD) will be incorporated into the CEC's certification. To facilitate the District's review of the project, the applicant can file with the District, the information required to obtain relevant permits. To ensure the District's requirements and mitigation are contained in the CEC's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and certification, if the project is approved, staff needs copies of all correspondence between the applicant and the District in a timely manner to stay up to date on any issues that arise prior to completion of the environmental document.

Although the CEC's license is in lieu of the District's permit to operate, we will need the District to provide a determination of compliance or an engineering evaluation that explains how the projects would comply with local LORS and provides that conditions that would otherwise be included in the permits so we can fold those requirements into our license.

Intersect Power should work with SJVAPCD to provide the necessary information the district would require to issue the PTOs/engineering evaluation. Since this is a new process for all, and since the air district's responsibility is different for our AFC projects, maybe a call between the applicant, air district and CEC would help the process.

Thoughts?

Thanks,
 Joey

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 11:02 AM
To: Hughes, Joseph@Energy <Joseph.Hughes@energy.ca.gov>; Ding, Yifan@Energy <Yifan.Ding@Energy.ca.gov>;

Record, Jacquelyn@Energy <Jacquelyn.Record@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Question on DR AQ-1

Hi guys,

We just finished a meeting with Intersect Power, which is the first of the weekly meetings we PMs will have in January with them. Becky Moores was wondering what they needed to submit to SJAPCD at this time.

They haven't consulted with SJAPCD on this project. It was her understanding that under AB 205 the CEC would do the permitting and an application for a permit would not be needed until after CEQA was complete. She also understood permits would be obtained closer to operations.

What does Intersect need to do re SJAPCD?

Not sure if it is more efficient to meet with Becky. If so, let me know soon so I can set up a meeting in early Jan.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 12/20/2023 3:59:51 PM
To: iselaa@cityofsanjoaquin.org
CC: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Subject: Notices for posting at Leo Cantu Community Center for Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)
Attachments: Darden_NOR_Newspaper.pdf; Darden_NOR_Newspaper - Spanish.pdf

Hi Isela,

I have attached the two notices that I would like to be posted at the Leo Cantu Community Center. You can just staple the English copy together and staple the Spanish copy together.

It would be great if you could post the notices for at least 30 days.

Can you let me know when you post them?

Thank you very much.

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF AN OPT-IN CERTIFICATION APPLICATION FOR DARDEN CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT

In a series of filings from November 3 through November 9, 2023, IP Darden I LLC and Affiliates (IP Darden) filed an application with the California Energy Commission (CEC) seeking certification from the CEC through the Opt-In process for the Darden Clean Energy project (23-OPT-02) proposed in western Fresno County, California. The project would be located in an agricultural area of unincorporated Fresno County south of the community of Cantua Creek.

Project Description

The Darden Clean Energy Project consists of a 1,150-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility, an up to 4,600 megawatt-hour (MWh) battery energy storage system (BESS), an up to 1,150 MW green hydrogen generator, a 34.5-500 kilovolt (kV) grid step-up substation, a 10- to 15-mile 500 kV generation intertie (gen-tie) line, and a 500 kV utility switching station. The project would interconnect to the existing Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Los Banos-Midway #2 500 kV transmission line. Refer to the Project Description at the following website link for more project details:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=252985&DocumentContentId=88135>

CEC Jurisdiction and Opt-In Process

Under Chapter 6.2, Division 15, of the Public Resources Code, sections 25545 through 25545.13 the CEC is authorized to establish a certification program for eligible non-fossil fueled power plants and related facilities to optionally seek certification (Opt-in certification) from the CEC.

Under the "Opt-in" certification process, the types of facilities that can be certified by the CEC now include solar PV and terrestrial wind energy power plants of 50 MW or more, energy storage facilities of 200 MWh or more, the electric transmission lines from these facilities to the first point of interconnection with the existing transmission grid, and facilities that manufacture or assemble clean energy or storage technologies or their components with a capital investment of at least \$250 million. In addition, thermal power plants of 50 MW or more that do not use fossil or nuclear fuels may choose the Opt-in process rather than the CEC's Application for Certification process.

The CEC is the "lead agency" under the California Environmental Quality Act and is required to prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for any facility that

elects to opt-in to the CEC's jurisdiction. With exceptions, the issuance of a certificate by the CEC for an eligible facility is in lieu of any permit, certificate, or similar document required by any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law, and supersedes any applicable statute, ordinance, or regulation of any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law.

The CEC is required make its decision on whether to certify the project within 270 days of receiving a *complete* application. The CEC is required to consult with all responsible and trustee agencies on the scope and content of the EIR. The CEC staff has begun its review of the application and transmitted the application to responsible and trustee agencies. The application has not been deemed complete at this time. Once the application is deemed complete, the 270-day clock to make the final project decision will begin. During this time, the CEC staff will evaluate the proposed project, consult with California Native American tribes, and host public meetings in the project area, including an informational and public scoping meeting during the development of the EIR, and a public meeting during the 60-day comment period on the Draft EIR, which will be included as part of the CEC's Staff Assessment of the application. After the conclusion of the public comment period, the CEC staff will publish an updated Staff Assessment (which will include a Final EIR), and the CEC's Executive Director's recommendation on whether the CEC should certify the EIR and issue a certificate for construction and operation of the proposed project. The updated Staff Assessment and Executive Director's recommendation will be published at least 30 days before the CEC's consideration at a public meeting.

At the business meeting the Commissioners will formally decide whether to certify the EIR and grant a certification for construction and operation of the proposed project. Should the certification be granted, other agencies that retain their permitting authorities must take final action on any additional permits within 90 days of the CEC issuing a certificate.

Public Participation

The CEC welcomes public participation in the Opt-in review process. A copy of the Opt-in application as well as other project information, can be found on the CEC website at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/solar-photovoltaic-pv/darden-clean-energy-project>. To stay informed about this project and receive notice of upcoming meetings and workshops, sign up to the project subscription, which can be accessed on the same project webpage. Once enrolled, automatic email notifications are sent when documents and notices are posted to the project webpage. This notice will be the only general public notification of this project that will appear in this publication. If you want to stay informed or

participate in the project review and decision-making process, please visit the web page linked above to subscribe for free email notifications from the CEC or contact the Public Advisor's office (see contact info below).

For technical questions about the project, please contact Ann Crisp, project manager, by email at Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov.

The CEC Public Advisor's Office is available to provide information on, and assistance with, public participation in CEC proceedings. The Public Advisor's Office can be reached by phone at (916) 957-7910 and by email at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov.

Media questions should be directed to the CEC's Media Office by phone at (916) 654-4989 or by email at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.

AVISO DE RECIBO DE UNA SOLICITUD DE CERTIFICACIÓN DE INCLUSIÓN VOLUNTARIA PARA EL PROYECTO DE ENERGÍA LIMPIA DE DARDEN

En una serie de presentaciones desde el 3 de noviembre hasta el 9 de noviembre de 2023, IP Darden I LLC y Afiliados (IP Darden) presentaron una solicitud ante la Comisión de Energía de California (CEC) buscando la certificación de la CEC a través del proceso de inclusión voluntaria para el proyecto de energía limpia de Darden (23-OPT-02) propuesto en el oeste del condado de Fresno, California. El proyecto se ubicaría en una zona agrícola del condado no incorporado de Fresno al sur de la comunidad de Cantua Creek.

Descripción del proyecto

El proyecto de energía limpia de Darden consiste en una instalación solar fotovoltaica de 1,150 megavatios, un sistema de almacenamiento de energía en baterías de hasta 4,600 megavatios-hora, un generador ecológico de hidrógeno de hasta 1,150 MW, una subestación elevadora de la red de 34.5-500 kilovoltios (kV), una línea de interconexión de generación (gen-tie) de 500 kV de 10 a 15 millas de extensión y una estación de conmutación de servicios de 500 kV. El proyecto se interconectaría a la línea de transmisión de 500 kV existente Los Banos-Midway #2 de Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). Para conocer más detalles del proyecto, consulte la descripción del proyecto en el siguiente enlace:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=252985&DocumentContentId=88135>.

Competencia de la CEC y proceso de inclusión voluntaria

En virtud de las secciones 25545 a 25545.13 del Capítulo 6.2 de la División 15 del Código de Recursos Públicos, la CEC está autorizada a establecer un programa de certificación para que las plantas eléctricas que no utilicen combustibles fósiles y las instalaciones relacionadas que reúnan los requisitos puedan optar a la certificación (certificación de inclusión voluntaria) de la CEC.

En virtud del proceso de certificación de inclusión voluntaria, los tipos de instalaciones que pueden ser certificadas por la CEC ahora incluyen las plantas de energía solar fotovoltaica y eólica terrestre de 50 MW o más, las instalaciones de almacenamiento de energía de 200 MWh o más, las líneas de transmisión eléctrica desde estas instalaciones hasta el primer punto de interconexión con la red de transmisión existente, y las instalaciones que fabrican o ensamblan tecnologías de energía limpia o de almacenamiento o sus componentes con una inversión de capital de al menos \$250 millones. Además, las plantas de energía térmica de 50 MW o más que no utilicen combustibles fósiles o nucleares pueden

optar por el proceso de inclusión voluntaria en lugar del proceso de solicitud de certificación de la CEC.

La CEC es la "agencia principal" en virtud de la Ley de Calidad Ambiental de California y está obligada a elaborar un estudio de impacto ambiental (EIR) para cualquier instalación que elija incluirse de manera voluntaria dentro de la jurisdicción de la CEC. Salvo excepciones, la expedición de un certificado por parte de la CEC para una instalación elegible sustituye a cualquier permiso, certificado o documento similar exigido por cualquier agencia estatal, local o regional, o agencia federal en la medida permitida por la legislación federal, y sustituye a cualquier estatuto, ordenanza o reglamento aplicable de cualquier agencia estatal, local o regional, o agencia federal en la medida permitida por la legislación federal.

La CEC debe decidir si certifica el proyecto en un plazo de 270 días a partir de la recepción de la solicitud *completa*. La CEC está obligada a consultar a todas las agencias responsables y fiduciarias sobre el alcance y el contenido del EIR. El personal de la CEC ha iniciado la revisión de la solicitud y la ha transmitido a las agencias responsables y fiduciarias. La solicitud no se ha considerado completa en este momento. Una vez que la solicitud se considere completa, empezará a contar el plazo de 270 días para tomar la decisión final sobre el proyecto. Durante este tiempo, el personal de la CEC evaluará el proyecto propuesto, consultará con las tribus nativas americanas de California y organizará reuniones públicas en la zona del proyecto, incluida una reunión de alcance informativa y pública durante la elaboración del EIR, y una reunión pública durante el periodo de comentarios de 60 días sobre el borrador del EIR, que se incluirá como parte de la evaluación de la solicitud por parte del personal de la CEC. Una vez concluido el período de comentarios públicos, el personal de la CEC publicará una evaluación actualizada del personal (que incluirá un EIR Final), y la recomendación del Director Ejecutivo de la CEC sobre si la CEC debe certificar el EIR y expedir un certificado para la construcción y operación del proyecto propuesto. La evaluación actualizada del personal y la recomendación del Director Ejecutivo se publicarán al menos 30 días antes de que la CEC las examine en una reunión pública.

En la reunión de trabajo, los comisionados decidirán formalmente si certifican el EIR y conceden una certificación para la construcción y operación del proyecto propuesto. En caso de que se conceda la certificación, las demás agencias que conserven sus competencias en materia de permisos deberán adoptar medidas definitivas sobre cualquier permiso adicional en un plazo de 90 días a partir de la expedición del certificado por parte de la CEC.

Participación del público

La CEC permite la participación del público en el proceso de revisión de la inclusión voluntaria. En el sitio web de la CEC (<https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/solar-photovoltaic-pv/darden-clean-energy-project>) se puede encontrar una copia de la solicitud de inclusión voluntaria, así como otra información sobre el proyecto. Para mantenerse informado sobre este proyecto y recibir avisos de las próximas reuniones y talleres, lo invitamos a suscribirse en la lista de suscripción del proyecto, a la que puede acceder en la misma página web del proyecto. Una vez que se haya suscripto, se envían notificaciones automáticas por correo electrónico cuando se publican documentos y avisos en la página web del proyecto. Este aviso será la única notificación pública general de este proyecto que aparecerá en esta publicación. Si desea mantenerse informado o participar en el proceso de revisión de proyectos y toma de decisiones sobre el proyecto, visite la página web enlazada más arriba para suscribirse a las notificaciones gratuitas por correo electrónico de la CEC o póngase en contacto con la Oficina de Asesoría al Público (encontrará la información de contacto a continuación).

Si tiene preguntas técnicas sobre el proyecto, póngase en contacto con Ann Crisp, gerente del proyecto, por correo electrónico a Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov.

La Oficina de Asesoría al Público de la CEC está disponible para brindar información y asistencia con respecto a la participación del público en los procesos de la CEC. Puede ponerse en contacto con la Oficina de Asesoría al Público por teléfono al (916) 957-7910 y por correo electrónico a publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov.

Las preguntas sobre los medios deben ser dirigidas a la Oficina de Medios de la CEC por teléfono al (916) 654--4989 o por correo electrónico a mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.

From: Camille Wasinger [camille@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 12/21/2023 1:02:31 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
CC: Logan Nonnez [Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com]; Emily Capello [emily.capello@panoramaenv.com]; Susanne Heim [susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com]
Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation
Attachments: 2023-12_Perkins CEC Pre Filing Mtg Deck_Final.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Eric,

See attached here. Thank you so much for setting up and managing the meeting, really appreciate it! Always super helpful to hear from the various agencies that will be involved. Our cultural resources contractor has a few questions that it would be great to get answers to as they're working on the cultural section of the opt-in application - can you confirm if we should direct those questions to you or reach out directly to Gabriel Roark?

Thanks again!

Best,
Camille

.....
Camille Wasinger
 Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.909.6396
 (e) camille@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 6:56 PM
To: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>
Subject: RE: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Camille, Susanne and Logan – Thank you for your participation today and being so responsive to the questions asked. I neglected to ask for a copy of your slide deck to share with participants but I think I heard you (Camille) say that you could provide it. If you wouldn't mind sending to me, I will forward to attendees along with my presentation.

Thanks again.

Happy Holidays!

Eric


Eric Knight

Manager
Siting & Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
(916) 591-9931

From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 11:46 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>
Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Sounds great, thank you so much Eric!

Best,
Camille

.....
Camille Wasinger

Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.909.6396
 (e) camille@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 7:52 PM
To: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>
Subject: RE: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Camille – It's looking like the stars have nearly aligned for 12/20, from 3-5PM. Waiting for confirmation from Jim Minnick that someone from the county will be able to attend in his stead, and that DTSC will have someone available. Hoping to send the appointment out tomorrow. – Eric

From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2023 1:51 PM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Eric,

See our availability below. The yellow "Available but not preferred" indicates that most of our team members are available but one or more who we would like to join, if possible, is/are not. Thank you so much for coordinating!

12/12: 2:00-4:00 Not available

12/14: 1:00-3:00 Available but not preferred

12/15: 8:00-10:00 Available but not preferred; 1:00-3:00 Available but not preferred

12/20: 9:00-11:00 Available & preferred; 1:00-3:00, Available but not preferred; 3:00-5:00 Available & preferred

12/21: 8:00-10:00 Available & preferred; 1:00-3:00 Available but not preferred

Best,
Camille

.....

Camille Wasinger

Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.909.6396

(e) camille@intersectpower.com

www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, December 8, 2023 10:33 AM

To: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: RE: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Camille –

Meeting requests sent to CDFW, Water Boards, and DTSC (collectively the “MOU agencies”) and Imperial County, BOR, and BLM. Please let me know your team’s availability for the dates/times being proposed (based on CEC staff’s availability).

And FYI, the CEC executive director will be filing his 30-day completeness determination letter for the Darden application on Monday.

Thank you,
Eric


Eric Knight

Manager
Siting & Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
(916) 591-9931

From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 8:37 AM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

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Hi Eric,

Following up here on status of scheduling the Perkins pre-filing meeting. As a reminder, we will be filing our application by January 31, 2024, so are hoping to have the pre-filing meeting prior to the December holidays in order to stay in compliance with the requirement that the pre-filing meeting occur at least 30 days prior to filing.

Thank you so much!

Best,
Camille

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Camille Wasinger

Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.909.6396
(e) camille@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 9:58 AM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne

Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

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www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



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Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Eric,

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Depending upon the timeline of the interconnection agreement, the Project could be operational by as early as late 2027. The project could operate for up to 50 or more years. The proposed Project solar development area includes the following lands:

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- ~515 acres on private lands for the solar PV panel, inverter/transformer, and medium voltage line installation,
- ~828 acres on BOR lands for the solar PV panel installation, inverter/transformer, and medium voltage line installation, and
- ~75 acres of additional disturbance on BLM and BOR lands for breaker and a half (BAAH) switchyard and two 500 kV loop-in transmission lines to connect to the existing SDG&E 500 kV transmission line.

Best,
Camille

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Camille Wasinger

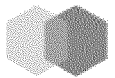
Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.909.6396

(e) camille@intersectpower.com

www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



**Intersect
Power**

From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 6:14 PM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

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Hi Eric,

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Thanks and hope you have a great weekend!

Best,
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Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting

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(c) 303.909.6396

(e) camille@intersectpower.com

www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 7:41 PM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Eric,

Thanks so much for getting back! See below the agency contacts. We are currently revising the plan of development and will get back to you with a brief project description paragraph and figure (including the private & BOR land additions) by the end of this week. Let me know if there's anything else you need.

CDFW:

- Magdalena Rodriguez magdalena.rodriguez@wildlife.ca.gov
- Rose Banks Rose.Banks@wildlife.ca.gov

Imperial County

- Jim Minnick jimminnick@co.imperial.ca.us
- Rosa Lopez-Solis RosaLopez@co.imperial.ca.us

BOR

- Chris Wallis cwallis@usbr.gov
- Arturo Lopez arturolopez@usbr.gov

BLM

- Matt Toedtli mtoedtli@blm.gov
- Carrie Sahagun csahagun@blm.gov

Thanks so much!

Best,
Camille

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Camille Wasinger

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www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



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Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 1:30 PM

To: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: RE: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Camille –

Thank you for the advanced notice. I will poll the agencies for your prepared time frame. I have certain Waterboard, CDFW, and DTSC contacts I'm obligated to invite but I'm happy to include any contacts with these agencies you've been working with in my initial email and meeting invite. Do you have a contact with Imperial County? Also, contacts with BLM and BOR would be appreciated. And finally, a paragraph describing the project would be helpful to include in my email along with the site figure.

Thanks,
Eric



Eric Knight

Manager
Siting & Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
(916) 591-9931

From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 8:04 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>
Subject: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

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Hi Eric,

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Given that the regulations require the pre-filing consultation to occur at least 30 days before submitting an opt-in application, we are hoping that the CEC and other relevant agencies would be available to meet sometime in early-mid December, prior to the holidays.

Please let us know next steps to get the meeting scheduled. For your reference, I have attached a figure, which shows all the lands now included in the proposed project and reflects the new name.

Thank you so much!

Best,
Camille

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Camille Wasinger

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INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.909.6396

(e) camille@intersectpower.com

www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



From: Knight, Eric@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BE42548337F44852A291A9845F226F62-KNIGHT, ERI]
Sent: 12/21/2023 1:52:13 AM
To: Camille Wasinger [camille@intersectpower.com]
CC: Logan Nonnez [Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com]; Emily Capello [emily.capello@panoramaenv.com]; Susanne Heim [susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com]
Subject: RE: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Thanks Camille. Yes, please direct cultural questions to Gabriel. I'll give him a heads up.

From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 5:03 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>
Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

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Hi Eric,

See attached here. Thank you so much for setting up and managing the meeting, really appreciate it! Always super helpful to hear from the various agencies that will be involved. Our cultural resources contractor has a few questions that it would be great to get answers to as they're working on the cultural section of the opt-in application - can you confirm if we should direct those questions to you or reach out directly to Gabriel Roark?

Thanks again!

Best,
Camille

.....
Camille Wasinger
Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.909.6396
(e) camille@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger



From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 6:56 PM
To: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>
Subject: RE: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Camille, Susanne and Logan – Thank you for your participation today and being so responsive to the questions asked. I neglected to ask for a copy of your slide deck to share with participants but I think I heard you (Camille) say that you could provide it. If you wouldn't mind sending to me, I will forward to attendees along with my presentation.

Thanks again.

Happy Holidays!

Eric



Eric Knight

Manager

Siting & Environmental Branch

Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division

California Energy Commission

(916) 591-9931

From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 11:46 PM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

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Sounds great, thank you so much Eric!

Best,
Camille

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Camille Wasinger

Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.909.6396

(e) camille@intersectpower.com

www.linkedin.com/in/camillewasinger

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 7:52 PM

To: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: RE: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Camille – It's looking like the stars have nearly aligned for 12/20, from 3-5PM. Waiting for confirmation from Jim Minnick that someone from the county will be able to attend in his stead, and that DTSC will have someone available. Hoping to send the appointment out tomorrow. – Eric

From: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Friday, December 8, 2023 1:51 PM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: Re: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

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Hi Eric,

See our availability below. The yellow "Available but not preferred" indicates that most of our team members are available but one or more who we would like to join, if possible, is/are not. Thank you so much for coordinating!

12/12: 2:00-4:00 Not available

12/14: 1:00-3:00 Available but not preferred

12/15: 8:00-10:00 Available but not preferred; 1:00-3:00 Available but not preferred

12/20: 9:00-11:00 Available & preferred; 1:00-3:00, Available but not preferred; 3:00-5:00 Available & preferred

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Best,
Camille

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Camille Wasinger

Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting

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(c) 303.909.6396

(e) camille@intersectpower.com

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From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, December 8, 2023 10:33 AM

To: Camille Wasinger <camille@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Logan Nonnez <Logan.Nonnez@intersectpower.com>; Emily Capello <emily.capello@panoramaenv.com>; Susanne Heim <susanne.heim@panoramaenv.com>

Subject: RE: Perkins (fka East Mesa) Renewable Energy Project Opt-In Application Pre-Filing Consultation

Hi Camille –

Meeting requests sent to CDFW, Water Boards, and DTSC (collectively the “MOU agencies”) and Imperial County, BOR, and BLM. Please let me know your team’s availability for the dates/times being proposed (based on CEC staff’s availability).

And FYI, the CEC executive director will be filing his 30-day completeness determination letter for the Darden application on Monday.

Thank you,
Eric



Eric Knight

Manager
Siting & Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
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CDFW:

- Magdalena Rodriguez magdalena.rodriguez@wildlife.ca.gov
- Rose Banks Rose.Banks@wildlife.ca.gov

Imperial County

- Jim Minnick jimminnick@co.imperial.ca.us
- Rosa Lopez-Solis RosaLopez@co.imperial.ca.us

BOR

- Chris Wallis cwallis@usbr.gov
- Arturo Lopez arturolopez@usbr.gov

BLM

- Matt Toedtli mtoedtli@blm.gov
- Carrie Sahagun csahagun@blm.gov

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Siting & Environmental Branch

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Senior Director, Environmental & Permitting

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From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 12/21/2023 9:04:39 PM
To: spowers@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov; nescalone@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov; smccarty@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov
Subject: FW: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Courtesy Tribal Notification
Attachments: Darden_CourtesyTribalInformalNotice.pdf

Hello,

The California Energy Commission has received an Opt-in application for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project is proposed in unincorporated Fresno County.

Please see the attached document for more information about the project and opt-in certification process.

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

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Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov





**CALIFORNIA
ENERGY COMMISSION**



**CALIFORNIA
NATURAL
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AGENCY**

Subject: Opt-in Certification for Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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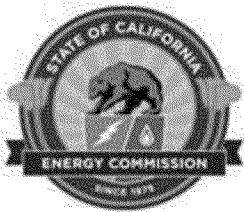
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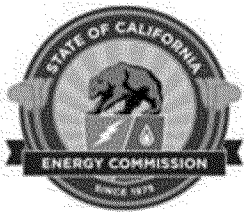
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The California Energy Commission has received an Opt-in application for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project is proposed in unincorporated Fresno County.

Please see the attached document for more information about the project and opt-in certification process.

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

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov





**CALIFORNIA
ENERGY COMMISSION**



**CALIFORNIA
NATURAL
RESOURCES
AGENCY**

Subject: Opt-in Certification for Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

In a series of filings from November 3 through November 9, 2023, IP Darden I LLC and Affiliates (IP Darden) filed an application with the California Energy Commission (CEC) seeking certification from the CEC through the Opt-In process for the Darden Clean Energy project (23-OPT-02) proposed in western Fresno County, California. The project would be located in an agricultural area of unincorporated Fresno County south of the community of Cantua Creek.

Project Description

The Darden Clean Energy Project consists of a 1,150-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility, an up to 4,600 megawatt-hour (MWh) battery energy storage system (BESS), an up to 1,150 MW green hydrogen generator, a 34.5-500 kilovolt (kV) grid step-up substation, a 10- to 15-mile 500 kV generation intertie (gen-tie) line, and a 500 kV utility switching station. The project would interconnect to the existing Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Los Banos-Midway #2 500 kV transmission line.

The solar PV facility would be made up of approximately 3,100,000 solar panels, inverter-transformer stations, and an electrical collection system, and would be located on approximately 9,000 acres of lands currently owned by Westlands Water District that would be purchased by IP Darden. The 500 kV gen-tie line would be sited within an approximate 200-foot-wide easement on private lands. Following construction of the utility switchyard by IP Darden, ownership and operations would transfer to PG&E. The BESS would be capable of storing up to 1,150 MW of electricity for four hours (up-to 4,600 MWh). The green hydrogen facility would be located on up to 225 acres and would consist of an electrolyzer, water treatment plant, and ancillary equipment. The electrolyzer would be powered by up to 1,150 MW of behind-the-meter renewable power generated by the solar facility and would be capable of producing up to 220 tonnes per day of pure, gaseous hydrogen.

CEC Jurisdiction and Opt-In Process

On June 30, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 205, which authorized the CEC to establish a new certification program for eligible non-fossil-fueled power plants and related facilities to optionally seek certification ("Opt-in" Certification) from the CEC. Requirements for the Opt-in Certification program are in Chapter 6.2, Division 15, of the Public Resources Code, sections 25545–25545.13. Regulations to implement the program can be found in

California Code of Regulations, Title 20, sections 1875–1882. The Opt-in Certification program is in effect through June 30, 2029.

Under this new Opt-in Certification process, the types of facilities that can be certified by the CEC now include solar PV and terrestrial wind energy power plants of 50 MW or more, energy storage facilities of 200 MWh or more, the electric transmission lines from these facilities to the first point of interconnection with the existing transmission grid, and facilities that manufacture or assemble clean energy or storage technologies or their components with a capital investment of at least \$250 million. In addition, thermal power plants of 50 MW or more that do not use fossil or nuclear fuels may choose the Opt-in Certification process rather than the CEC’s Application for Certification process.

The CEC is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is required to prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for any facility that elects to opt-in to the CEC’s jurisdiction. With exceptions, the issuance of a certificate by the CEC for an eligible facility is in lieu of any permit, certificate, or similar document required by any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law, and supersedes any applicable statute, ordinance, or regulation of any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law. The CEC’s authority under the Opt-in Certification program does not supersede the authorities of the California State Lands Commission, the California Coastal Commission, or the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, if applicable, the State Water Resources Control Board or applicable regional water quality control board, or, in the case of manufacturing facilities, the applicable local air quality management district or the Department of Toxic Substances Control.

The CEC is required to make its decision on whether to certify the project within 270 days of receiving a *complete* application. The CEC staff has begun its review of the application, which has not been deemed complete at this time. Once the application is deemed complete, the 270-day clock to make the final project decision will begin. During this time, the CEC staff will evaluate the proposed project and no later than five days of deeming the application complete, the CEC staff will send formal letters to California Native American tribes inviting tribes to consult with the CEC about the project. Consultation between California Native American tribes and the CEC will proceed according to the requirements of Public Resources Code, sections 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, and 25545.7.4 (CEQA and the Warren-Alquist Act).

The CEC will also host public meetings in the project area, including an informational and public scoping meeting during the development of the EIR,

and a public meeting during the 60-day comment period on the Draft EIR, which will be included as part of the CEC's Staff Assessment of the application. After the conclusion of the public comment period, the CEC staff will publish an updated Staff Assessment (which will include a Final EIR), and the CEC's Executive Director's recommendation on whether the CEC should certify the EIR and issue a certificate for construction and operation of the proposed project. The updated Staff Assessment and Executive Director's recommendation will be published at least 30 days before the CEC's consideration at a public meeting.

At the business meeting the Commissioners will formally decide whether to certify the EIR and grant a certification for construction and operation of the proposed project. Should the certification be granted, other agencies that retain their permitting authorities must take final action on any additional permits within 90 days of the CEC issuing a certificate.

Participation

The CEC welcomes public participation in the Opt-in review process. A copy of the Darden Clean Energy Project Opt-in application as well as other project materials, can be found on the project's CEC website at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/solar-photovoltaic-pv/darden-clean-energy-project>. To stay informed about this project and receive notice of upcoming meetings and workshops, sign up to the project subscription, which can be accessed on the same project webpage. Once enrolled, automatic email notifications are sent when documents and notices are posted to the project webpage.

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

From: Isela Avelar [isela@cityofsanjoaquin.org]
Sent: 12/26/2023 4:39:40 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
Subject: Re: Notices for posting at Leo Cantu Community Center for Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Helo Lisa,

I will post these today, and in regard to the hall , the veterans memorial hall is has a capacity of 227 dining, and a non dining of 350 people.

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 7:59 AM
To: Isela Avelar <isela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>
Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Notices for posting at Leo Cantu Community Center for Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Hi Isela,

I have attached the two notices that I would like to be posted at the Leo Cantu Community Center. You can just staple the English copy together and staple the Spanish copy together.

It would be great if you could post the notices for at least 30 days.

Can you let me know when you post them?

Thank you very much.

Lisa Worrall
 Senior Environmental Planner
 California Energy Commission
 Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
 715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
 Direct: (916) 661-8367
 Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)
Biological Resources Data Request Discussion

Date: January 2, 2024

Time: 10:00 to 12:00 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Eric Knight, CEC	Rhiannon Mulligan, CDFW
Lisa Worrall, CEC	Jim Vang, CDFW
Ann Crisp, CEC	Becky Moores, Intersect Power
Carol Watson, CEC	Marisa Mitchell, Intersect Power
Andrea Stroud, CEC	Dave Daitch, Rincon Consultants
Larry Bonner, CDFW	Christina Shushnar, Rincon Consultants
Carrie Swanberg, CDFW	

Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting opening

- Brief introductions, purpose of meeting, raise hand feature on Teams, and meeting notes format.

2. Discussion of the following Biological Resources Data Requests:

- DR BIO-3 to DR BIO-4
 - Rincon and Intersect noted that many of the data requests were regarding information that was summarized in the application package and detailed in the Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) and other appendices in the application materials. Rincon and Intersect requested clarity regarding specifically what additional information CEC and CDFW would like to see.
 - CEC noted they are looking for more information regarding site hydrology to determine if a Section 1600 permit is needed.
 - CDFW noted they are trying to understand if Cantua Creek would be impacted and would like more information regarding the direction of flow for onsite agricultural ditches.
 - Intersect clarified the project will not impact jurisdictional features. Cantua Creek will be spanned by the gen-tie and no construction equipment or materials will enter the creek.
- DR BIO-7
 - Rincon noted that the project site does not support habitat for these species; therefore, monitoring would not be necessary as preconstruction surveys and 100% avoidance would prevent impacts.

- CDFW noted they are generally in agreement that the habitat doesn't support these species, but noted that species move and would like to see measures to address San Joaquin kit fox (SJKF) which may be attracted to the site during construction.
- Intersect clarified that the current document includes mitigation measure BIO-4 for SJKF.
- CEC showed a CNDDDB map with historic occurrences of blunt-nosed leopard lizard (BNLL) and SJKF west of the proposed substation location and requested more information on laydown areas.
- Intersect noted that design is not far enough along to know the exact locations of the laydown areas. Intersect also noted they have standard contractor conditions regarding biologically protective construction practices for laydown areas such as covering pipes.
- Rincon clarified that all laydown areas would be located within the project development footprint.
- CEC and CDFW noted that they would like to see an enforceable CEQA mitigation measure with performance criteria for biological monitoring.
- DR BIO-9 to DR BIO-17
 - Rincon noted the BRA included a habitat assessment for BNLL and concluded there was no suitable BNLL habitat onsite.
 - Intersect showed recent aerial imagery of the current orchard present at the proposed substation location.
 - CDFW agreed the orchard is not suitable for BNLL but noted that BNLL could walk over from adjacent habitat. CDFW requested avoidance measures for if BNLL wander into the project site.
 - CEC summarized the required survey and analysis buffers and requested additional information regarding where surveys occurred.
 - Rincon and Intersect clarified that the analysis included the required buffers and that they do not have access to adjacent areas outside the project footprint.
- DR BIO-12
- DR BIO-13, BIO-14
- DR BIO-15, BIO-16, BIO-17
 - Rincon noted that the BRA included a habitat assessment for tricolored blackbird and concluded there is no suitable habitat for the species within the impact footprint.
 - CDFW stated tricolored blackbird nest in row crops.
 - Rincon clarified that the solar project area typically rotates between disced field and weeds and does not contain consistent areas of row crops.

- CEC requested a map of landcover types using the same definitions used in the BRA.
- DR BIO-20 to 22
 - Intersect noted that diesel generators would only be required for emergency back-up power to safely power down the electrolyzer. Intersect also noted that the specific generators and locations have not yet been selected and they are currently working with their engineers to determine duration of use for regular testing.
 - CEC confirmed the need to evaluate indirect nitrogen impacts to adjacent sensitive communities and noted that the nitrogen deposition modelling should assess a 6-mile radius.
- DR BIO-21, BIO-22
- DR BIO-25 to DR BIO-27
 - Rincon noted that the BRA included a habitat assessment and concluded there is not suitable habitat for Crotch's bumble bee on site; therefore, surveys would not be warranted.
 - CDFW noted that there is no hive habitat onsite due to consistent disking of the fields but Crotch's bumble bee forage in a broad area and protocol surveys should be conducted within areas of suitable habitat, if present.
- DR BIO-26
- DR BIO-27
 - CDFW requested additional measures to protect SJKF during O&M.
- DR BIO-31
- DR BIO-35
 - CEC stated they disagree that impacts to BUOW would be temporary and requested a BUOW mitigation and monitoring plan.
- DR BIO-37 to DR BIO-38
- DR BIO-40 to DR BIO-41
 - Rincon and Intersect noted revegetation will be informed by the research study outlined in the Swainson's Hawk (SWHA) Conservation Strategy and Vegetation Management Plan.
 - CEC noted they are looking for an enforceable CEQA mitigation measure with success criteria and clarified they would like to see two separate measures; one for post-construction and one for closure.
 - Intersect and Rincon noted the SWHA Conservation Strategy and Vegetation Management Plan include the plan for post-construction revegetation and the plan for closure is discussed in the Reclamation Plan.
- DR BIO-41
- DR BIO-43

- Rincon clarified the SWHA Conservation Strategy includes performance criteria and details on locations and numbers of trees to be preserved/planted
 - CEC requested the SWHA Conservation Strategy be included as an enforceable CEQA mitigation measure with performance criteria
- DR BIO-44
- DR BIO-46
 - Rincon clarified that the BRA includes nesting bird surveys and avoidance buffers for birds and raptors
- CEC asked for clarification on sensitive plant potential to occur. Rincon noted they would provide clarity in the DR responses.
- CEC asked about the approach to revegetation. Rincon and Intersect noted the research study is intended to provide peer reviewed results to evaluate the most effective methods for successful revegetation based on site specific conditions.
- CEC asked about the utility substation and step-up substations. Intersect clarified the utility substation is a switchyard without transformers and the step-up substation would be located within the PV array. The hydrogen electrolyzer would have a step down substation to power the electrolyzer only for the alternate site located west of I-5. The electrolyzer location within the PV array area would not need a step down substation.

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 1/22/2024 11:50:36 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Edirisuriya, Sudath@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a5d6cd74e9024972b122d8344f69b3a8-Edirisuriya]; Hesters, Mark@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=adc98e7718ae442bab67f41b128d006-Hesters, Ma]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
CC: Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=88b6ef1fba134a2cb0aacd56262dc6c4-Pinkerton,]; Ryan Hagemann [ryan.hagemann@intersectpower.com]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project- Discuss confidentiality limits of DR PD-13 and DR TSD-1
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Start: 1/26/2024 6:30:00 PM
End: 1/26/2024 7:30:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative
Required Attendees: Worrall, Lisa@Energy; Crisp, Ann@Energy; Edirisuriya, Sudath@Energy; Hesters, Mark@Energy; Babula, Jared@Energy; Mayer, Alex@Energy; Knight, Eric@Energy; Becky Moores
Optional Attendees: Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy; Ryan Hagemann

We would like to meet to discuss the confidentiality limits associated with DR PD-13 and DR TSD-1.

- **PD-13:** Subsection 1.4.1 discusses an agreement between the project owner and PG&E that defines the construction, operation and ownership of electric transmission facilities required for the reliable interconnection of the Darden Clean Energy Project. The agreement with PG&E pertains to the operation and maintenance of facilities under the CEC's jurisdiction. Please provide the Letter Agreement with PG&E from May 18, 2023.
 - This letter agreement is being reviewed by our legal team but likely contains confidential information between PG&E and Intersect Power. What details are needed about this agreement for your analysis?
- **TSD-1:** Please provide the comprehensive (all appendices) California ISO Phase I Interconnection Study and, when available, the Phase II Interconnection Study.
 - Intersect Power has a non-disclosure agreement with CAISO regarding the interconnection study reports. We have sent a request to CAISO to consider your request to review the report or at a minimum share more details with CEC. At this time we cannot share any information until CAISO responds. If your legal team could look into the matter as well it may help expedite that sharing of information between the two agencies.

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From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 1/22/2024 11:46:02 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Hesters, Mark@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=adc98e7718ae442babc67f41b128d006-Hesters, Ma]; Edirisuriya, Sudath@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a5d6cd74e9024972b122d8344f69b3a8-Edirisuriya]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
CC: Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=88b6ef1fba134a2cb0aacd56262dc6c4-Pinkerton,]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project- Discuss confidentiality limits for DR TSD-2
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Start: 1/25/2024 5:00:00 PM
End: 1/25/2024 5:30:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Required Attendees: Hesters, Mark@Energy; Edirisuriya, Sudath@Energy; Crisp, Ann@Energy; Knight, Eric@Energy; Babula, Jared@Energy; Mayer, Alex@Energy; Becky Moores
Optional Attendees: Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy

We will meet to discuss the confidentiality limits associated with DR TSD-2.

- **TSD-2:** Provide legible one-line diagrams of the Darden project's substation and the switching station used to connect the project to PG&E's 500 kV system. Show all the equipment ratings, including the bay arrangement of the breakers, disconnect switches, buses, and other equipment that would be necessary for the interconnection of the project.
 - The design details for the PG&E substation cannot be shared publicly. They are also preliminary and will be refined as design progresses. We can provide a narrative on the specific details that are needed if you can let me know what you are needing for analysis.

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From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 1/22/2024 6:31:50 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Fooks, Brett@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=870df74143964b71ada0039bf13c5a9a-Fooks, Bret]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Paul Miller [pmiller@therchgroup.com]
CC: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=88b6ef1fba134a2cb0aacd56262dc6c4-Pinkerton,]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project - Discuss HAZ-1 Confidentiality limits
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Start: 1/26/2024 5:00:00 PM
End: 1/26/2024 6:00:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Required Attendees: Jared Babula; Ann Crisp; Mayer, Alex@Energy; Brett Fooks; Becky Moores; Paul Miller
Optional Attendees: Eric Knight; Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy

We would like to meet to discuss a confidentiality limits associated with this data request.

- **HAZ-1:** Please provide the following environmental site assessment reports from Stantec Consulting Services: a. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, Forty-Two Parcels (9,116 Acres) Northwest of SR-145 and Mt Whitney Avenue, Fresno County, California. b. Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and Limited Soil Sampling, Generation Tie Line Easement and Support Facilities, Northwest if SR-145 and Mt Whitney Avenue, Fresno County, California. c. Phase II Environmental Site Assessment, Forty-Two Parcels (9,116 Acres) Northwest of SR-145 and Mt Whitney Avenue, Fresno County, California. Section 5.9, Tables 5.9-1, 5.9-2, and 5.9-3 provide essential information on the types, quantities, locations and toxicity of hazardous materials that would be used during the construction and operation of the proposed project. However, information is missing and there are several discrepancies between these tables and other information presented in the application that need clarification.
 - Some of the signed contracts with our landowners within the project footprint prohibits sharing of reports and information obtained during inspection of the properties, and therefore prohibits sharing the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment documents. What particular information is needed for your review? Since the ESA reports include the entire footprint, we cannot share the reports, but we may be able to provide information for certain parcels where our contracting allows sharing of information for permitting purposes.

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From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Sent: 1/25/2024 7:41:48 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

Hi Marisela - also in addition to questions on the Leo Cantu Center below....I saw that the City of San Joaquin holds their city council meetings at the Senior Center located at 21991 Colorado Avenue, San Joaquin, CA. Since they use zoom we thought that could be a good option for our scoping meeting. Do you handle the rental of that location?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 9:48 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org <Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

Hi Marisela - we are still hoping to hold our scoping meeting in San Joaquin but sounds like the Memorial Hall does not have reliable wi-fi. We are wondering if the Leo Cantu Center has reliable wi-fi? And if so, do you rent it out for meetings? If so, we could see if that would meet our needs for the other factors and send some follow up questions.

Thanks!

Ann

Ann Crisp
 Senior Environmental Planner
 Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
 California Energy Commission
 715 P Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 352-0543 ****please note new phone number ****
Fax: (916) 651-8868



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 4:11 PM
To: Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org <Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>
Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

Hi Marisela,

I have a few more questions for you on the San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall.

We are looking to hold the meeting around March and possibly as late as August. Is there availability during that period?

We would need to have our IT staff come in the day before to set up any necessary equipment so that the meeting can be available remotely, is it possible staff can access the room the day before?

How does room set up work? We would need a few tables for staff and chairs for all staff and attendees. Are these resources available? Is that something that could be set up by your staff, or is that something we would need to do? Also, for clean up after the meeting, do we do that, or is that something your staff would do?

What is the parking availability like? Are there any fees associated with the parking?

Lastly, are there restrooms and water available?

Depending upon the answers to these questions, we will then have our IT staff contact you to ask their specific questions to know whether the hall will work for remote access with the help of our equipment, if necessary.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 1/25/2024 11:41:52 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Subject: Availability for Meeting with SJVAPCD

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Lisa and Ann,

Can you provide your air quality team's availability for next week to meet up with Rincon and the SJVAPCD to discuss the modeling scenario for the Darden project. I don't think we will be ready on Monday so perhaps Tuesday and beyond.

Thanks,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Marisela Magana [marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org]
Sent: 1/25/2024 9:39:43 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

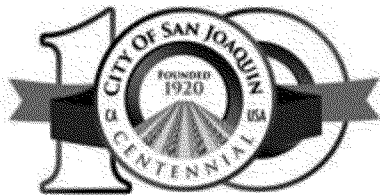
Hi Ann,

Yes I believe this center will work for the meeting. We just have seating for 30 and yes there more standing room.

Yes have your IT get in touch with me to make sure we have what they need.

Thank you,

*Marisela Magana
Finance Clerk*



21900 Colorado Avenue
P.O. Box 758
San Joaquin, CA 93660
☎Phone: 559.693.4311 ext. 2140
☎Fax: 559.693.2193
✉marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:50 PM
To: Marisela Magana <marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>
Cc: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

Hi Marisela,

Sounds like it may work, is the capacity 30 or do you just have seating for 30? Would there be standing room, also?

We will have our IT get in touch to make sure they would have what they need.

Thank you!

Ann

From: Marisela Magana <marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:31 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

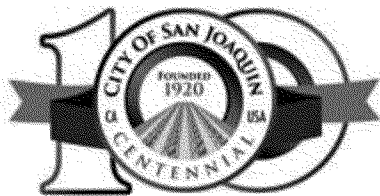
CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Ann,

Your welcome! If people are just coming in for public comment and leaving the Senior Center. This facility a good fit for the meeting. The capacity of the senior center seating is about 30.

Thank you,

Marisela Magana
Finance Clerk



21900 Colorado Avenue
P.O. Box 758
San Joaquin, CA 93660
☎Phone: 559.693.4311 ext. 2140
☎Fax: 559.693.2193
✉marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 12:01 PM
To: Marisela Magana <marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

Hi Marisela,

Thanks for the info. We aren't certain on attendance but estimating 30 to 60 total. We would not need seating for everyone if people are just coming in for public comment and leaving.

What is the capacity of the senior center?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Marisela Magana <marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 11:51 AM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

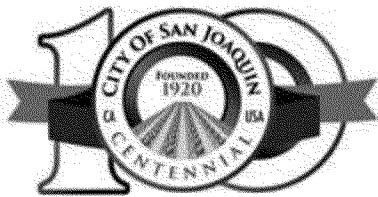
CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Ann,

The Leo Cantu Center occupied daily not available for rent. Yes the Senior Center available for rental for meetings. The Senior Center a smaller space. What will be your expected attendees?

Thank you,

Marisela Magana
Finance Clerk



21900 Colorado Avenue
P.O. Box 758
San Joaquin, CA 93660
☎Phone: 559.693.4311 ext. 2140
☎Fax: 559.693.2193
✉marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 11:42 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Marisela Magana <marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

Hi Marisela - also in addition to questions on the Leo Cantu Center below....I saw that the City of San Joaquin holds their city council meetings at the Senior Center located at 21991 Colorado Avenue, San Joaquin, CA. Since they use zoom we thought that could be a good option for our scoping meeting. Do you handle the rental of that location?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 9:48 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org

<Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>

Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

Hi Marisela - we are still hoping to hold our scoping meeting in San Joaquin but sounds like the Memorial Hall does not have reliable wi-fi. We are wondering if the Leo Cantu Center has reliable wi-fi? And if so, do you rent it out for meetings? If so, we could see if that would meet our needs for the other factors and send some follow up questions.

Thanks!

Ann

Ann Crisp

Senior Environmental Planner

Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division

California Energy Commission

715 P Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Direct: (916) 352-0543 ****please note new phone number ****

Fax: (916) 651-8868



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 4:11 PM

To: Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org <Marisela@cityofsanjoaquin.org>

Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project- Questions about San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall-

Hi Marisela,

I have a few more questions for you on the San Joaquin Veterans Memorial Hall.

We are looking to hold the meeting around March and possibly as late as August. Is there availability during that period?

We would need to have our IT staff come in the day before to set up any necessary equipment so that the meeting can be available remotely, is it possible staff can access the room the day before?

How does room set up work? We would need a few tables for staff and chairs for all staff and attendees. Are these resources available? Is that something that could be set up by your staff, or is that something we would need to do? Also, for clean up after the meeting, do we do that, or is that something your staff would do?

What is the parking availability like? Are there any fees associated with the parking?

Lastly, are there restrooms and water available?

Depending upon the answers to these questions, we will then have our IT staff contact you to ask their specific questions to know whether the hall will work for remote access with the help of our equipment, if necessary.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall

Senior Environmental Planner

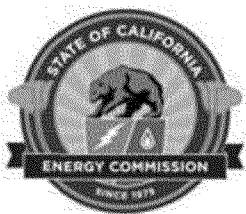
California Energy Commission

Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814

Direct: (916) 661-8367

Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



Sent: 1/24/2024 7:18:27 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
CC: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
Subject: RE: Darden Public Notification Mailings

We have published a notice in the Fresno Bee about our receipt of the application. The notice was published in English and Spanish.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 11:13 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Public Notification Mailings

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks for the confirmation. I knew the NOP had a Day 3 milestone but wasn't sure if there was anything before that. We will be doing our own additional outreach in the near future and wanted to check on anything on your end to date.

Thanks,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 12:08 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Public Notification Mailings

Hi Becky,

We haven't mailed out yet to property owners, but I anticipate the first mail out to property owners will be the notice of the public information meeting. The public information meeting needs to be held between 10-30 days after the NOP (which will be day 3 after data completeness).

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 10:57 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Darden Public Notification Mailings

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Hi Lisa,

I forgot to ask on our Tuesday call if you have mailed notices to property owners within 1,000 feet of the project boundary yet. I know that will occur at some point but I'm not clear on the timing.

Thanks,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

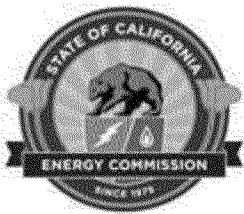
Sent: 1/25/2024 5:34:21 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Hesters, Mark@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=adc98e7718ae442babc67f41b128d006-Hesters, Ma]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Edirisuriya, Sudath@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a5d6cd74e9024972b122d8344f69b3a8-Edirisuriya]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project- DR TSD-3- requesting necessary info to support CEQA analysis for downstream upgrades

I was reviewing the data requests for environmental information associated with possible downstream upgrades to the transmission infrastructure and wanted to draw your attention to TSD-3, which requests this information.

DR TSD-3. If the California ISO Phase I or (when available) Phase 2 Interconnection Study indicate that the Darden Clean Energy Project cannot be reliably connected to the PG&E grid without additional transmission facilities not analyzed in the Opt-in Application, please provide the necessary information to support a CEQA analysis for all downstream upgrades needed for the Darden Clean Energy Project.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B89C4DE7ECE742679D19E1E3EE713DC2-CRISP, ANN@]
Sent: 2/1/2024 8:23:08 PM
To: White, Adam@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d64512c47c48429dbdcf6845422b6bd1-74f7464f-8c]; Koch, Andrea@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8024cfdec6344412812ea6c8320f29b2-Koch, Andre]; Stroud, Andrea@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9703ce11dc9547c78c64f22894500b5c-Martine, An]; Sofi, Ardalan@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5599bba4aae5432a8f31f7346822a0dd-3a21e80b-4d]; Fooks, Brett@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=870df74143964b71ada0039bf13c5a9a-Fooks, Bret]; Watson, Carol@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=84e32d50c7dc47d89812b468a50090ed-Watson, Car]; Roark, Gabriel@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed87ff1e22cd49f3aaff644c82538d46-Roark, Gabr]; Record, Jacquelyn@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=80a752975c1d44efbd17fb602595a1e7-Leyva, Jacq]; Ackerman, James@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3cc35de240cf4253af9cc7d3d2cbb643-Ackerman, J]; Hughes, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7dd5e80572b644209e9607ba7bdc630-Hughes, Jos]; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c1ff1d38281a4068b2708271d22c0d94-Abulaban, A]; Salyphone, Kenneth@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f08aaa91182c441ea86fea05a2a09689-Salyphone,]; Hesters, Mark@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=adc98e7718ae442babc67f41b128d006-Hesters, Ma]; Turner, Michael@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=935d0fc8d435418da34fd4251ff83a5a-Turner, Mic]; Khoshmashrab, Shahab@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=debfeb665b7a45629f72eabeb824bce58-Khoshmashra]; Kerr, Steven@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d0d5a66bed2249fca830918f58b3b921-Kerr, Steve]; Edirisuriya, Sudath@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a5d6cd74e9024972b122d8344f69b3a8-Edirisuriya]; Ding, Yifan@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=49ee78637b0648578196965a7385b6f2-6d1c78d5-11]
CC: Chuck Huffine [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d9c83f3342b4a0fac14c0cfd5b0eb6f-0876ad7a-67]; Joakim Osthus [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac94da95de50400a983dcc567fb986b2-21d280df-17]; Anita Cobb [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9fc4f7c57534c0a984d03527f32dd1f-0ef5eb01-3d]; Lisa Harmon [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2822f25f76e5442d89b17b9364fd5d77-9adae1de-a5]; Anmarie Medin [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=64f0a5cae0774ea4ad24a03d64945bb9-eb85d457-88]; schell [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=73bf73a4ac154a869109680b9f42d91f-c1576203-88]; david [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c797187756f54abdb7da8821a43867ac-c469b850-d0]; agreenberg [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b9bfa77aaf044a8ca270ce3bcef10093-9afec475-67]; Paul Miller [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4d4ce365f8bd442a8cb7d479381e2476-8906af8e-0e]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy

[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Knight, Eric@Energy
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Babula, Jared@Energy
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Mayer, Alex@Energy
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Longman,
 Renee@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=56333a9acba74875b8c0175b8bea5d52-77429d54-8c]

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - NOP staff insert request

Hi Darden Team,

Lisa and I need your assistance drafting the NOP for the Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). For the NOP, we need to confirm if your section would likely have no or less than significant impacts. If it would have "probable environmental effects", we will need a write up under your technical heading, noting the project-specific potentially significant impacts and any broad details on mitigation you may be proposing.

For each technical area staff - please respond to the following questions (by Tuesday Feb 6):

1. Would your technical area have "probable environmental effects" and need a write up section in the NOP?
2. If so, can you complete your write up now or do you need DRRs?
3. If you're uncertain at this time whether you'll need an insert, is this determination dependent on DRRs?

If your technical area has probable environmental effects and you can start drafting a section now then please let me know. If you can, then please add your NOP technical section inserts to the SharePoint file and have it reviewed by Sup/OM by February 15.

Here is link to the draft NOP, please work in SharePoint:  NOP Darden.docx

We need to publish the NOP within 3 days of the application being determined as data complete so it is important to start writing this up, if possible, now so it can get thru mgmt and legal review, etc. We will determine other due dates for staff that can't start work on it yet.

Questions or SEBE access issues, please let me know!

Thanks for your help,

Ann

Ann Crisp
 Senior Environmental Planner
 Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
 California Energy Commission
 715 P Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 352-0543 ****please note new phone number ****
Fax: (916) 651-8868



From: Elizabeth Knowles [elizabeth@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 1/30/2024 9:27:18 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
Subject: Re: Darden Public Meeting Location

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Ann,

Please let me know when you are ready to talk logistics. I can also reach out to my local consultant to see if there are any alternative options that could work, should the school not work out for any reason.

Thanks!
Elizabeth

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 1:41 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Becky - thanks for the information. We are coordinating internally with IT as they have specific technology needs that need to be met for a site to work well.

We can coordinate with Elizabeth Knowles and the school and are happy to look at any other options?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 12:14 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Elizabeth Knowles <elizabeth@intersectpower.com>
Subject: Darden Public Meeting Location

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ann and Lisa,

At the end of our meeting today I believe you mentioned you were going to discuss location options for the Darden public meeting. We have been looking into locations as well based on a request from Director Huber during a meeting with our President, Luke Dunnington. One of the top choices identified is Westside Elementary, which is only a few miles away from the project. I have copied in Elizabeth Knowles, our Director of Community Engagement. She has a great relationship with Baldomero Hernandez, the Westside Superintendent. We would be happy to provide contact details or information on other potential locations, as needed.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
Director, Environmental & Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735
(c) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Air Pollution Control District (APCD) Permitting Discussion

Date: February 1, 2024

Time: 9:00 to 10:30 am

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Lisa Worrall, California Energy Commission (CEC)	Errol Villegas, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD)
Joseph Hughes, CEC	Mungi Hong, SJVAPCD
Jared Babula, CEC	Patia Siong, SJVAPCD
Ann Crisp, CEC	Becky Moores, Intersect Power (Intersect)
Jacquelyn Record, CEC	Lindsey Sarquilla, Rincon Consultants (Rincon)
Yifan Ding, CEC	Evelyn Langsdale, Rincon Consultants
Wenjun Qian, CEC	Michael Stewart, Rincon Consultants

Meeting Agenda/Discussion Items

Application Package for New Source Review

1. Introduction to project & equipment
 - a. (2) 400 kW fire pump generators and (2) 600 kW emergency power backup generators
 - b. **OR** (2) 400 kW fire pump generators and (4) 300 kW emergency power backup generators
2. Brief BACT discussion
 - a. Tier 3 for fire pump generators
 - b. Tier 4 for emergency power backup generators
3. Emissions analysis, comparison to major source thresholds
 - a. Offset Emissions for the equipment assumed exempt based on Rule 2201, Section 4.6.2.
4. Review air dispersion modeling requirements under Rule 2201, Section 4.15.1
5. Health Risk Assessment

Modeling Protocol

1. Develop emissions profiles for various pollutants for AQIA & HRA
 - a. Short term vs long term averaging periods
2. Model “worst-case” equipment option: 400 kW fire pump generators and (2) 600 kW emergency power backup generators
3. Model “worst-case” equipment location at each of the three potential properties based on preliminary CEQA modeling
4. Model the equipment in AERMOD as point sources using stack parameters for CAT enclosures commonly found in spec packages for selected equipment type (i.e. for CAT C18), including: stack heights and diameters, the exhaust velocities, and temperatures
5. Post process results for the corresponding studies
6. Including as applicable for CEQA and air permitting deliverables

Discussion Items

- a) Equipment location “worst-case” area based on preliminary CEQA modeling
- b) “Worst-case” equipment option
- c) Stack parameter assumptions → assume usage of CAT enclosure parameters
- d) Usage assumptions
 - a. Testing and maintenance: 1 hr per generator per month
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 - a. 1 hour analyses for testing and maintenance → assume uncontrolled
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- f) Air dispersion modeling
 - a. Will work performed under CEQA need to be replicated for air permitting?
 - i. AQIA vs HRA requirements
 - a. HRA to include:
 - i. Chronic and Cancer Risk analyzed
 - ii. CEC Data Request PH-4 requests acute exposure analysis by categorizing diesel exhaust into the primary toxic air contaminants

From: Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]
Sent: 1/29/2024 6:52:49 PM
To: Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Lindsey Sarquilla [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; Michael Stewart [mstewart@rinconconsultants.com]; Errol Villegas [errol.villegas@valleyair.org]; Mungi Hong [Mungi.Hong@valleyair.org]; Patia Siong [Patia.Siong@valleyair.org]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Hughes, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7dd5e80572b644209e9607ba7bdc630-Hughes, Jos]
CC: Ding, Yifan@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=49ee78637b0648578196965a7385b6f2-6d1c78d5-11]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Qian, Wenjun@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4421be8df5f40ec851d73affcbff913-Qian, Wenju]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Record, Jacquelyn@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=80a752975c1d44efbd17fb602595a1e7-Leyva, Jacq]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) SJVAPCD Requirements Discussion
Attachments: 23-OPT-02 Air QualityMeeting_Agenda_Protocol_02012024.docx
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Start: 2/1/2024 5:00:00 PM
End: 2/1/2024 6:30:00 PM
Show Time As: Busy
Required Attendees: becky.moores@intersectpower.com; Lindsey Sarquilla; Michael Stewart; Errol Villegas; Mungi Hong; Patia Siong; Worrall, Lisa@Energy; Hughes, Joseph@Energy
Optional Attendees: Ding, Yifan@Energy; Crisp, Ann@Energy; Qian, Wenjun@Energy; Babula, Jared@Energy; Record, Jacquelyn@Energy

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find attached the meeting agenda and draft modeling protocol for discussion during this call.

Scheduling this meeting to discuss worst case assumptions for the Darden Clean Energy Project emergency generator air quality analysis. Please feel free to forward this invitation on to anyone we my have missed.

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Meeting ID: 287 194 483 574

Passcode: 94H8DM

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Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Air Pollution Control District (APCD) Permitting Discussion**Date:** February 1, 2024**Time:** 9:00 to 10:30 am**Location:** Microsoft Teams**Attendees:**

Lisa Worrall, California Energy Commission (CEC)	Errol Villegas, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD)
Joseph Hughes, CEC	Mungi Hong, SJVAPCD
Jared Babula, CEC	Patia Siong, SJVAPCD
Ann Crisp, CEC	Becky Moores, Intersect Power (Intersect)
Jacquelyn Record, CEC	Lindsey Sarquilla, Rincon Consultants (Rincon)
Yifan Ding, CEC	Evelyn Langsdale, Rincon Consultants
Wenjun Qian, CEC	Michael Stewart, Rincon Consultants

Meeting Agenda/Discussion Items*Application Package for New Source Review*

1. Introduction to project & equipment
 - a. (2) 400 kW fire pump generators and (2) 600 kW emergency power backup generators
 - b. **OR** (2) 400 kW fire pump generators and (4) 300 kW emergency power backup generators
2. Brief BACT discussion
 - a. Tier 3 for fire pump generators
 - b. Tier 4 for emergency power backup generators
3. Emissions analysis, comparison to major source thresholds
 - a. Offset Emissions for the equipment assumed exempt based on Rule 2201, Section 4.6.2.
4. Review air dispersion modeling requirements under Rule 2201, Section 4.15.1
5. Health Risk Assessment

Modeling Protocol

1. Develop emissions profiles for various pollutants for AQIA & HRA
 - a. Short term vs long term averaging periods
2. Model “worst-case” equipment option: 400 kW fire pump generators and (2) 600 kW emergency power backup generators
3. Model “worst-case” equipment location at each of the three potential properties based on preliminary CEQA modeling
4. Model the equipment in AERMOD as point sources using stack parameters for CAT enclosures commonly found in spec packages for selected equipment type (i.e. for CAT C18), including: stack heights and diameters, the exhaust velocities, and temperatures
5. Post process results for the corresponding studies
6. Including as applicable for CEQA and air permitting deliverables

Discussion Items

- a) Equipment location “worst-case” area based on preliminary CEQA modeling
- b) “Worst-case” equipment option
- c) Stack parameter assumptions → assume usage of CAT enclosure parameters
- d) Usage assumptions
 - a. Testing and maintenance: 1 hr per generator per month
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 - i. AQIA vs HRA requirements
 - a. HRA to include:
 - i. Chronic and Cancer Risk analyzed
 - ii. CEC Data Request PH-4 requests acute exposure analysis by categorizing diesel exhaust into the primary toxic air contaminants

From: Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]
Sent: 1/29/2024 6:52:50 PM
To: Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Lindsey Sarquilla [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; Michael Stewart [mstewart@rinconconsultants.com]; Errol Villegas [errol.villegas@valleyair.org]; Mungi Hong [Mungi.Hong@valleyair.org]; Patia Siong [Patia.Siong@valleyair.org]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Hughes, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7dd5e80572b644209e9607ba7bdc630-Hughes, Jos]
CC: Ding, Yifan@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=49ee78637b0648578196965a7385b6f2-6d1c78d5-11]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Qian, Wenjun@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4421be8df5f40ec851d73affcbff913-Qian, Wenju]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Record, Jacquelyn@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=80a752975c1d44efbd17fb602595a1e7-Leyva, Jacq]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) SJVAPCD Requirements Discussion
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Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
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Required Attendees: becky.moores@intersectpower.com; Lindsey Sarquilla; Michael Stewart; Errol Villegas; Mungi Hong; Patia Siong; Worrall, Lisa@Energy; Hughes, Joseph@Energy
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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find attached the meeting agenda and draft modeling protocol for discussion during this call.

Scheduling this meeting to discuss worst case assumptions for the Darden Clean Energy Project emergency generator air quality analysis. Please feel free to forward this invitation on to anyone we my have missed.

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Follow up clarifications/questions from CEC biological resources staff regarding DR BIO-13 & BIO-14:

1. Lost Hills crownscale (*Atriplex coronata* var. *vallicola*) and other *Atriplex* spp., palmate-bracted birds's-beak (*Chloropyron palmatum*), as well as other species with similar habitat requirements:

The "potential to occur" listed for several plant species is inconsistent with the "Habitat Suitability/Observations" column. Specifically, for Lost Hills crownscale it states this species oikhas a "Low Potential" to occur and that "suitable chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland does occur within the BSA but does not occur within 200 ft. of the Project Site (utility switchyard)". However, other *Atriplex* spp., as well as several other species (e.g. palmate-bracted bird's beak) that have similar habitat requirements, it states that these species have "No Potential" to occur and "suitable chenopod scrub, valley and foothill grassland does not occur within the BSA."

These discrepancies should be resolved as part of the response to data requests (DR BIO-13 and BIO-14) as discussed during the meeting and the applicant should explain why the potential to occur differs for this host of species that occur in similar habitats.

2. California Tiger Salamander (CTS):

The Special-Status Species Evaluation Table (Appendix Q-2, p. Q-2-9) states: "A perennial pond for grazing cattle with nearby ground squirrel burrows occurs west of the utility switchyard within the BSA. However, there is no suitable habitat in the BSA within the 1.2-mile dispersal distance of this species". However, according to staff's review of applicant's data (including shapefiles), Impoundments 1 and 2 (TN 253038-3, pps. 31 of 57 and 32 of 57) are located immediately adjacent to the border of the "Utility Switchyard Parcel" and less than 0.26 and 0.16 miles (respectively) from the boundary of the "Utility Switchyard". These locations may contain suitable habitat for CTS and are well within dispersal distance of 1.2 miles. There is also another immediately offsite portion described under San Joaquin coachwhip as "An area of suitable open dry habitat with nearby ground squirrel burrows occurs west of the switch yard within the BSA." (p. Q-2-11), that could be potentially suitable habitat for CTS within dispersal distance. Portions of the utility switchyard and gen tie line may also provide suitable habitat for CTS with the presence of ground squirrel burrows.

These mapping discrepancies should be resolved as part of the response to data requests (DR BIO-13, BIO-14 and BIO-34). Please ensure the responses provide additional information on the applicant's determination that there is no potential for CTS to occur and include the results of any offsite survey data.

Follow up clarifications from CDFW staff regarding DR BIO-46:

CDFW usually recommend ½ mile avoidance buffers for listed raptors, and 500 feet for non-listed raptors.

Sent: 2/22/2024 12:14:11 AM
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Hi Becky,

Please find some guidance on the approaches when local or state agency permits would be required but for CEC's in lieu authority over the project construction and operation (local and state agency permits):

- For CEC's In Lieu Authority, there is no distinction between discretionary and ministerial permits. The group agreed that CEC's in lieu authority for opt-in is broad and supersedes all state, county, district and city permits that would otherwise be required for the siting, construction, and operation of an opt-in project. (Pub. Res. Code § 25545.1(b).) The CEC should issue the authorization instead of relying on a local permit, unless it is more practical or efficient to set a condition of certification requiring the facility to obtain a ministerial permit from a local or state agency (e.g. CEC staff may lack expertise to issue a substantive certification condition).
- For local and state agency permits, CEC should coordinate with the applicant and the relevant agency to obtain all the necessary information that would be included in an application for a discretionary or ministerial permit. For ministerial permits like encroachment permits, CEC staff should independently verify whether the applicant meets all conditions for issuance of the ministerial permit. Once this occurs, STEP and Chief Counsel's Office (CCO) can discuss whether the LORS conformance will be achieved by issuing the permit in the decision or requiring the permit as a condition of certification.
- CEC has authority to require the applicant provide all information that would be required for any local or state permit. Appendix B, subdivision (i)(1)(A) requires the application to include a table identifying all "permits applicable to the proposed project, and a discussion of the applicability of, and conformance with each. The table or matrix shall explicitly reference pages in the application wherein conformance, with each law or standard during both construction and operation of the facility is discussed." Appendix B, subd. (i)(1)(A). If CEC staff cannot tell if the requirements for a ministerial permit are met, it is likely that conformance with applicable permits is not adequately discussed in the application.
- To avoid CEQA complications and delays, CEC should obtain all the necessary information as early as possible. Conformance with applicable laws, ordinances or permits may necessitate project changes identified by a relevant agency. CEC staff needs this information for a complete impacts analysis. The Opt-In time constraints require early action to verify all permits can be issued in conformance with LORS.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Sent: 2/22/2024 12:27:31 AM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
Subject: Re: 23-OPT-02 Darden - Other Permits

Hi Becky,

Please find some guidance on the approaches when local or state agency permits would be required but for CEC's in lieu authority over the project construction and operation (local and state agency permits):

- For CEC's In Lieu Authority, there is no distinction between discretionary and ministerial permits. The group agreed that CEC's in lieu authority for opt-in is broad and supersedes all state, county, district and city permits that would otherwise be required for the siting, construction, and operation of an opt-in project. (Pub. Res. Code § 25545.1(b).) The CEC should issue the authorization instead of relying on a local permit, unless it is more practical or efficient to set a condition of certification requiring the facility to obtain a ministerial permit from a local or state agency (e.g. CEC staff may lack expertise to issue a substantive certification condition).
- For local and state agency permits, CEC should coordinate with the applicant and the relevant agency to obtain all the necessary information that would be included in an application for a discretionary or ministerial permit. For ministerial permits like encroachment permits, CEC staff should independently verify whether the applicant meets all conditions for issuance of the ministerial permit. Once this occurs, STEP and Chief Counsel's Office (CCO) can discuss whether the LORS conformance will be achieved by issuing the permit in the decision or requiring the permit as a condition of certification.
- CEC has authority to require the applicant provide all information that would be required for any local or state permit. Appendix B, subdivision (i)(1)(A) requires the application to include a table identifying all "permits applicable to the proposed project, and a discussion of the applicability of, and conformance with each. The table or matrix shall explicitly reference pages in the application wherein conformance, with each law or standard during both construction and operation of the facility is discussed." Appendix B, subd. (i)(1)(A). If CEC staff cannot tell if the requirements for a ministerial permit are met, it is likely that conformance with applicable permits is not adequately discussed in the application.
- To avoid CEQA complications and delays, CEC should obtain all the necessary information as early as possible. Conformance with applicable laws, ordinances or permits may necessitate project changes identified by a relevant agency. CEC staff needs this information for a complete impacts analysis. The Opt-In time constraints require early action to verify all permits can be issued in conformance with LORS.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Ann

Ann Crisp
Senior Environmental Planner
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 352-0543 ****please note new phone number ****
Fax: (916) 651-8868



From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 12:30 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: 23-OPT-02 Darden - Other Permits

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Hello,

Please advise if the CEC will have authority over the permits listed below, or if these authorizations will still need to be obtained through Fresno County.

- Floodplain Development Permit/Approval
- Road Use Agreement for construction
- Public ROW Easement/Encroachment permits

Thank you,

Becky Moores
Director, Environmental & Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B89C4DE7ECE742679D19E1E3EE713DC2-CRISP, ANN@]
Sent: 2/16/2024 8:03:38 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project- edits and clarifications on Jan 2 Bio meeting notes

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 5:47 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project- edits and clarifications on Jan 2 Bio meeting notes

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Lisa and Ann,

Biology notes attached with a few additions and clarifications from Intersect and Rincon.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Tue, Jan 23, 2024 at 9:49 AM Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

CEC and CDFW reviewed the notes Rincon so kindly took and made some edits, clarifications and additions based on the notes we also took. The edits have been made in track changes.

At the bottom of the notes are two follow-up clarification/questions from CEC staff on DR BIO-13 and DR BIO-14. Please review them and keep them in mind as you complete your biological resource responses.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall

Senior Environmental Planner

California Energy Commission

Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814

Direct: (916) 661-8367

Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B89C4DE7ECE742679D19E1E3EE713DC2-CRISP, ANN@]
Sent: 2/16/2024 8:02:49 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
Subject: Re: Darden Intersect/CEC Biology Meeting Re Data Requests

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 12:26 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Darden Intersect/CEC Biology Meeting Re Data Requests

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ann and Lisa,

Attached are summary notes from the biology meeting for your review.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2023 2:48 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy; Crisp, Ann@Energy; Watson, Carol@Energy; Knight, Eric@Energy; Stroud, Andrea@Energy; Dave Daitch (Rincon); Christina Shushnar (Rincon); Becky Moores; Marisa Mitchell; Wakeman, Donovan@Wildlife; Mulligan, Rhiannon@Wildlife; Vang, Jim@Wildlife; Bonner, Lawrence(Larry)@Wildlife
Subject: Darden Intersect/CEC Biology Meeting Re Data Requests
When: Tuesday, January 2, 2024 10:00 AM-12:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Intersect would like to meet with biology staff to discuss data requests. More information to follow regarding specific topics of discussion.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Sent: 2/29/2024 11:18:08 PM
To: elaine.sison-lebrilla@cpuc.ca.gov
CC: Hesters, Mark@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=adc98e7718ae442bab67f41b128d006-Hesters, Ma]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Anderson, Kari@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2a783549590f4febb0eb8d96a79b60aa-Anderson, K]; Ziff, Briana@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9d1539e61a02423dad0bea24f0056535-0e930594-04]; Edirisuriya, Sudath@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a5d6cd74e9024972b122d8344f69b3a8-Edirisuriya]
Subject: Perkins Renewable Energy Project (24-OPT-01) - Notice of Receipt of Opt-in application and question for CPUC

Hello Elaine,

This email serves as notification of receipt of an Opt-in application under Public Resources Code 25519 for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project is proposed in unincorporated Fresno County. The attached letter outlines project information and the reasons under AB 205 why we are contacting you.

If you have questions, please contact me and Lisa Worrall, project manager.

We appreciate your timely responses and look forward to coordinating with you as the project moves forward.

Thank you,

Ann

Ann Crisp
Senior Environmental Planner
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 352-0543 ****please note new phone number ****
Fax: (916) 651-8868



From: Anmarie Medin [medin@pacificlegacy.com]
Sent: 3/12/2024 9:01:05 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Paul Miller [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4d4ce365f8bd442a8cb7d479381e2476-8906af8e-0e]; Joakim Osthus [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac94da95de50400a983dcc567fb986b2-21d280df-17]; Lisa Harmon [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2822f25f76e5442d89b17b9364fd5d77-9adae1de-a5]; ballard [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9b1fe156314e49af822db72801173005-340ea603-d5]; agreenberg [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b9bfa77aaf044a8ca270ce3bcef10093-9afec475-67]; Kerr, Steven@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d0d5a66bed2249fca830918f58b3b921-Kerr, Steve]; Fooks, Brett@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=870df74143964b71ada0039bf13c5a9a-Fooks, Bret]; Turner, Michael@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=935d0fc8d435418da34fd4251ff83a5a-Turner, Mic]; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c1ff1d38281a4068b2708271d22c0d94-Abulaban, A]; Roark, Gabriel@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed87ff1e22cd49f3aaff644c82538d46-Roark, Gabr]
CC: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Received first set of data responses

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ann – No further data requests for Tribal or Cultural.

Thanks for your patience as we communicated behind the scenes.
 Anmarie

Anmarie Medin, M.A, RPA #10969

Senior Historical Archaeologist
 4919 Windplay Dr., Ste 4 | El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
medin@pacificlegacy.com
 (916) 717-4077 (m)
www.pacificlegacy.com

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 12:23 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Paul Miller <pmiller@therchgroup.com>; Joakim Osthus <joakim.osthus@meadhunt.com>; Lisa Harmon <lisa.harmon@meadhunt.com>; Hannah Ballard <ballard@pacificlegacy.com>; Anmarie Medin <medin@pacificlegacy.com>; agreenberg <agreenberg@risksci.com>; Kerr, Steven@Energy <Steven.Kerr@energy.ca.gov>; Fooks, Brett@Energy <Brett.Fooks@energy.ca.gov>; Turner, Michael@Energy <Michael.Turner@Energy.ca.gov>; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy <Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov>; Roark, Gabriel@Energy <gabriel.roark@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Received first set of data responses

Hi all - just checking in to see if you have been able to take a look at the DRR for Darden for Cult/Tribal Cult, Geo, Land Use, or Soils and if the responses are adequate?

We are meeting with Eric today to discuss how to handle follow up questions if the DRRs did not provide what is needed.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 1:17 PM

To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Paul Miller <pmiller@therchgroup.com>; Joakim Osthus <joakim.osthus@meadhunt.com>; Lisa Harmon <lisa.harmon@meadhunt.com>; ballard <ballard@pacificlegacy.com>; Anmarie Medin <medin@pacificlegacy.com>; agreenberg <agreenberg@risksci.com>; Kerr, Steven@Energy <Steven.Kerr@energy.ca.gov>; Fooks, Brett@Energy <Brett.Fooks@energy.ca.gov>; Turner, Michael@Energy <Michael.Turner@Energy.ca.gov>; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy <Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov>; Roark, Gabriel@Energy <gabriel.roark@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Received first set of data responses

Hi all - just checking in on the request below. If you are not working on Perkins or have time and can complete review of the first batch of DRRs, please fill in the tracker linked below by Friday - March 8. We already have responses from Noise and WS/FP.

Once we have the Project Description DRRs, hopefully early next week, Lisa and I will send out blue sky due dates for those sections with complete DR responses or no data responses needed.

If you are also working on Perkins data completeness this week that takes priority over Darden right now.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 1:01 PM

To: Paul Miller <pmiller@therchgroup.com>; Joakim Osthus <joakim.osthus@meadhunt.com>; Lisa Harmon <lisa.harmon@meadhunt.com>; ballard <ballard@pacificlegacy.com>; Anmarie Medin <medin@pacificlegacy.com>; agreenberg <agreenberg@risksci.com>; Kerr, Steven@Energy <Steven.Kerr@energy.ca.gov>; Fooks, Brett@Energy <Brett.Fooks@energy.ca.gov>; Turner, Michael@Energy <Michael.Turner@Energy.ca.gov>; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy <Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov>; Roark, Gabriel@Energy <gabriel.roark@energy.ca.gov>


Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Received first set of data responses

Hi all,

Intersect Power has submitted the first batch of data responses.  [Responses](#)

We anticipate these are complete responses to all of the data requests for Cultural/Tribal Cultural, Geologic Hazards, Land Use, Soils, Visual Resources, Worker Safety.

As your schedule allows, please review the responses in your technical section and let Ann and myself know whether your responses are complete and you have not clarifying questions. Once we know your responses are complete, we will mark off your technical area as data complete. We are tracking each data request and will mark of them as they are determined complete. Here is a link to the tracker.  [Darden Data Completeness Tracker.xlsx](#)

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Thanks all,

Lisa Worrall

Senior Environmental Planner

California Energy Commission

Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814

Direct: (916) 661-8367

Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov





Intersect Power - CEC: Darden Update

March 2024



Agenda

Update: Advancement on Community
Benefit Agreements

Update: Procurement for Darden

Challenges & Solutions


Alignment of SGMA & CEQA

Next Steps



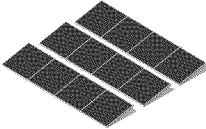
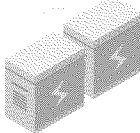
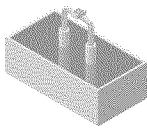
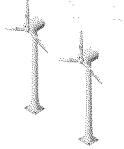
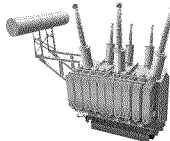



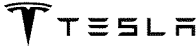





CEC Community Benefit Plan



Focal Issue	Organization Name	Main Activities	Status of CBA
Economic Opportunity	Cornell Ecology Work Study Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swainson's hawks conservation college internship program 	Executed
	 Fresno Housing Education Corps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and expand the reach of literary and STEM-related programming and scholarship programs 	Executed
	 VALLEYBUILD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnering on the development of a solar installation program to be included in upcoming curriculums for the pre-apprenticeship program 	n/a (not financial)
Access to Public Transportation	 FCRTA <small>Fresno County Rural Transit Agency</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide augmented fares for rural microtransit program, ensuring transportation for local residents to essential services 	Near Execution (target: March)
Air Pollution	 CCAC CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ASTHMA COLLABORATIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Comprehensive Asthma Remediation and Education Services in Western Fresno County 	Executed
	 TREE FRESNO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnering to plant shade trees at schools in Western Fresno County 	Executed
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Core / Expansion Portfolios – Domestic Supply Chain



						
Modules	Batteries	Electrolyzers	Wind Turbines	Transformers	Steel	EPC Services
<p><u>Deployed</u> 4GWp</p> <p><u>Executed</u> 7.3 GW framework deal with FSLR (+1 GW option for additional volume), securing domestic manufactured modules for our entire business plan</p> <p><u>Darden:</u> Solar modules fully contracted</p>	<p><u>Deployed</u> 1.4GWh</p> <p><u>Executed</u> supply agreements for 2.4GWh domestic manufactured Megapack 2 battery energy storage systems for Easley & Aramis</p>	<p><u>Executed</u> 2GW framework agreement with Electric Hydrogen, and currently negotiating additional supply agreements</p> <p><u>Darden:</u> Electrolyzers fully contracted</p>	<p>Relationship with GE and Vestas, built on co-leadership of the American Clean Power trade group, gives us priority access to domestic manufactured turbines</p>	<p><u>Deployed</u> 3GW</p> <p><u>Executed</u> supply agreements with HICO for all GSUs needed for business plan projects through 2027 (with BoC dates that support qualification for Energy Community ITC adders)</p> <p><u>Darden:</u> GSUs fully contracted</p>	<p><u>Executed</u> framework agreement with a domestic steel mill that secures us access to 350 thousand tons of domestically produced steel piles for our entire business plan</p> <p><u>Darden:</u> Structural steel fully contracted</p>	<p><u>Deployed</u> 4GW; CA work under 5-craft PLAs</p> <p><u>Executed</u> BAAH Substations are contracted. In documentation for Quantum I & II, Aramis, and Easley with 5 craft-PLAs in California and IRA Prevailing Wages in Texas</p> <p><u>Darden:</u> BAAH HV Substation fully contracted</p>
						

Darden: Challenges and Proposed Solutions

Challenge	Description	Proposed Solution
1 Level of detail: Engineering Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested level of engineering and locational specificity is reflective of final building permits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E.g., exact location and final dimensions of a driveway encroachment to a County road; make and model of each piece of construction equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEQA allows for the complete design envelope to be evaluated at a lower level of engineering design, followed by pre-construction compliance check to validate consistency between final design and the environmental review
2 Level of detail: PG&E network upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PG&E's network updates identified in Phase 2 interconnection studies are at the early stages of planning and design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eg: exact physical details of fiber optic communication line are not yet known, and are therefore not reasonably foreseeable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEQA allows for a programmatic evaluation of the complete set of physical design options without compromising completeness of the environmental review
3 CEC Bandwidth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perkins initial 30-day completeness review is at the same time as Darden's application completeness review of data request responses Both projects are critical priority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darden data responses being submitted in 3 tranches by issue area to simplify review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PMs have been made aware of anticipated submittal schedule, with another set to be submitted by 3/20 and all responses submitted by 4/1
4 Permitting Authority for CPUC: jurisdictional components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater clarity needed between CEC, PUC, and PG&E on how CEQA compliance and Authority to Construct will be achieved, which agency has jurisdiction, for network upgrades (including 500kV switching station) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request CEC to convene meeting with PG&E and CPUC to understand how CEQA compliance will be achieved in Darden's document

Policy Alignment for Future Solar Development on Water-Constrained, Retiring Farmland



The Opportunity: Triple Win for Ag, Energy, and the Environment

SGMA Implementation

- Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) required to bring **groundwater** use to **sustained yield** status by **2040**
- Groundwater pumping curtailments to consolidate water resources, **removing unirrigated land from production**
 - ~0.5M-1M acres expected to be retired

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- **Electric system required to be 90% clean by 2035**, 100% clean by 2045 (SB100/SB1020), **requiring ~0.5M-1M acres**
- **Lowest biodiversity and community impacts** of energy transition will be low-performing ag lands to **solar energy** (CEC's 2023 Land Use Screens report)

The Challenge: Misalignment due to Old Definitions

- **CEQA** implementation guidelines questions (Appendix G) are **currently used as threshold** of significance of a project's environmental impacts and requirement for mitigation
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The Solution: CEQA and SGMA alignment

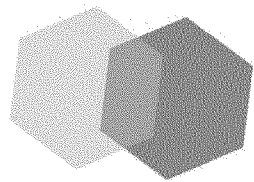
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Next Steps



Darden Data Response Schedule

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Intersect Power - CEC: Darden Update

March 2024



Agenda

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Benefit Agreements

Update: Procurement for Darden

Challenges & Solutions


Alignment of SGMA & CEQA

Next Steps



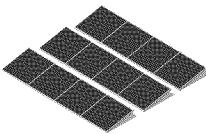
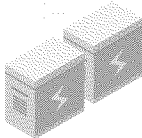
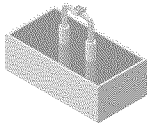
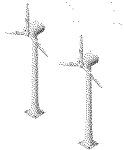
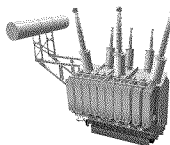



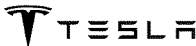





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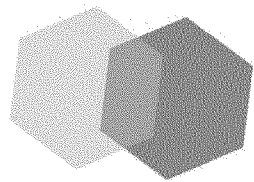
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From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 4/11/2024 3:59:21 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Meeting availability regarding DR HAZ-1

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Lisa,

Russ Freeman confirmed he forwarded the invite to others on his team and they accepted, so I think you can go ahead and send out an updated invite for whatever time works for your folks. Perhaps 2:00-3:00 since it's a Friday afternoon? I'm hoping we don't need the full hour though.

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Thu, Apr 4, 2024 at 3:09 PM Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com> wrote:

Hi Lisa,

Could you please send out a hold invitation for Friday 4/12 from 2:00-4:00. Westlands is confirming availability for others on their side but that block should work.

Please include rfreeman@wwd.ca.gov on that invite.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Tue, Apr 2, 2024 at 7:35 PM Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Becky,

Here is our availability re DR HAZ-1. I spoke with both legal and haz mat staff and their position has not changed on the need for this information but they are happy to meet.

Thursday April 11 9:30 to 10

Friday April 12 10:30 to 11, 11:30 to 12, 1-4

Tuesday April 16 11:30 to 12

Wednesday April 17 9:30 to 12, 1-4

Lisa Worrall

Senior Environmental Planner

California Energy Commission

Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814

Direct: (916) 661-8367

Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Energy - ConfidentialityApplication [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=19A1DCD64C75492BB26F16BE163474E8-ENERGY - CO]
Sent: 4/17/2024 7:41:12 PM
To: bcampbell@rinconconsultants.com
CC: Ziff, Briana@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9d1539e61a02423dad0bea24f0056535-0e930594-04]; Camberos, Blanca@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9a468cc1041442469599fcd37b1744b6-9d3be3a1-fb]
Subject: CEC Response Letter re Application for Confidential Designation
Attachments: 4-17-2024 CEC Response Letter to Darden 02.29.2024 Application for Confidentiality.pdf

Good afternoon Breana Campbell-King,

Please find attached the CEC Response Letter to IP Darden I, LLC re Application for Confidential Designation, filed with the CEC on 02/28/2024.

If you have questions, please email confidentialityapplication@energy.ca.gov.

Thank you.

*Ngoc Tran
Chief Counsel's Office
California Energy Commission*

From: Energy - ConfidentialityApplication [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=19A1DCD64C75492BB26F16BE163474E8-ENERGY - CO]
Sent: 4/22/2024 8:34:56 PM
To: simon.ross@intersectpower.com; becky.moores@intersectpower.com
CC: Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Ziff, Briana@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9d1539e61a02423dad0bea24f0056535-0e930594-04]; Camberos, Blanca@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9a468cc1041442469599fcd37b1744b6-9d3be3a1-fb]
Subject: CEC's response letter to IP Darden I, LLC's application for confidential designation
Attachments: 4-22- 2024 CEC Response Letter to Darden 02.20.2024 application.pdf

Good afternoon Simon Ross and Becky Moores:

Attached please find the CEC's response letter to application for confidential designation, filed with the CEC on 2/20/2024.

If you have questions, please email confidentialityapplication@energy.ca.gov.

Thank you.

Ngoc Tran
Chief Counsel's Office
California Energy Commission

From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 4/26/2024 5:27:58 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Subject: 23-OPT-02 Darden BUOW Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Ann and Lisa,

For our meeting with CDFW next Tuesday, we would like to discuss the permitting path for incorporating the burrowing owl into the Darden project's ITP in the event the owl is listed as a CESA candidate species later this year. As a part of our BIO data request responses, we are preparing a BUOW management plan with the intention that the plan and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures are suitable for CEQA analysis so we can amend our ITP application at a later date to include the owl. I would like to verify this approach works for both parties in accordance with your MOU and standard practices.

Do you prefer to send this out to CDFW and the other meeting attendees?

Thank you,

Becky Moores
Director, Environmental & Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: DuBose, Wendi@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=EDDF24BC47184E65960EF3BE22551FEA-90DD2C0B-39]
Sent: 5/24/2024 5:29:23 PM
To: simon.ross@intersectpower.com; becky.moores@intersectpower.com
CC: Ziff, Briana@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9d1539e61a02423dad0bea24f0056535-0e930594-04]; Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=88b6ef1fba134a2cb0aacd56262dc6c4-Pinkerton,]; Camberos, Blanca@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9a468cc1041442469599fcd37b1744b6-9d3be3a1-fb]; Tran, Ngoc@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2f329d9214414bca8c54639696189291-NTran, Ngoc]
Subject: CEC's response letter to IP Darden I, LLC's application for confidential designation
Attachments: 5-24-2024 CEC Response Letter to Darden 05.10.24 Application_clean.pdf

Good afternoon Simon Ross and Becky Moores:

Attached please find the CEC's response letter to application for confidential designation, filed with the CEC on 5/10/2024.

If you have questions, please email confidentialityapplication@energy.ca.gov.

Thank you,

Wendi

Wendi DuBose
Legal Assistant
Chief Counsel's Office
California Energy Commission
Wendi.Dubose@energy.ca.gov
916-314-3924
www.energy.ca.gov





**CALIFORNIA
ENERGY COMMISSION**



May 24, 2024

Via Email

Simon Ross
Becky Moores
IP Darden I, LLC
c/o Intersect Power, LLC
9450 South West Gemini Drive, PMB #68743
Beaverton, Oregon 97008-7105
simon.ross@intersectpower.com
becky.moores@intersectpower.com

**Application for Confidential Designation: Darden Clean Energy Project
Docket No. 23-OPT-02**

Dear Simon Ross and Becky Moores:

The California Energy Commission (CEC) has received the IP Darden I, LLC (applicant) Application for Confidentiality (TN 256295), docketed May 10, 2024, covering the California Independent System Operator Phase II Study for the Darden Energy Project, which includes the following documents (Phase II documents):

- PG&E South 500 kV Interconnection Area Study Report
- Attachment 6 Generator Dynamic Data
- Attachment 8 Preliminary Protection Requirements
- Attachment 9 Transient Stability Contingency List & Results
- Attachment 10 Substation and Transmission line Work Scope
- Appendix A – Q1949, Queue Cluster 14 Phase II Study Final Report
- Appendix B System Assumptions
- Appendix C Contingency Lists
- Appendix E Reliability Power Flow Results
- Appendix G Reliability Assessment Results
- Appendix H Short Circuit Study Results
- Appendix I Deliverability Assessment Results
- Appendix J Energy Storage Charging Reliability Power Flow Results
- Appendix K Interconnection Area Map

The applicant requests that the documents referenced above be kept confidential indefinitely, unless approved for public release by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). The applicant states CAISO has designated the documents listed as confidential.

A properly filed application for confidentiality shall be granted under California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2505(a)(3)(A), “if the applicant makes a reasonable claim

Simon Ross, Becky Moores
May 24, 2024
Page 2

that the Public Records Act or other provision of law authorizes the [California Energy] Commission to keep the record confidential.”

As explained below, the applicant has made a reasonable claim that the Phase II documents shall be made confidential due to CAISO’s confidential designation. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 2505(b).) Pursuant to an Appendix DD, Generator Interconnection and Deliverability Allocation Procedures document (GIDAP Appendix DD), on November 30, 2022, CAISO and the applicant agreed to treat the Phase II documents as confidential.

The remaining Phase II documents were to be treated as confidential pursuant to a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) between CAISO and the applicant dated February 28, 2017.

The applicant further claims it is in the public interest to have the Phase II documents deemed confidential to ensure industry competitiveness and maintain trade secrets, maintaining the competitiveness of the CAISO power market and keeping consumer energy prices at competitive levels. The applicant states the information in the Phase II documents cannot be disclosed even if aggregated or masked due to the confidential designation imposed by CAISO and pursuant to the NDA. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 2505(a)(1)(D).) The applicant states the information contained within the Phase II documents have not been disclosed to a person other than an employee or contractors working on behalf of applicant and under NDAs.

Executive Director’s Determination

The applicant has made a reasonable showing that the information contained in the Phase II documents should be maintained as confidential due to CAISO’s designation. The Phase II documents are granted confidentiality indefinitely, unless approved for public release by CAISO.

Be advised that persons may petition to inspect or copy records that have been designated as confidential, the executive director may disclose, or release records previously designated as confidential in certain circumstances, and the CEC may hold a hearing to determine the confidentiality of its records on its own motion or on a motion by CEC staff. The procedures and criteria for disclosing or releasing, filing, reviewing,

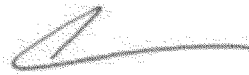
Simon Ross, Becky Moores
May 24, 2024
Page 3

and acting upon such petitions or motions are set forth in the California Code of Regulations, title 20, sections 2506 through 2508.

Any related subsequent submittals can be deemed confidential, without the need for an application, by following the procedures set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2505(a)(4).

If you have questions, please email confidentialapplication@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Drew Bohan', with a stylized, sweeping line extending to the right.

Drew Bohan
Executive Director

From: Hochschild, David@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=8EBBE6949D3A425EA7BD5F56679BDEFE-HOCHSCHILD,]
Sent: 6/11/2024 5:29:47 PM
To: Hochschild, David@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8ebbe6949d3a425ea7bd5f56679bdefe-Hochschild,]; luke@intersectpower.com
CC: Salma Abdelfattah <salma.abdelfattah@intersectpower.com> [salma.abdelfattah@intersectpower.com]; Rider, Ken@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4da8f092a4284ebf8e4ca9e1c2394e2c-Rider, Ken@]; Robinson, Katerina@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bb849396fb4b442f8d4020eacaebd6d8-Robinson, K]
Subject: [RESCHEDULING] CEC Chair Hochschild / Intersect Power: Luke Dunnington - Discuss AB 205 / Darden & Perkins
Location: <https://energy.zoom.us/j/86985560059?pwd=S1f5CjKdWXGZZL5h0hP3UXyP1dYTk2.1>
Start: 6/13/2024 4:30:00 PM
End: 6/13/2024 5:00:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative
Recurrence: (none)
Required Attendees: luke@intersectpower.com
Optional Attendees: Salma Abdelfattah <salma.abdelfattah@intersectpower.com>; Rider, Ken@Energy; Robinson, Katerina@Energy

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://energy.zoom.us/j/86985560059?pwd=S1f5CjKdWXGZZL5h0hP3UXyP1dYTk2.1>

Meeting ID: 869 8556 0059

Passcode: 781160

One tap mobile

+16692192599,,86985560059# US (San Jose)

+12133388477,,86985560059# US (Los Angeles)

Dial by your location

• +1 669 219 2599 US (San Jose)

• +1 213 338 8477 US (Los Angeles)

CEC Scheduler

Lyndsay.Jackson-Ross@Energy.ca.gov

On Wed, Jun 5, 2024 at 5:23 PM David Hochschild <davidhochschild@gmail.com> wrote:

Luke

Happy to connect but let's do zoom

Will be in SoCal much of that week

Copying my assistant Lyndsay here

On Wed, Jun 5, 2024 at 4:55 PM Luke Dunnington <luke@intersectpower.com> wrote:

Chair Hochschild,

Hope you're well. Our Darden (1.15GW PV, 4.6GWh BESS, 800MW H2 in Fresno) and Perkins (1.15GW PV, 4.6GWh BESS in Imperial) projects, **initial AB 205 applicants**, both received their **full 1150MW FCDS allocation** on Friday, further strengthening the value and viability of these projects to California and towards SB100.

As Darden nears Deemed Complete in the next few weeks and Perkins enters the process of addressing deficiencies with CEC Staff, I was hoping to give you an update on these projects and shared expectations on their path through AB 205. Would you be available to grab a coffee at Peets on Walnut in N Berkeley next Thursday (6/13) or Friday (6/14)?

Best regards, Luke

.....

Luke Dunnington
President / Founder
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 510.421.1359
www.linkedin.com/in/lukedunnington1

--

Salma Abdelfattah
Executive Assistant to the President
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 407.797.6060
(e) salma.abdelfattah@intersectpower.com
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/salma-abdelfattah/>

--

Salma Abdelfattah
Executive Assistant to the President
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 407.797.6060
(e) salma.abdelfattah@intersectpower.com
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/salma-abdelfattah/>

--

Salma Abdelfattah
Executive Assistant to the President
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 407.797.6060
(e) salma.abdelfattah@intersectpower.com
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/salma-abdelfattah/>

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 6/18/2024 3:00:45 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Will Lutkewitte [will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com]
Subject: FW: Darden- Are we meeting today?

FYI.

From: Fooks, Brett@Energy <Brett.Fooks@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 11:38 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden- Are we meeting today?

Morning Lisa,

We have not yet prepared the RFP for the DCBO. That won't get started until the application has been deemed complete. And I will start looking for some additional documents for how a LNTP would work for construction.

Regards,

Brett Fooks (he, him, his)

Manager

Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 9:36 AM
To: Fooks, Brett@Energy <Brett.Fooks@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: FW: Darden- Are we meeting today?

Hi Brett,

Can you answer Becky's questions.

Thanks,

Lisa

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 9:14 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden- Are we meeting today?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lisa,

That works, we can skip today's meeting. I did have these two questions, not critical for now though so you can either respond via email or we can discuss next week.

- What is the status of your team preparing the RFP for the third party engineer (DCBO - designated certified building official) that will oversee the project
- Do you have any documents or other resources for how the process works post certification to receive LNTPs for starting construction

Thank you,

Becky Moores

INTERSECT POWER

(c) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Tue, Jun 4, 2024 at 10:04 AM Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

We don't need to meet. We are finalizing our letter and follow up data requests. Call me if you want to talk. Otherwise we are working on Darden.

Lisa Worrall

Senior Environmental Planner

California Energy Commission

Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814

Direct: (916) 661-8367

Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



Message

From: Ziff, Briana@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9D1539E61A02423DAD0BEA24F0056535-0E930594-04]
Sent: 6/25/2024 11:00:24 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
CC: Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed6e32a127144ccfa19a6f4347765a9e-00a33618-ff]; Megan Svedman [megan.svedman@intersectpower.com]; Will Lutkewitte [will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com]
Subject: RE: Darden Application for Confidentiality - Community Benefits Agreement

Hi Becky,

Thank you for letting me know. Nothing needs to be done on your end. We noted the application as withdrawn in the docket. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Briana Ziff
 Attorney I
 Chief Counsel's Office

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 10:05 AM
To: Ziff, Briana@Energy <Briana.Ziff@Energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy <Crystal.Cabrera@Energy.ca.gov>; Megan Svedman <megan.svedman@intersectpower.com>; Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>
Subject: Re: Darden Application for Confidentiality - Community Benefits Agreement

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Briana,

Yes, we do still intend to withdraw the application for confidentiality and all of the submitted agreements. What is the best way to do that, do I need to submit an e-filing request letter or can I simply withdraw through the docket system somehow?

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Mon, Jun 24, 2024 at 3:48 PM Ziff, Briana@Energy <Briana.Ziff@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Becky,

Hope you had a good weekend. I am checking in to see if Intersect Power still plans on withdrawing the Application for Confidentiality for the Community Benefits Agreements (TN 256457)?

Best,

Briana Ziff

Attorney I

Chief Counsel's Office

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 7:42 PM

To: Ziff, Briana@Energy <Briana.Ziff@Energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy <Crystal.Cabrera@Energy.ca.gov>; Megan Svedman <megan.svedman@intersectpower.com>

Subject: Re: Darden Application for Confidentiality - Community Benefits Agreement

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Briana,

Thank you for the outreach on this topic and the opportunity to remedy an insufficient confidentiality request. I am coordinating internally to determine the best approach. We received our second deficiency letter and data requests just today so we are reviewing everything together for our responses on the CEC. I assume we will withdraw this specific application for confidentiality and resubmit. Intersect Power intends to meet all written requirements and regulations for our application materials and not simply match what other opt-in applicants may have chosen to submit. I will reach out if there are any follow up questions.

Thank you,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(c) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Thu, Jun 6, 2024 at 11:38 AM Ziff, Briana@Energy <Briana.Ziff@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Becky,

We've met in previous meetings but as a refresher I am Briana Ziff, and I am an Attorney working on the Darden team. The CEC has received Darden's application for confidentiality (TN 256457) requesting confidentiality for the Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs) under trade secrets and public interest. Upon review, we have determined that the application does not meet the requirements of the confidentiality regulations under California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2505(a)(1)(D). Additionally, we disagree that the public interest is served in nondisclosure, and we intend to deny the application. For context, other opt-in projects that have requested confidentiality for their CBAs under trade secrets and public interest have similarly been denied.

Another thing to note, the CBAs include the following termination language: "Donor may terminate this Agreement by providing Recipient with 5 days' advance Notice (as defined in Section 9)." This termination language is not sufficient to make the CBA a binding agreement. The CEC and Intersect met May 23, 2024, to discuss this same issue for Perkins. While conditional language is allowed, the termination language that the donor can terminate for seemingly whatever reason is not. Perkins chose to withdraw their application and to make edits to the termination language.

We would like to offer Darden the same opportunity to withdraw the application and further, to make edits as needed to the CBAs. If you do not wish to withdraw this application for confidentiality as proposed, we will issue a letter denying the application. Please let me know if you have any questions. If you would like to discuss this in a meeting, I would be happy to set one up. I have included Senior Counsel in this email who are also available to assist with any concerns.

Best,

Briana Ziff

Attorney I

Advocacy and Compliance Unit

Chief Counsel's Office

California Energy Commission

Website: www.energy.ca.gov



Sent: 6/25/2024 8:49:01 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
CC: Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed6e32a127144ccfa19a6f4347765a9e-00a33618-ff]; Megan Svedman [megan.svedman@intersectpower.com]; Will Lutkewitte [will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com]
Subject: RE: Darden Application for Confidentiality - Community Benefits Agreement

Hi Becky,

Thank you for letting me know. Nothing needs to be done on your end. We noted the application as withdrawn. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Briana Ziff
Attorney I
Chief Counsel's Office

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 10:05 AM
To: Ziff, Briana@Energy <Briana.Ziff@Energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy <Crystal.Cabrera@Energy.ca.gov>; Megan Svedman <megan.svedman@intersectpower.com>; Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>
Subject: Re: Darden Application for Confidentiality - Community Benefits Agreement

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Briana,

Yes, we do still intend to withdraw the application for confidentiality and all of the submitted agreements. What is the best way to do that, do I need to submit an e-filing request letter or can I simply withdraw through the docket system somehow?

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Mon, Jun 24, 2024 at 3:48 PM Ziff, Briana@Energy <Briana.Ziff@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Becky,

Hope you had a good weekend. I am checking in to see if Intersect Power still plans on withdrawing the Application for Confidentiality for the Community Benefits Agreements (TN 256457)?

Best,

Briana Ziff

Attorney I

Chief Counsel's Office

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 7:42 PM

To: Ziff, Briana@Energy <Briana.Ziff@Energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <jared.babula@energy.ca.gov>; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy <Crystal.Cabrera@Energy.ca.gov>; Megan Svedman <megan.svedman@intersectpower.com>

Subject: Re: Darden Application for Confidentiality - Community Benefits Agreement

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Briana,

Thank you for the outreach on this topic and the opportunity to remedy an insufficient confidentiality request. I am coordinating internally to determine the best approach. We received our second deficiency letter and data requests just today so we are reviewing everything together for our responses on the CEC. I assume we will withdraw this specific application for confidentiality and resubmit. Intersect Power intends to meet all written requirements and regulations for our application materials and not simply match what other opt-in applicants may have chosen to submit. I will reach out if there are any follow up questions.

Thank you,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Thu, Jun 6, 2024 at 11:38 AM Ziff, Briana@Energy <Briana.Ziff@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Becky,

We've met in previous meetings but as a refresher I am Briana Ziff, and I am an Attorney working on the Darden team. The CEC has received Darden's application for confidentiality (TN 256457) requesting confidentiality for the Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs) under trade secrets and public interest. Upon review, we have determined that the application does not meet the requirements of the confidentiality regulations under California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2505(a)(1)(D). Additionally, we disagree that the public interest is served in nondisclosure, and we intend to deny the application. For context, other opt-in projects that have requested confidentiality for their CBAs under trade secrets and public interest have similarly been denied.

Another thing to note, the CBAs include the following termination language: "Donor may terminate this Agreement by providing Recipient with 5 days' advance Notice (as defined in Section 9)." This termination language is not sufficient to make the CBA a binding agreement. The CEC and Intersect met May 23, 2024, to discuss this same issue for Perkins. While conditional language is allowed, the termination language that the donor can terminate for seemingly whatever reason is not. Perkins chose to withdraw their application and to make edits to the termination language.

We would like to offer Darden the same opportunity to withdraw the application and further, to make edits as needed to the CBAs. If you do not wish to withdraw this application for confidentiality as proposed, we will issue a letter denying the application. Please let me know if you have any questions. If you would like to discuss this in a meeting, I would be happy to set one up. I have included Senior Counsel in this email who are also available to assist with any concerns.

Best,

Briana Ziff

Attorney I

Advocacy and Compliance Unit

Chief Counsel's Office

California Energy Commission

Website: www.energy.ca.gov



From: Huber, Elizabeth@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=93F40660C3D446578D63390926FD5E5A-HUBER, ELIZ]
Sent: 7/19/2024 4:56:06 AM
To: Huber, Elizabeth@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93f40660c3d446578d63390926fd5e5a-Huber, Eliz]; Luke Dunnington (luke@intersectpower.com) [luke@intersectpower.com]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Vorters, Dian@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2c5604e712a74c029e412542e0db72ac-Vorters, Di]; Fooks, Brett@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=870df74143964b71ada0039bf13c5a9a-Fooks, Bret]; Hughes, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7dd5e80572b644209e9607ba7bdc630-Hughes, Jos]
Subject: Elizabeth & Luke | Check in- In-Person
Location: In-person at CNRA Auditorium (1st Floor, 715 P St, Sac)
Start: 7/22/2024 11:00:00 PM
End: 7/22/2024 11:30:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Required Attendees: Luke Dunnington (luke@intersectpower.com); Knight, Eric@Energy; Vorters, Dian@Energy; Fooks, Brett@Energy; Hughes, Joseph@Energy

___ Elizabeth -

Hope you're well.

I'd like to propose that our meeting next Wednesday be in person, if you can accommodate that. I'd like to send you, ideally by Monday, a list of the remaining requests with a characterization of our thoughts on the path to resolution on each, so that you and I might roll up our sleeves together, and make some decisions on where resources or discretion is needed, in order to move forward.

We are now at a point where our schedule is in jeopardy. I'm raising the red flag. I'm very concerned and believe that we need to direct some pivots in approach if Darden, Perkins, and AB 205 are to be successful.

I have a call with the Vice Chair on Tuesday.

I'd also like to provide an update to Commissioner Gallardo, ideally next week, and will CC you on that request.

Looking forward to connecting and to driving advancement towards shared success here.

Luke

From: Watson, Carol@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=84E32D50C7DC47D89812B468A50090ED-WATSON, CAR]
Sent: 8/29/2024 2:06:09 PM
To: Saberón, Jameson [J71Q@pge.com]
CC: Stroud, Andrea@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9703ce11dc9547c78c64f22894500b5c-Martine, An]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Parker, Zachary [ZXP5@pge.com]
Subject: RE: question on PG&E standard construction measures

Jameson,

Thank you for your response. Can you answer any of the questions I posed in my original email, now in highlight?

Carol

From: Saberón, Jameson <J71Q@pge.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 3:52 PM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Parker, Zachary <ZXP5@pge.com>
Subject: RE: question on PG&E standard construction measures

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Classification: Public

Good afternoon, Carol.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. PG&E is aware of the measures as they were prepared by PG&E and submitted to Intersect Power for inclusion into their analysis to offset potential impacts that were identified and evaluated per our scope of work.

Best,

Jameson Saberón | Senior Environmental Land Planner – Electric Transmission
Pacific Gas & Electric Company | Mobile: 559.365.0144 | Jameson.Saberón@pge.com

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 10:30 AM
To: Saberón, Jameson <J71Q@pge.com>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: question on PG&E standard construction measures

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER!

This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Do you know this person? Are you expecting this email? Are you expecting any links or attachments? If suspicious, do not click links, open attachments, or provide credentials. Don't delete it. **Report it by using the "Report Phish" button.**

Good morning,

I'm a biologist working on the Darden Clean Energy Project proposed in San Joaquin Valley. As part of the project, there are downstream upgrades such as installation of fiber optic lines, and the applicant has referenced PG&E "Standard Construction Measures". Are you aware of these measures? I'm looking to find some information such how these were developed, what resource agencies (California Department of Fish and Wildlife and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) reviewed and approved these, and through what process. Do you know the answers or perhaps someone who might?

Thanks for your help,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



You can read about PG&E's data privacy practices at [PGE.com/privacy](https://www.pge.com/privacy).

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B89C4DE7ECE742679D19E1E3EE713DC2-CRISP, ANN@]
Sent: 9/17/2024 7:55:43 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Megan Svedman [megan.svedman@intersectpower.com]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Will Lutkewitte [will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com]
CC: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Cusato, Anthony@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92bb3e53fa2c490d87929b4b84ce28c9-b8359c82-60]; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed6e32a127144ccfa19a6f4347765a9e-00a33618-ff]; Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=88b6ef1fba134a2cb0aacd56262dc6c4-Pinkerton,]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - CBA
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Start: 9/18/2024 9:30:00 PM
End: 9/18/2024 10:00:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative
Recurrence: (none)
Required Attendees: Knight, Eric@Energy; Mayer, Alex@Energy; Megan Svedman; Becky Moores; Will Lutkewitte
Optional Attendees: Worrall, Lisa@Energy; Cusato, Anthony@Energy; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy; Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy

CEC legal and applicant meeting in re CBA terms. Will send brief summary before meeting.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 252 639 549 172

Passcode: 3VSpWG

Dial in by phone

[+1 916-562-1816,,384527564#](#) United States, Sacramento

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 384 527 564#

For organizers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)

From: Banaag, Kristine@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7473BBF12FE342F9B41E295636A76975-BANAAG, KRI]
Sent: 9/19/2024 1:32:35 AM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
CC: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Subject: RE: PLEASE REFILE: Darden Community Benefits Agreement Amendment

No worries, thank you for refile!

Thank you!

Kristine Banaag; 916-695-5189
Legal Secretary to Chief Counsel
California Energy Commission – Chief Counsel's Office, MS-14
715 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
www.energy.ca.gov



From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 5:59 PM
To: Banaag, Kristine@Energy <Kristine.Banaag@Energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: PLEASE REFILE: Darden Community Benefits Agreement Amendment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Kristine,

Apologies for that, in the past your system has immediately rejected any documents that weren't searchable and didn't allow them to upload. I will address this and resubmit.

Best,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com
Upcoming PTO: October 1 - 18

On Wed, Sep 18, 2024 at 6:54 PM Banaag, Kristine@Energy <Kristine.Banaag@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Thank you for your e-filing received today. Unfortunately, your document is not in searchable format. Please see the link to the Document Process guide for help to make your document searchable. Also attached. Please refile after you have made your document searchable. You will be receiving a rejection e-mail from the Energy Commission's Docket system.

 [Efiling Documents Guide July 2024.pdf](#)

Thank you,
Docket Unit

Kristine Banaag; 916-695-5189

Legal Secretary to Chief Counsel

California Energy Commission – Chief Counsel’s Office, MS-14

715 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

www.energy.ca.gov



From: Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 9/20/2024 8:19:43 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
Subject: Darden Complete Application

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Eric,
Congratulations on getting through the first stage of the application process, and thanks for pushing your team through to the end of this one. If you have a few minutes to connect next week, I'd love to pick your brain about a few items.

Marisa Mitchell
Head of Environmental and Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
415.846.0730
marisa@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-n-mitchell

From: Record, Jacquelyn@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=80A752975C1D44EFBD17FB602595A1E7-LEYVA, JACQ]
Sent: 9/16/2024 9:53:31 PM
To: Zeferino Aleman [Zeferino.Aleman@valleyair.org]
Subject: FW: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - Save The Date for Agency Contacts

Hello –

Just a fyi. Please set this day aside – It will be on October 16.

Thanks,
 Jacque

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2024 2:34 PM
To: Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy <Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov>; Ackerman, James@Energy <james.ackerman@energy.ca.gov>; Anita Cobb <anita.cobb@meadhunt.com>; Anmarie Medin <medin@pacificlegacy.com>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Brian Healy <healy@lifecycleassociates.com>; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy <Crystal.Cabrera@Energy.ca.gov>; Chuck Huffine <chuck.huffine@meadhunt.com>; Cusato, Anthony@Energy <anthony.cusato@energy.ca.gov>; Daniel Jones <djones@therchgroup.com>; David Tatsumi <david@tatsumiandpartners.com>; Ding, Yifan@Energy <Yifan.Ding@Energy.ca.gov>; Douglas, Joseph@Energy <Joseph.Douglas@energy.ca.gov>; Edirisuriya, Sudath@Energy <sudath.edirisuriya@energy.ca.gov>; Fooks, Brett@Energy <Brett.Fooks@energy.ca.gov>; Hesters, Mark@Energy <Mark.Hesters@energy.ca.gov>; Hughes, Joseph@Energy <Joseph.Hughes@energy.ca.gov>; Jennifer Taira <jennifer@tatsumiandpartners.com>; Jeff Harvey <jharvey@therchgroup.com>; Joakim Osthus <joakim.osthus@meadhunt.com>; Kerr, Steven@Energy <Steven.Kerr@energy.ca.gov>; Khoshmashrab, Shahab@Energy <Shahab.Khoshmashrab@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Lisa Harmon <lisa.harmon@meadhunt.com>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Michael Aceves <michael@tatsumiandpartners.com>; Paul Miller <pmiller@therchgroup.com>; Deaver, Paul@Energy <Paul.Deaver@energy.ca.gov>; Qian, Wenjun@Energy <Wenjun.Qian@energy.ca.gov>; Record, Jacquelyn@Energy <Jacquelyn.Record@energy.ca.gov>; Roark, Gabriel@Energy <gabriel.roark@energy.ca.gov>; Salyphone, Kenneth@Energy <kenneth.salyphone@energy.ca.gov>; schell <schell@pacificlegacy.com>; Sofi, Ardan@Energy <ardalan.sofi@energy.ca.gov>; Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; unnasch <unnasch@LifeCycleAssociates.com>; Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; White, Adam@Energy <Adam.White@Energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - Save The Date for Agency Contacts

Hi Darden team,

Please reach out to the agency staff that you have coordinated with directly on the Darden project and ask that they please save the date for an Informational and Scoping Meeting to be held on October 15 or 16. If you could by tomorrow that would be greatly appreciated.

The location will be as close to the project site as practicable. There will be a remote option.

This includes CDFW, Water Board, San Joaquin Valley APCD, Fresno County Fire Protection District, etc. So if you have coordinated directly with agency staff please send a Save the Date for October 15 or 16.

I will be sending an email to CPUC and Fresno County and other agencies on the mailing list, as appropriate.

Please cc me on the email so I have an idea of who might attend.

We plan to file the Determination of Complete Application on Sept 19. You can share a link to our website which has a timeline for process.

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program>

Thanks!

Ann

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Sent: 10/9/2024 9:48:57 PM
To: Jena Orlowski [jorlowski@appliedearthworks.com]
Subject: Fw: Darden Clean Energy Project

Hi Jena,

You could reach out to Intersect Power. If cultural resource monitoring or other mitigation is required for Darden, Intersect will hold the responsibility for hiring the appropriate disciplinary specialists.

The Draft EIR is estimated to be published by mid February 2025. You can subscribe to receive automated email notifications for Darden Clean Energy Project here: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/solar-photovoltaic-pv/darden-clean-energy-project>

Thank you,

Ann

Ann Crisp
Senior Environmental Planner
Siting and Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
1-916-352-0543

California Energy Commission
Website: www.energy.ca.gov



From: Jena Orlowski <jorlowski@appliedearthworks.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:05 AM
To: Energy - STEP Siting <STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Ann,

I was wondering if this project will be needing any archaeological/ cultural/paleontological services? Has an EIR etc. been done yet?

Thanks,
Jena

*Jena Orlowski, MA, RPA (4971) | Applied EarthWorks, Inc.
Associate Archaeologist / Project Administrator / GIS Tech I*

1391 W. Shaw Ave., Suite C
Fresno, CA 93711-3600
Cell 770-545-5245
jorlowski@appliedearthworks.com
Archaeology | Paleontology | Historical Architecture | GIS

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Sent: 10/14/2024 4:21:41 PM
To: Kate Kelly [kate@kgconsulting.net]
CC: Pamela Flick [PFlick@defenders.org]
Subject: Re: Darden (23-OPT-02) - Revised Project Description and NOP

Hi Kate,

Thank you for your interest in the Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). The NOP that was docketed on 9/23 complies with the applicable CEQA guidelines, which do not require a subsequent or revised NOP be circulated due to project changes. Also, there are still many opportunities for public participation and comments.

While public comments can be provided at any time during the proceeding, at this juncture of draft EIR scoping your scoping comments would be most helpful if received by October 24th.

The applicant provided a red-line strikethrough version and clean version of the updated project description last week in the docket.

If you have further questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Ann

Ann Crisp
Senior Environmental Planner
Siting and Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
1-916-352-0543

California Energy Commission
Website: www.energy.ca.gov



From: Kate Kelly <kate@kgconsulting.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 3:12 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Pamela Flick <PFlick@defenders.org>
Subject: Darden (23-OPT-02) - Revised Project Description and NOP

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Hello Ann,

The applicant docketed a memo on October 3rd advising the Darden project no longer includes a green hydrogen generation component. Will you be circulating a revised NOP with a link to an updated project description? Are comments still due October 24th?

Thanks,

Kate

Kate Kelly | Kelly Group
(530) 902-1615 | kate@kgconsulting.net

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
Sent: 10/15/2024 6:43:39 PM
To: Will Lutkewitte [will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com]
CC: Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
Subject: Re: Fw: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - BIO site visit request with CDFW

Hi Will,

I sent a follow up email and asked for final input by 2 PM today. I let the participants know about site conditions. We will have 3 vehicles:

- Carpool 1 - Driver Eric Knight (STEP Branch Mgr); Passengers: Elizabeth Huber (STEP Division Director), Dian Vorters (STEP Deputy Director), Joey Hughes (Eng. Program Mgr), Ann Crisp (Project Manager)
- Carpool 2 - Driver: Jimmy Qaundah (Special Advisor to Cmmr. Gallardo); Passengers: Commissioner Noemi Gallardo, Drew Bohan (Executive Director), Gabriel Roark (Cultural Resources Unit, Sup., Matt Pinkerton (Asst. Chief Counsel), Alex Mayer (Staff Counsel)
- Vehicle 3 - Robert Chun (Special Advisor to Chair Hochschild)

Is this the best contact in case of issues during travel to the site? Evelyn Langsdale, Rincon Consultants 925-231-5696

What time do you estimate Intersect will arrive at the venue tomorrow?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 10:38 AM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Fw: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - BIO site visit request with CDFW

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Hi Ann,

Do you have any comments on the site visit for Thursday with CEC staff?

Also could you provide a list of who will be attending from CEC so we make sure we don't leave without anyone who is supposed to attend?

Lastly, I want to note that the weather for Thursday currently looks like it'll be sunny with temperatures ranging in the 60s while we are out at the site. Anyone attending will want to bring sun protection (e.g., sunscreen, hats, sunglasses), water, and sturdy shoes. Please note, there will not be designated parking at the meeting locations

and we will want as few cars as possible congregating at each location. Any carpooling arrangements should be made ahead of time amongst your team members attending.

Sincerely,

Will Lutkewitte

Specialist, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(e) will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com

On Fri, Oct 11, 2024 at 1:02 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Will - thanks for this, will review and let you know if there is anything to add.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Friday, October 4, 2024 2:52 PM

To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: Fw: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - BIO site visit request with CDFW

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Ann,

Please find the tentative agenda and route for the site visit with Commissioner Gallardo and CEC staff attached below. Marisa and I will continue to coordinate with CDFW and CEC BIO staff in the other email thread with their tentative site visit agenda and route. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you and have a good weekend!

Sincerely,

Will Lutkewitte

Specialist, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(e) will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com

On Tue, Oct 1, 2024 at 5:40 PM Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com> wrote:

Hi Ann, yes we've asked Rincon to pull together an agenda and route for the site visit, so they're already working on it. We should be able to get it to you in the next couple of days.

Marisa Mitchell

Head of Environmental and Permitting

INTERSECT POWER
415.846.0730
marisa@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-n-mitchell

On Tue, Oct 1, 2024 at 2:05 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:
Hi Marisa,

Looping you in...could you please see below the questions below in highlight? Since Cmmr Gallardo and others will be attending the site visit it would be helpful to have a brief agenda and the locations you plan to take the tour.

In addition, CEC staff has confirmed that CDFW will be able to the meet on the 17th. BIO staff will be driving down that morning from Sacramento so will not arrive until around 1030. Becky was coordinating a seperate tour for BIO. Could you please provide a contact so BIO can provide the locations they would like to visit? I can start a separate email chain with CDFW and BIO.

Thanks again for accommodating the team.

Ann

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2024 12:14 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - BIO site visit request with CDFW

Hi Becky,

Would your team like to prepare a brief agenda with a start time of 9 AM for the site visit? How long do you estimate your tour would take? I will find out if there are any particular locations staff would like to see. Could you send a list of the stops you anticipate providing a good overview?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2024 10:25 AM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - BIO site visit request with CDFW

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Hi Ann,

Yes, those start times should work fine. We will plan to visit several locations throughout the project area. If there are any particular locations or intersections that folks would like to stop at please pass that along and

we can definitely work it in. Rincon will be the tour guides and can run through the plan that morning when all parties are present.

Thanks,

Becky

On Mon, Sep 30, 2024, 10:29 AM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:
Hi Becky,

That is great, thanks! BIO staff is coordinating with CDFW and we will update you soon. BIO staff will be driving down that morning from Sacramento so will not arrive until around 1030.

For the main CEC group, that will be spending the night, would a 9 AM start work for the site visit?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 4:35 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - BIO site visit request with CDFW

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Rincon confirmed they can have two biologists on site on 10/17 to guide the groups.

Thanks,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com
Upcoming PTO: October 1 - 18

On Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 4:39 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:
Thanks Becky, I will coordinate on my end once you can verify, thanks! Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 3:32 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - BIO site visit request with CDFW

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Great, thanks for checking with them on that. We can likely coordinate multiple guides and biologists as needed for the visit with various parties on the 17th. We will work on that on our end to verify.

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com
Upcoming PTO: October 1 - 18

On Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 2:30 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:
Hi Becky,

I can reach out and find out their availability for the 17th, however CDFW and BIO staff have other areas to visit than what the Commissioner and other staff would likely want to see.... and may want to stay longer at particular locations....could you accommodate a separate person to meet up with just BIO and CDFW?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 2:06 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) - BIO site visit request with CDFW

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Hi Ann,

Is CDFW able to attend the site visit on 10/17? Would be great if we could have everyone there that day and we can accommodate various arrival times as needed.

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com
Upcoming PTO: October 1 - 18

On Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 2:01 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:
Hi Becky,

CEC BIO staff and CDFW would like to visit the site on Oct 24. Would you be able to have someone meet up with them to show them the site? It would be preferred that a biologist from your project team meet up?

They would like to see the utility switchyard and adjacent environment, the gen-tie line, and representative areas of the solar field for now. There may be other areas they would like to visit.

Carol Watson could meet by around 10:30 and plan to spend a few hours. Jim Vang from CDFW would also attend.

Please let me know if your able to accommodate this request and if this date works for you?

Thanks!

Ann

Ann Crisp

Senior Environmental Planner

Siting and Environmental Branch

Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

1-916-352-0543

California Energy Commission

Website: www.energy.ca.gov

From: Watson, Carol@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=84E32D50C7DC47D89812B468A50090ED-WATSON, CAR]
Sent: 11/7/2024 1:40:40 AM
To: Nelson, Matthew J [matthew_nelson@fws.gov]
CC: Stroud, Andrea@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9703ce11dc9547c78c64f22894500b5c-Martine, An]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite
Attachments: PG&E standard construction measures TN 256296.docx; USFWS species info and maps.docx

Good afternoon:

Thanks for your time last week. Here is some language and maps to help orient you to the project and potential impacts. Purple is the gentie line. Orangish polygon is CDNNB polygon. Utility switchyard and fiber optic lines (3 alternatives) is, as I mentioned, part of the project but would ultimately be deeded to PG&E, under the purview of the CA Public Utilities Commission. Generally north- south lines are the fiber optic upgrades (on either side of I-5). I've also attached the PG&E construction measures which we may wish to augment with our own measures.

Let me know who we should pull in from the Migratory Bird Office. I'd like to have us meet soon, given the pressing deadline that this project is on.
As a quick reminder and not pictured in the maps, it's a 9,100-acre PV field too.

Let me know if there are questions!

Carol

From: Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 8:13 AM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

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Good morning Carol,

Thank you for following up, huge apologies for missing your last email! I was out in the field last week and things got pretty hectic, I appreciate your patience.

How does Thursday (10/31) look for you? I have pretty open availability after 10:30am that day. Let me know what you think, thanks!

Best,
Matthew James Nelson
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
USFWS; San Joaquin Valley Division
(916) 414-6701
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

"In an effort to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), staff in the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office have implemented an aggressive telework schedule. At this time, we are responding to requests for information via email or phone as often as possible as we do not have the in-office capacity to support regular mail service. We appreciate your understanding."

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 8:00 AM

To: Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>; Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

<p>This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.</p>
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Good morning, Matt

Checking back in, as we have a fresh week ahead of us. Do you have time this week to meet?

Best,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Watson, Carol@Energy

Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 2:41 PM

To: [Matthew_nelson@fws.gov](mailto:matthew_nelson@fws.gov); Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

Hi, Matthew,

It's been quite some time and I'd like to reintroduce this proposed project and myself to you. I am the lead biologist for the CA Energy Commission, and would like to have a meeting with you to introduce the project and discuss potential impacts and approach. I've proposed an agenda below to orient us and a link to our dockets page where you can find the project files is in my below previous email. If you'd like help or can't find something, don't hesitate to ask. I pasted a snip of the project below.

Available times:

10-21: 11a.m.-2p.m.

10-23: 9a.m.-11a.m.

10-25 all day

Proposed Agenda:

Quick Overview of CEC timeline and Process: AB-205-driven EIR (CEQA) process

270 day timeline

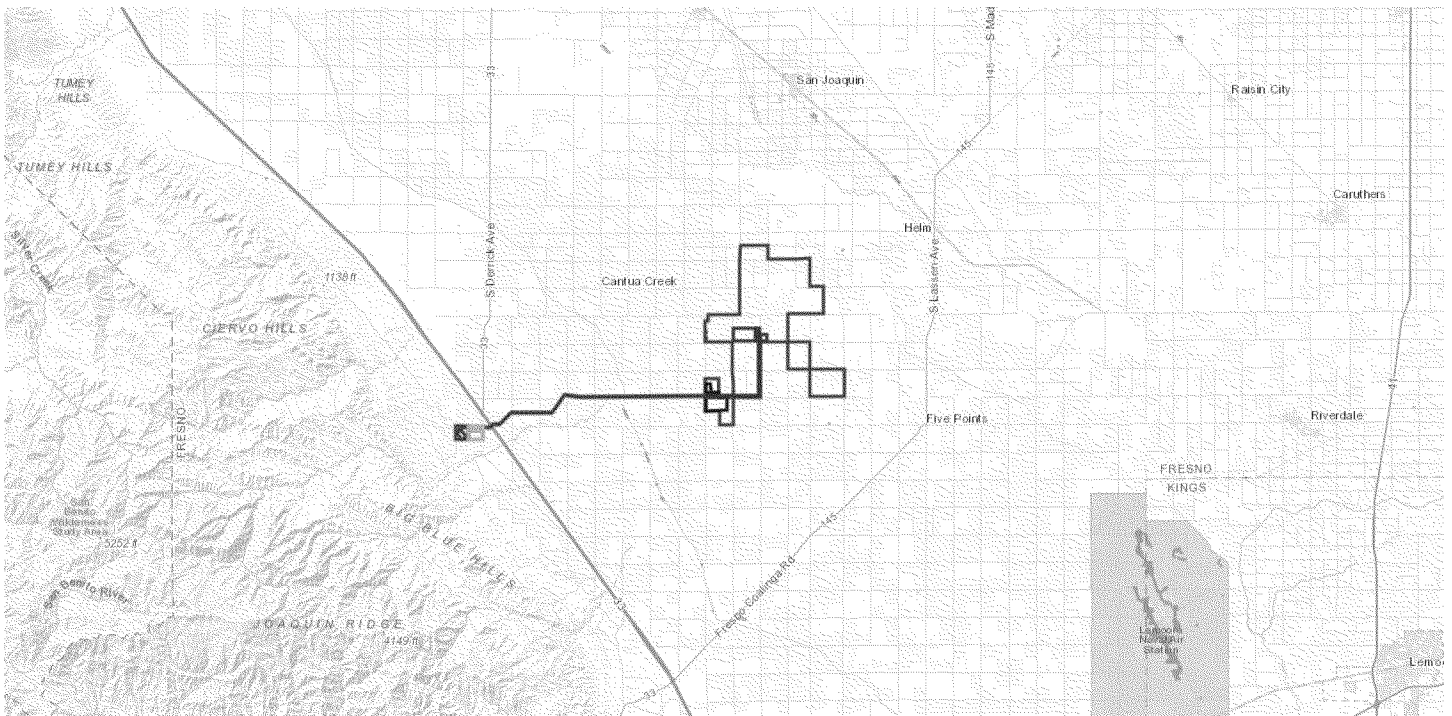
Draft EIR published February 2025

Project Overview: stands as in previous email below, now minus the green hydrogen energy portion

permanently impact 452.08 acres and temporarily impact 9,353.15 acres of landcover mapped as agricultural (with no horizontal PV panels -elaborated for SWHA)

Species Overview: Swainson's hawk state take permit, CA tiger salamander, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, condor, San Joaquin kits. No WOTUS to be impacted

Issues Overview: mig birds and the expansive solar field (approx. 9,000 acres). Important Bird Areas nearby. Mitigation and monitoring scheme?



From:

Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Sent on:

Monday, December 11, 2023 8:22:20 PM

To:

Matthew_nelson@fws.gov; Sanzenbacher, Peter <peter_sanzenbacher@fws.gov>

CC:

Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>

Subject:

Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Project Introduction

Good afternoon! I'm emailing to make you aware that the Energy Commission has received an application for a new project (Opt-in application under Public Resources Code 25519) for the Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project would be in Fresno County, consisting of 9,500 acres. The project consists of a 1,150 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility, an up to 4,600 megawatt-hour battery energy storage system (BESS), an up to 1,150 MW green hydrogen generator, a 34.5-500 kilovolt (kV) grid step-up substation, a 10- to 15-mile 500 kV generation intertie (gen-tie) line, and a 500 kV utility switching station. The project would interconnect to the existing PG&E Los Banos-Midway #2 500 kV transmission line. The project would be located in an agricultural area of unincorporated Fresno County south of the community of Cantua Creek.

For more information and to download application files, please visit
here: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-OPT-02>

Species/Topics of interest include:

California Condor
SJKF
Blunt-nosed leopard lizard
Migratory Birds

I will be in touch soon to set up a kick-off meeting; in the meantime, please let me know if I have reached the correct personnel for this project.

Thank you,

Best,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Cell: #702.370.1019



Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Cell: #702.370.1019



Worker Environmental Awareness Training A qualified biologist will develop an environmental awareness training program that is specific to the project. All on-site construction personnel will attend the training before they begin work on the project. Training will include a discussion of the construction management practices that are being implemented to protect biological resources as well as the terms and conditions of any project permits. Transmission System Design CEC Data Request Response Set #4 47 Standard Construction Practices The following standard construction practices will be implemented, as feasible, to reduce the potential for environmental impacts. • Vehicle parking: vehicles and equipment will be parked on pavement, existing roads, and previously disturbed areas to the extent practicable. • Work hours: work will occur only during daylight hours, unless required to occur at night due to line clearances for worker safety. • Vehicle access: the development of new access and ROW roads will be minimized, and clearing vegetation and blading for temporary vehicle access will be avoided to the extent practicable. • Speed limit: vehicles will not exceed a speed limit of 15 mph in the ROWs or on unpaved roads within sensitive land-cover types. • Restoration and erosion control: on completion of any project component, all areas that are significantly disturbed and not necessary for future operations, shall be stabilized to resist erosion, and re-vegetated and re-contoured if necessary, to promote restoration of the area to pre-disturbance conditions. Dead or injured listed species: personnel will be required to report any accidental death or injury of a listed species or the finding of any dead or injured listed species to a qualified Biologist. Notification of CDFW and/or USFWS of any accidental death or injury of a listed species shall be done in accordance with standard reporting procedures. Special-status amphibians and reptiles. If suitable habitat for listed amphibians and reptiles is present, and protocol-level surveys have not been conducted, a qualified biologist will conduct preconstruction surveys prior to activities involving excavation. If necessary, barrier fencing will be constructed around the worksite to prevent reentry by the covered amphibians and reptiles. A qualified biologist will stake and flag an appropriate exclusion zone around the potentially occupied habitat. No monofilament plastic will be used for erosion control in the vicinity of listed amphibians and reptiles. Barrier fencing will be removed upon completion of work. Crews will also inspect trenches left open for more than 24 hours for trapped amphibians and reptiles. A qualified biologist will be contacted before trapped amphibians or reptiles (excluding blunt nosed leopard lizard and limestone salamander-which will not be handled) are moved to nearby suitable habitat. Avoid giant kangaroo rat and San Joaquin antelope squirrel. Personnel shall avoid occupied or potentially occupied burrows identified by a qualified biologist within two core-areas for San Joaquin antelope squirrel and giant kangaroo rat identified by CDFW. If occupied or potentially occupied burrows in the core areas cannot be avoided, a qualified biologist shall stake and flag an appropriate work-exclusion zone and remain on-site as a biological monitor, or the biologist shall stake and flag an appropriate work exclusion zone around active burrows prior to covered activities at the job site. If work must proceed in the exclusion zone, crews will pursue techniques to minimize direct mortality including using approved biologists to trap and hold the species in captivity, and excavating and closing burrows. The approved biologist will hold an ESA Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit for the species. The approved biologist will release the mammals as soon as possible when the work is complete. If active (occupied or potentially occupied) burrows for San Joaquin antelope squirrel or giant or Tipton kangaroo rat are present outside the two core areas identified by CDFW, a qualified biologist will stake and flag an appropriate exclusion zone and remain on-site as a biological monitor, or the biologist shall stake and flag an appropriate work exclusion zone around the burrows prior to work activities on the job site. Exclusion zones for blunt-nosed leopard lizard. If activities take place within the range of the species and outside the road shoulder, a qualified biologist will identify if burrows are present and if work can avoid burrows. If work cannot avoid the burrows, a qualified biologist will evaluate the site for occupancy and stake and flag an appropriate exclusion zone around the burrows prior to activities at the job site. IP Darden I, LLC and Affiliates Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) 48 Conduct preconstruction surveys and avoidance of active

western burrowing owl burrows. PG&E will retain a qualified biologist to conduct preconstruction surveys for active burrows no more than 30 days prior and no less than 14 days prior to the start of construction in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFW, 2012). If western burrowing owls are present at the site, a qualified biologist will establish an exclusion zone in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFW, 2012). If a biologist experienced with burrowing owl determines the relocation of owls is necessary, a passive relocation effort may be conducted as described below, in coordination with CDFW as appropriate. During the nonbreeding season (generally 1 September–31 January), a qualified biologist may passively relocate burrowing owls found within construction areas. Prior to passively relocating burrowing owls, a Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan shall be prepared by a qualified biologist in accordance with Appendix E of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFW, 2012). The Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan shall be submitted to the CDFW for review as required. The biologist shall accomplish such relocations using one-way burrow doors installed and left in place for at least two nights; owls exiting their burrows will not be able to re-enter. Then, immediately before the start of construction activities, the biologists shall remove all doors and excavate the burrows to ensure that no animals are present in the burrow. The excavated burrows shall then be backfilled. To prevent evicted owls from occupying other burrows in the impact area, the biologist shall, before eviction occurs, (1) install one-way doors and backfill all potentially suitable burrows within the impact area, and (2) install one-way doors in all suitable burrows located within approximately 50 feet of the active burrow, then remove them once the displaced owls have settled elsewhere. When temporary or permanent burrow-exclusion methods are implemented, the following steps shall be taken: Prior to excavation, a qualified biologist shall verify that evicted owls have access to multiple, unoccupied, alternative burrows, located nearby (within 250 feet) and outside of the projected disturbance zone. If no suitable alternative natural burrows are available for the owls, then, for each owl that is evicted, at least two artificial burrows shall be installed in suitable nearby habitat areas. Installation of any required artificial burrows preferably shall occur at least two to three weeks before the relevant evictions occur, to give the owls time to become familiar with the new burrow locations before being evicted. The artificial burrow design and installation shall be described in the Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan per Appendix E of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFW, 2012). Passive relocation of burrowing owls shall be limited in areas adjacent to Project activities that have a sustained or low-level disturbance regime; this approach shall allow burrowing owls that are tolerant of Project activities to occupy quality, suitable nesting and refuge burrows. The use of passive relocation techniques in a given area shall be determined by a qualified biologist who may consult with CDFW, and shall depend on existing and future conditions (e.g., time of year, vegetation/topographic screening, and disturbance regimes). Exclusion zones for special-status plants. If a covered plant species is present following special-status plant surveys, a qualified biologist will stake and flag exclusion zones of 100 feet around plant occupied habitat (both the standing individuals and the seed bank individuals) of the covered species prior to performing the activities. If an exclusion zone cannot extend the specified distance from the habitat, the biologist will stake and flag a restricted activity zone of the maximum practicable distance from the exclusion zone around the habitat. This exclusion zone distance is a guideline that may be modified by a qualified biologist, based on site-specific conditions (including habituation by the species to background disturbance levels). Nesting Birds If work is anticipated to occur within the nesting bird season (February–September), nesting birds, including raptors and other species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, may be impacted. If active nests are discovered, exclusionary measures and/or designated avoidance buffers may be required and implemented according to the guidance in the PG&E Nesting Bird Management Plan. For nests discovered during construction, PG&E implements Work Procedure (WP) 2321 to identify and avoid impacts to nesting birds. WP 2321 generally requires assistance from the project biologist to determine if the construction action will impact the nest, and if so,

identify whether alternative actions or monitoring can be implemented to avoid impacts. If active nests are observed during construction, crews must immediately alert the PG&E project biologist.

CEC Comment Regarding California Tiger Salamander (CTS): The Special-Status Species Evaluation Table (Appendix Q-2, p. Q-2-9) states: "A perennial pond for grazing cattle with nearby ground squirrel burrows occurs west of the utility switchyard within the BSA. However, there is no suitable habitat in the BSA within the 1.2-mile dispersal distance of this species". However, according to staff's review of applicant's data (including shapefiles), Impoundments 1 and 2 (TN 253038-3, pps. 31 of 57 and 32 of 57) are located immediately adjacent to the border of the "Utility Switchyard Parcel" and less than 0.26 and 0.16 miles (respectively) from the boundary of the "Utility Switchyard". These locations may contain suitable habitat for CTS and are well within

dispersal distance of 1.2 miles. There is also another immediately offsite portion described under San Joaquin coachwhip as "An area of suitable open dry habitat with nearby ground squirrel burrows occurs west of the switch yard within the BSA." (p. Q-2-11), that could be potentially suitable habitat for CTS within dispersal distance. Portions of the utility switchyard and gen tie line may also provide suitable habitat for CTS with the presence of ground squirrel burrows. These mapping discrepancies should be resolved as part of the response to data requests (DR BIO13, BIO-14 and BIO-34). Please ensure the responses provide additional information on the applicant's determination that there is no potential for CTS to occur and include the results of any offsite survey data.

Applicant Response: The entire Project site consists of agricultural lands that are disked and managed as retired agricultural parcels, with a small number of orchards and occasionally active agriculture fields cultivated with vegetables in years with greater-than-normal precipitation (refer to the response to DR BIO-5). While marginally suitable habitat and marginal aquatic habitat are present in the vicinity as described below, the Project site itself supports no suitable aquatic or refugia habitat for CTS. California tiger salamander inhabits annual grasslands and open woodlands and requires upland habitat with underground refugia and seasonal water sources for breeding. The species spends most of its life with little movement in underground small mammal burrows; however, during the breeding season typically between November and February, this species migrates at night during rain events, traveling between upland habitat and breeding ponds (Orloff 2011). This species is closely associated with California ground squirrel underground burrows (Trenham 2001), and active populations of burrowing rodents are likely required to sustain California tiger salamanders as inactive burrow systems collapse and become progressively unsuitable over time (Loredo et al. 1996). Aquatic breeding sites include vernal pools and other seasonal ponds and stock ponds that typically have minimal emergent vegetation, lack predatory fish or bullfrogs, and are inundated for at least 12 weeks during the breeding season to allow for larval metamorphosis to be completed. The utility switchyard and gen-tie line are in areas of agricultural production comprised of actively managed orchards, occasional vegetable crops tilled and planted only during years of greater-than-normal precipitation, retired agricultural parcels that are regularly disked, or disturbed areas that are graded and non-friable (as shown in Photographs 1 through 9 in Appendix Q-4, Site IP Darden I, LLC and Affiliates Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) 12 Photographs). While California ground squirrels were observed within the BSA along roadsides, and around the edges of the alternate green hydrogen component location, most of the Project site (including the orchard within the utility switchyard footprint, as shown in Photograph 1 in Appendix Q-4, Site Photographs) is unsuitable for California ground squirrels. Annual grassland occurs along the western edge of the Ciervo Hills. Two seasonal cattle ponds

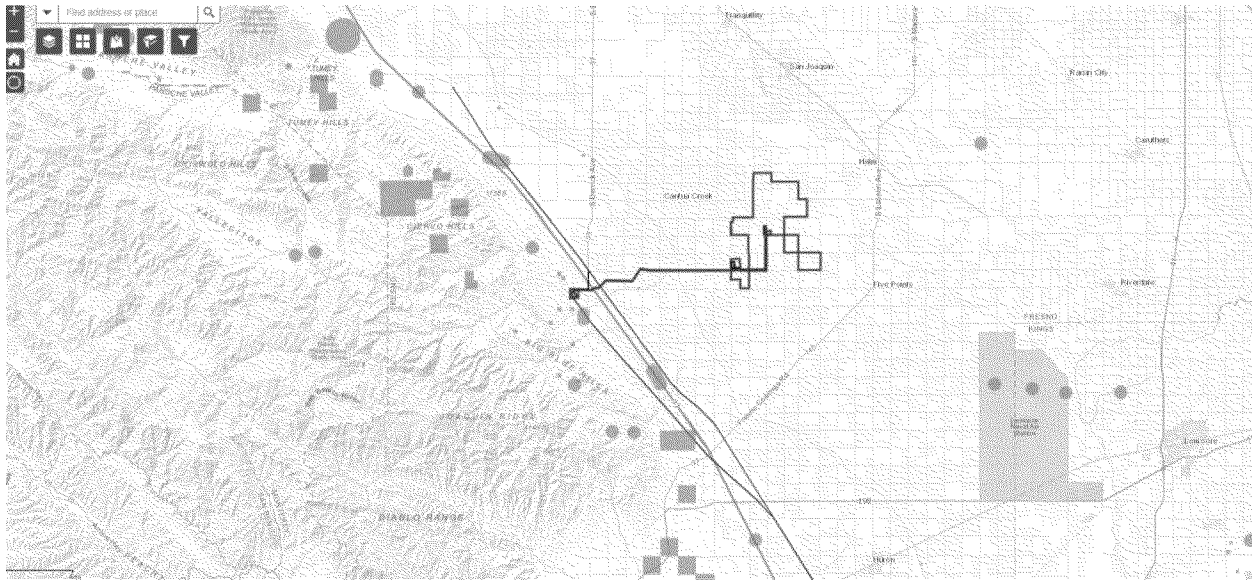
(Impoundments 1 and 2) are within the non-native grassland, approximately 0.46 mile west of, and immediately adjacent to the Project site. Both ponds are small (approximately 0.07 and 0.09 acre), intermittently dry, and isolated (no other ponded water occurs within California tiger salamander dispersal range of Impoundments 1 and 2). As identified on page Q-2-9 of Appendix Q-2, Special-Status Species Evaluation Tables, there are no California tiger salamander occurrences within 10 miles of the BSA. Additionally, there are no known occurrences of this species on the eastern edge of the Ciervo Hills. As such, there is low potential for this species to occur within the grassland habitat or cattle ponds outside the Project site. While a limited number of California ground squirrels occur along roadsides in the vicinity of the utility switchyard and gen-tie line, there is low potential for California tiger salamander to occur within these areas, as the only potential dispersal location is the grassland habitat to the west, which has a low potential for this species to occur, as described above. Additionally, the land cover within the utility switchyard Project area consists of an actively managed orchard and areas that are regularly disked. This area does not present suitable dispersal habitat and California tiger salamander are not expected to occur within the Project site.

California condor

Low (foraging)/ Not Likely to Occur (roosting/nesting). Occur in vast expanses of open savannah, grasslands, and foothill chaparral in mountain ranges of moderate altitude. Foraging habitat includes open grasslands, oak savannah foothills, and beaches adjacent to coastal mountains. Roost on large trees or snags, or on rocky outcrops and cliffs. Nests are located in caves and ledges of steep rocky terrain or in cavities and broken tops of old growth conifers. May occasionally fly in the area near or over the project. No CNDDDB map provided as there are no close occurrences.

San Joaquin Kit Fox

Present. Occur in the San Joaquin Valley and associated foothills, and flatlands such as the Carrizo Plain and Panoche Valley. Habitat includes alkali sink, valley grassland, and woodland in valleys and adjacent foothills. Suitable habitat within (utility switchyard) and immediately adjacent to the west of the substation parcel. California ground squirrel, Botta's pocket gopher, and Heermann's kangaroo rat provide suitable burrows in the western portion of project. May disperse through or forage within the utility switchyard, gen-tie line corridor, and fiber optic lines.



Mig Birds:

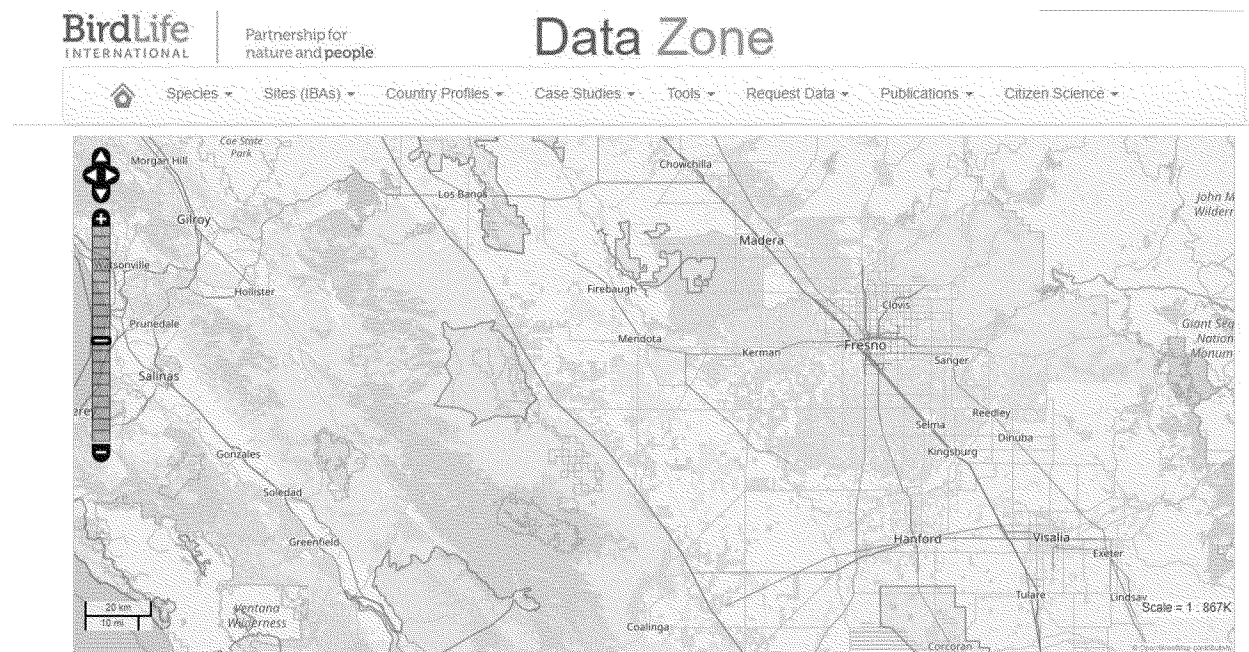
From my analysis so far:

For migratory bird species, the project site is located within the Pacific Flyway, a significant avian migration route. The Pixley National Wildlife Refuge and the Kern National Wildlife Refuge are both located approximately 50 miles south of the site, and the Mendota Wildlife Area, located approximately 10 miles north of the project site, are recognized stopover locations for migratory birds travelling along the Pacific Flyway (USFWS 2024, CDFW 2024). The Mendota Wildlife Area is an "Important Bird Area" (IBA) as defined by BirdLife International, implemented by Audubon and local partners in the United States. The IBA program identifies and aims to conserve areas that are vital to birds and other biodiversity, and the Mendota Wildlife Area has state priority (Audubon 2024). As stated by Audubon (2024) "Located at the historical confluence of the San Joaquin and the Kings rivers, this IBA includes the 12,425-acre Wildlife Area as well as the Producer's Dairy, which covers an area east of the refuge and the Alkali Sink Ecological Reserve at the north boundary of the IBA. Primarily managed for winter waterfowl, Mendota is characterized by large, marshy impoundments with 3000 acres of agricultural lands planted in silage for cattle..."

Other species documented include nesting white-faced ibis (*Plegadis chihi*), breeding tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*), and breeding black-crowned night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*). "Winter and spring shorebird use is high, with over 10,000 birds present on peak spring days. Because some water is available during the summer, the wetlands on the refuge are also utilized by breeding Northern Harrier [*Circus hudsonius*], and both Black and Forster's terns [*Chlidonias niger*, *Sterna forsteri*] have summered and

may eventually breed..." (Audubon 2024). Late fall brings ducks and geese, sandhill crane [*Antigone canadensis*], and spring brings shorebirds to the draining impoundments. Riparian species such as white-tailed kite [*Elanus leucurus*] and blue grosbeak [*Passerina caerulea*], may be found here, particularly at the Mendota Pool. The Alkali Sink Ecological Reserve area is regularly used by greater and lesser sandhill cranes, northern harriers (*Circus hudsonius*), Swainson's hawks (*Buteo swainsoni*), mountain plover (*Anarhynchus montanus*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) and tricolored blackbirds.

Approximately 25 miles north of the proposed project lies the poorly studied Lone River Slough. As stated by Audubon (2024), it is "...a 30,000-acre patch of vernal pool-rich grassland, alkali scrub and freshwater marsh (i.e. the slough) with narrow bands of riparian woodland and that has somehow survived the agricultural transformation of western Fresno/Madera Co. Located northeast of Firebaugh, this habitat may represent the largest intact swath of unplowed valley floor in the San Joaquin Valley (R. Hansen, pers. comm.)." It is known to support Swainson's hawk, great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), and white-faced ibis. There is potential for the presence of migratory bird species within the project site due to the proximity to these areas, as well as the Pacific Flyway.



From: Nelson, Matthew J [matthew_nelson@fws.gov]
Sent: 11/26/2024 10:09:22 PM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=84e32d50c7dc47d89812b468a50090ed-Watson, Car]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) 2nd meet

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Carol,

I'll shoot you an invite for tomorrow afternoon and we can chat!

We can talk about what you've learned from mig birds, and my supervisor had some clarifying questions I wanted to run by you as well. Talk soon!

Best,
 Matthew James Nelson
 Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 USFWS; San Joaquin Valley Division
 (916) 414-6701
 2800 Cottage Way
 Sacramento, CA 95825

"In an effort to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), staff in the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office have implemented an aggressive telework schedule. At this time, we are responding to requests for information via email or phone as often as possible as we do not have the in-office capacity to support regular mail service. We appreciate your understanding."

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2024 8:01 AM
To: Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) 2nd meet

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Good morning,

If you can squeeze in a meeting next week that would be great.
 Let me know if any of these times work next week:

Monday: 10-12, 1-3
 Tuesday: any time 8-2
 Wednesday: any time 8 to 2

I can update you on my meeting with Mig birds and see if you've had any thoughts about the species we discussed before (, CA tiger salamander, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, condor, San Joaquin kits, and also I've added CA

jewelflower and giant k-rat to my list of potentially affected species). The 2 recently-added species could potentially occur in the portion of the portion to the west in the foothills along existing transmission lines, where the fiber optic lines and other improvements would occur.

Best,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 12:49 PM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

<p>CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.</p>

Hello Carol,

Thank you for following up. I see you've found a good mig birds point of contact and have a meeting scheduled for tomorrow, that's great! I am unfortunately out on leave tomorrow so I won't be able to attend. However, if you have meeting notes you're able to send along that would be great, or we can find a time to chat next week. Thanks again!

Best,
Matthew James Nelson
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
USFWS; San Joaquin Valley Division
(916) 414-6701
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

"In an effort to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), staff in the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office have implemented an aggressive telework schedule. At this time, we are responding to requests for information via email or phone as often as possible as we do not have the in-office capacity to support regular mail service. We appreciate your understanding."

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:30 PM
To: Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

Good afternoon, Matt,

Checking in to see if you had any questions or thoughts on the project/impacts, and if you've identified a migratory bird office staffer to help us with this project?

Thanks!
Carol

From: Watson, Carol@Energy
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 5:41 PM
To: Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

Good afternoon:

Thanks for your time last week. Here is some language and maps to help orient you to the project and potential impacts. Purple is the gentie line. Orangish polygon is CDNNB polygon. Utility switchyard and fiber optic lines (3 alternatives) is, as I mentioned, part of the project but would ultimately be deeded to PG&E, under the purview of the CA Public Utilities Commission. Generally north- south lines are the fiber optic upgrades (on either side of I-5). I've also attached the PG&E construction measures which we may wish to augment with our own measures.

Let me know who we should pull in from the Migratory Bird Office. I'd like to have us meet soon, given the pressing deadline that this project is on.

As a quick reminder and not pictured in the maps, it's a 9,100-acre PV field too.

Let me know if there are questions!

Carol

From: Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 8:13 AM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

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--

Good morning Carol,

Thank you for following up, huge apologies for missing your last email! I was out in the field last week and things got pretty hectic, I appreciate your patience.

How does Thursday (10/31) look for you? I have pretty open availability after 10:30am that day. Let me know what you think, thanks!

Best,
Matthew James Nelson
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
USFWS; San Joaquin Valley Division
(916) 414-6701
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

"In an effort to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), staff in the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office have implemented an aggressive telework schedule. At this time, we are responding to requests for information via email or phone as often as possible as we do not have the in-office capacity to support regular mail service. We appreciate your understanding."

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 8:00 AM

To: Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>; Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

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--

Good morning, Matt

Checking back in, as we have a fresh week ahead of us. Do you have time this week to meet?

Best,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Watson, Carol@Energy

Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 2:41 PM

To: Matthew_nelson@fws.gov; Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Kickoff Meeting Invite

Hi, Matthew,

It's been quite some time and I'd like to reintroduce this proposed project and myself to you. I am the lead biologist for the CA Energy Commission, and would like to have a meeting with you to introduce the project and discuss potential impacts and approach. I've proposed an agenda below to orient us and a link to our dockets page where you can find the project files is in my below previous email. If you'd like help or can't find something, don't hesitate to ask. I pasted a snip of the project below.

Available times:

10-21: 11a.m.-2p.m.

10-23: 9a.m.-11a.m.

10-25 all day

Proposed Agenda:

Quick Overview of CEC timeline and Process: AB-205-driven EIR (CEQA) process

270 day timeline

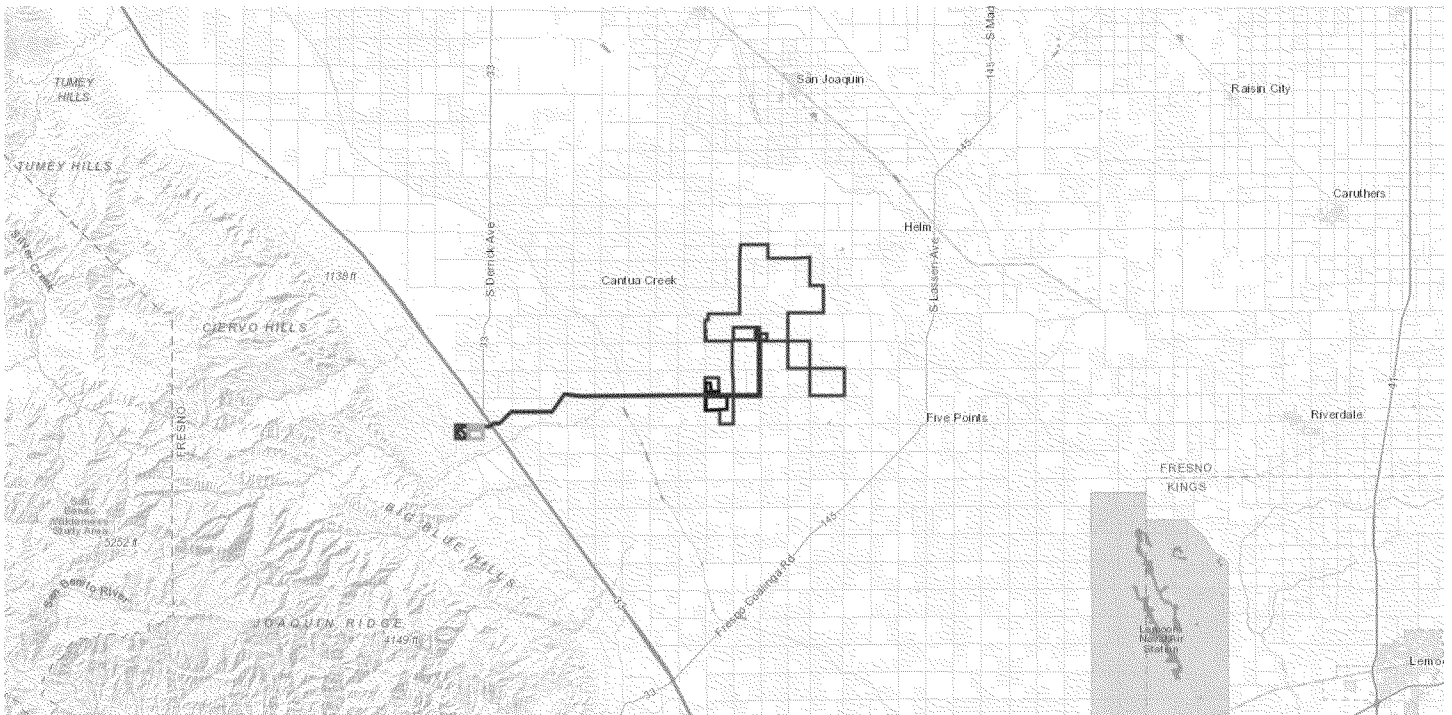
Draft EIR published February 2025

Project Overview: stands as in previous email below, now minus the green hydrogen energy portion

permanently impact 452.08 acres and temporarily impact 9,353.15 acres of landcover mapped as agricultural (with no horizontal PV panels -elaborated for SWHA)

Species Overview: Swainson's hawk state take permit, CA tiger salamander, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, condor, San Joaquin kits. No WOTUS to be impacted

Issues Overview: mig birds and the expansive solar field (approx. 9,000 acres). Important Bird Areas nearby. Mitigation and monitoring scheme?



From:

Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Sent on: Monday, December 11, 2023 8:22:20 PM
To: Matthew_nelson@fws.gov; Sanzenbacher, Peter <peter_sanzenbacher@fws.gov>
CC: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Project Introduction

Good afternoon! I'm emailing to make you aware that the Energy Commission has received an application for a new project (Opt-in application under Public Resources Code 25519) for the Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02). This project would be in Fresno County, consisting of 9,500 acres. The project consists of a 1,150 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility, an up to 4,600 megawatt-hour battery energy storage system (BESS), an up to 1,150 MW green hydrogen generator, a 34.5-500 kilovolt (kV) grid step-up substation, a 10- to 15-mile 500 kV generation intertie (gen-tie) line, and a 500 kV utility switching station. The project would interconnect to the existing PG&E Los Banos-Midway #2 500 kV transmission line. The project would be located in an agricultural area of unincorporated Fresno County south of the community of Cantua Creek.

For more information and to download application files, please visit
here: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-OPT-02>

Species/Topics of interest include:

California Condor
SJKF
Blunt-nosed leopard lizard
Migratory Birds

I will be in touch soon to set up a kick-off meeting; in the meantime, please let me know if I have reached the correct personnel for this project.

Thank you,

Best,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Cell: #702.370.1019



Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street

Sacramento, CA 95814
Cell: #702.370.1019



From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 12/3/2024 12:48:34 AM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Will Lutkewitte [will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Haws, Marichka@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=952e0b50c8ae422588958c273050b0b0-Haws, Maric]
Subject: Re: IP Darden SLides
Attachments: 2024.10.16_Darden CEC Public Scoping Meeting_Slide Deck_Spanish.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Ann,

The Spanish version of Intersect's presentation at the scoping meeting is attached.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Mon, Nov 4, 2024 at 5:07 PM Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com> wrote:
 Got it, I will get our community engagement consultant started on the translation.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Mon, Nov 4, 2024 at 12:53 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:
 Hi Becky,

If they are employed as a translator or do this as part of their job that would suffice, but if is a lay person who would translate the slides then we can have it sent to the translation service. Please let me know so I can plan for next steps.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 2:55 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight,

Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Haws, Marichka@Energy <Marichka.Haws@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: IP Darden SLides

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Hi Ann,

I'll coordinate to get one of our consultants to prepare a Spanish version. I don't know if they are a "certified translation service" so please let me know if that is a concern.

Thanks,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Mon, Oct 28, 2024 at 8:42 AM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:
Hi Becky,

Following up on this topic below? If you don't have access to certified translation services we can request that be taken care of by the CEC contractor? Thank you for posting the PPT to the docket on Friday.

We have posted all the CEC presentations to the Events page so would like to get the applicant's presentations posted, as well.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2024 10:23 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Haws, Marichka@Energy <Marichka.Haws@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: IP Darden SLides

Hi Becky,

If you don't have access to certified translation services we can request that be taken care of by the CEC contractor?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 2:27 PM

To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Haws, Marichka@Energy <Marichka.Haws@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: IP Darden SLides

Hi Becky,

Please submit the English version. I will look into the Spanish translation question below.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 1:47 PM

To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Haws, Marichka@Energy <Marichka.Haws@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: IP Darden SLides

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Hi Ann,

We can get that submitted to the docket. We only have an English version of the presentation at this time. If a Spanish version needs to be docketed would you send that out for certified translation?

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

On Mon, Oct 21, 2024 at 12:09 PM Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Becky,

We need to have the PPT from the applicant submitted to the docket - do you want to take care of that or should we?

Also, since we had monolingual Spanish speakers at the event and in the community we would like to make materials available to those members of the community. Do you have plans to translate your materials into Spanish? We sent out our materials for certified Spanish translation services and those are in the docket.

Thanks!

Ann

From: Will Lutkewitte <will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 2:45 PM

To: Huber, Elizabeth@Energy <Elizabeth.Huber@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: IP Darden SLides

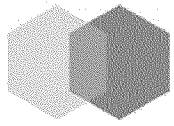
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Will Lutkewitte

Specialist, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(e) will.lutkewitte@intersectpower.com



**Intersect
Power**

Comisión de Energía de California Reunión exploratoria pública

**Proyecto de Energía Limpia de
Darden 23-OPT-02**

16 de Octubre de 2024



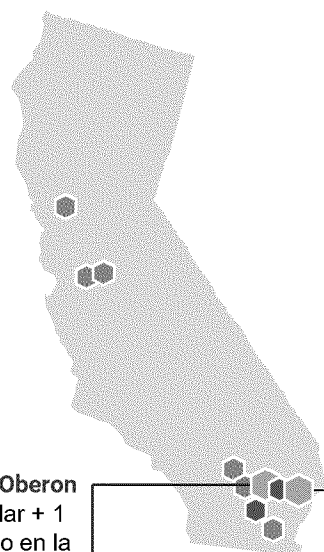
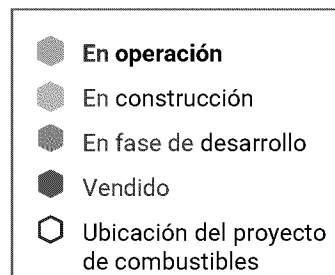


Intersect Power

Ampliación de la gama de productos de Intersect Power



Intersect Power cuenta con una base de **2,2 GWp de energía solar fotovoltaica en operación** y **2,4 GWh de sistemas de almacenamiento** en operación o construcción, de modo que es uno de los mayores propietarios-operadores de generación renovable y almacenamiento en los Estados Unidos.



Oberon
679 MWp de energía solar + 1 GWh de almacenamiento en la misma sede

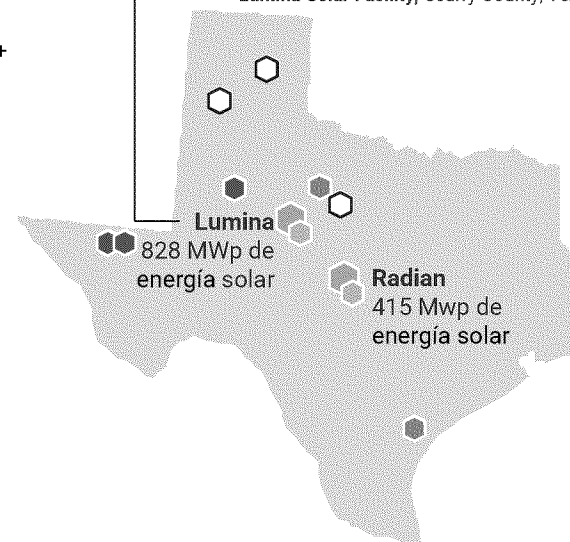


Oberon Solar + Storage Facility, Riverside County, California

Athos III
310 MWp de energía solar + 448 MWh de almacenamiento



Lumina Solar Facility, Scurry County, Texas



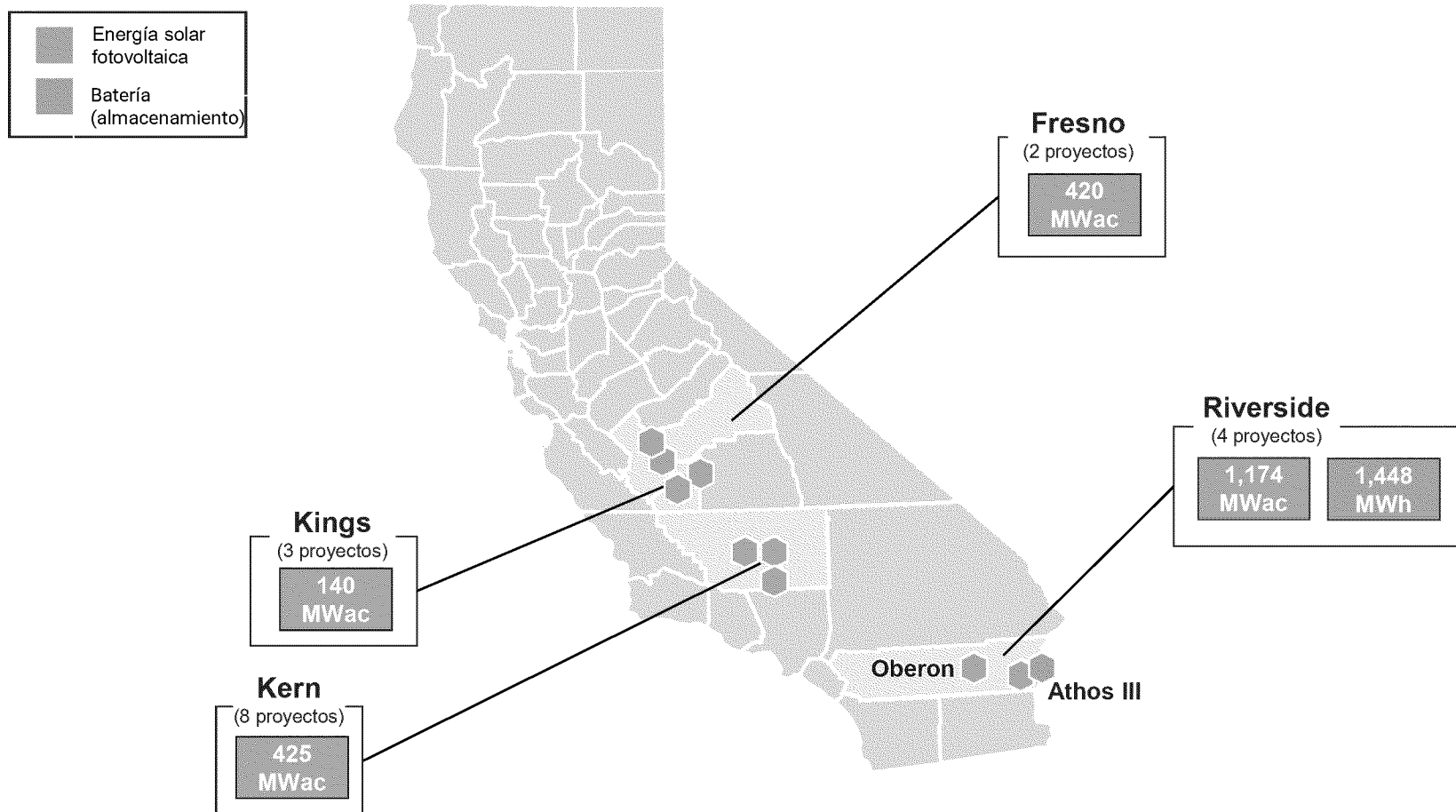
Lumina
828 MWp de energía solar

Radian
415 Mwp de energía solar

Manteniendo las luces de California encendidas



El equipo ha creado 17 proyectos que operan actualmente en el Sistema de CAISO, resultando en 2.16 gigavatios de energía solar y 1.45 gigavattios hora de almacenamiento BESS. Intersect actualmente opera 724 megavatios fotovoltaicos y 1.45 givavattios hora de almacenamiento BESS en el sistema CAISO.



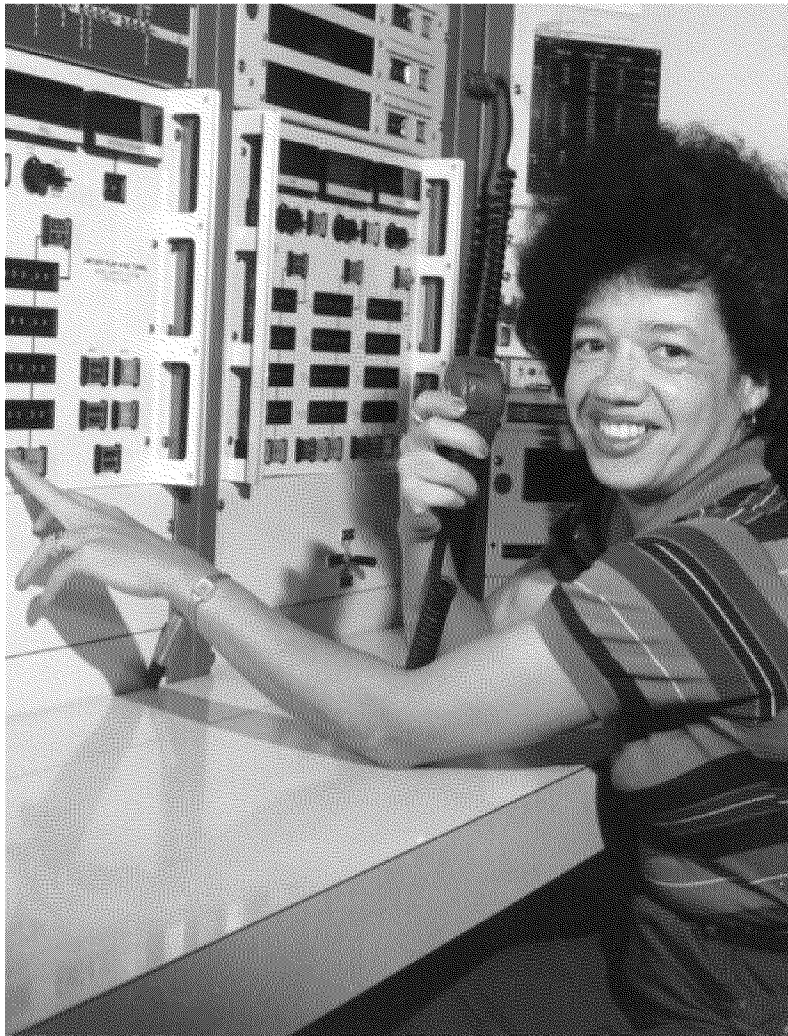


El Proyecto Darden de Energía Limpia

Christine Darden: una Pionera de las Matemáticas en la NASA

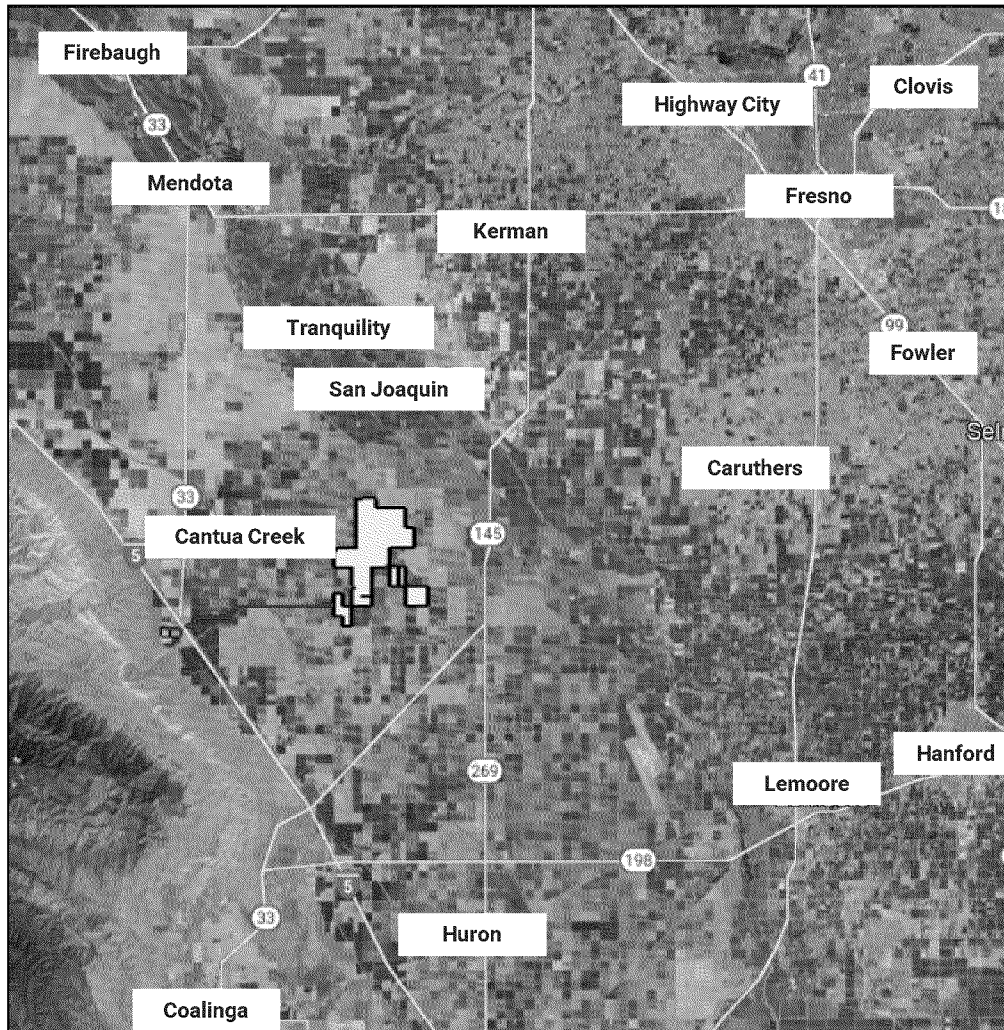


Intersect Power dedica sus proyectos a protagonistas del mundo de las matemáticas, la ciencia, la ingeniería y el emprendimiento escasamente representadas y celebradas



Enfoque Profesional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dirigió la investigación de la NASA sobre cómo minimizar los estallidos sónicos • Jugó un papel fundamental en el avance de la aeronáutica y las tecnologías aeroespaciales
Sus Logros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fue la primera mujer afroamericana en el Centro de Investigación Langley de la NASA en ascender a un puesto en el Servicio Ejecutivo Superior • Desempeñó un papel clave en el desarrollo de diseños de alas supersónicas para mejorar el rendimiento de los aviones de alta velocidad • Hizo aportaciones importantes al campo de Fluido-Dinámica Computacional para optimizar el flujo de aire alrededor de aeronaves
Premios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medalla de oro del Congreso • Dos medallas de la NASA • Premio al ingeniero afroamericano del año • Galardón a la Trayectoria de las Mujeres en la Ciencia y la Ingeniería
Educación	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licenciatura en Matemáticas por la Universidad de Hampton • Maestría en Matemáticas Aplicadas, por la Universidad Estatal de Virginia • Doctorado en Ingeniería Mecánica por la Universidad George Washington
Vida / Lugar de Nacimiento	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nació el 10 de septiembre de 1942 en Monroe, Carolina del Norte, Estados Unidos.

Ubicación del proyecto: Condado de Fresno no incorporado



Información sobre el proyecto

Capacidad solar	1.15 Gwac (gigavatios en corriente alterna)
Almacenamiento en batería	4.6 GWh (gigavatios hora)
Acres	9,500

- El proyecto Darden Clean Energy está ubicado en terrenos que pertenecen actualmente a Westlands Water District y que serán adquiridos por IP Darden, LLC antes de la construcción del proyecto
- El proyecto Darden no está afiliado al Plan de Infraestructuras Limpias del Valle ni al Golden State Clean Energy, y no está sujeto a la ley AB 2661 (Soria).
- Intersect Power se comprometió de manera voluntaria a cumplir uno de los planes de beneficios comunitarios más rigurosos del sector

Ubicación y aspectos del proyecto



- Planta solar (1,150 MWac)
- Subestación elevadora
- Línea de generación interconectada de hasta 15 millas (500 kV)
- Sistema de almacenamiento de energía en baterías (hasta 4,600 megavatios hora)
- Patio de maniobras propiedad de la compañía eléctrica PG&E (500 kilovatios)

Proyecto de energía limpia Gorden Condado de Fresno, California

Componentes del Proyecto

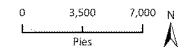
- Instalación Solar
- Subestación
- Parcela de la Subestación
- Derecho de paso de la línea de transmisión

Opción número uno

- Sistema de almacenamiento de energía en baterías
- Instalaciones de operación y mantenimiento
- Subestación
- Extensión del derecho de paso de la línea de transmisión

Opción número dos

- Sistema de almacenamiento de energía en baterías
- Instalaciones de operación y mantenimiento
- Subestación



RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

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22-12529 Project Description Alternatives
Fig. A Project 1 Site, Technology, and Access

Construcción del proyecto



Q1 '26

Q2 '26

Q3 '26

Q4 '26

Q1 '27

Q2 '27

Q3 '27

Q4 '27

Preparación del terreno

Instalación de los paneles fotovoltaicos

Inversores, transformadores, subestación y sistema eléctrico

Instalación y cableado de postes de generación de electricidad

Instalación de baterías para almacenamiento de energía

Estación de distribución eléctrica



Operativo del proyecto



La estrategia para elegir el sitio - Evitar impactos



- Enfocarse en tierras deterioradas que no tengan ningún otro uso útil
- Considerado **“inteligente desde el principio”** por numerosas organizaciones de protección de la naturaleza y organismos estatales
- Señaladas como tierras de **menor impacto ambiental para el desarrollo** de la energía solar en el análisis de menor impacto ambiental del Valle de San Joaquín
- Ubicado principalmente en **terrenos agrícolas en desuso**
- **Terrenos muy degradados** debido a su uso agrícola histórico
- **Pocas residencias cercanas** con visibilidad directa del sitio
- El centro de distribución de servicios públicos está situado a lo **largo de la línea de alta tensión de PG&E**



Estrategia de interconexión - Abrir Westlands



- Los terrenos de Westlands que ya no sirven para la agricultura de riego llevan más de una década considerándose un **lugar ideal** para el desarrollo solar
- **El desarrollo ha sido lento** debido a la falta de oportunidades de interconexión de transmisión
- El proyecto Darden crearía un **nuevo punto vital de interconexión** para futuros generadores de energía renovable en el oeste del condado de Fresno mediante la construcción y transferencia de una nueva estación de distribución de 500 kilovoltios a PG&E



Estrategias del diseño - Potenciar los valores medioambientales



- Administrar el área para mantener los valores ambientales, incluido el hábitat de reproducción y alimentación del gavilán de Swainson
- Restablecer la vegetación del área con una mezcla de semillas indígenas, que se espera reduzca el polvo generado por las operaciones a largo plazo en comparación con las condiciones existentes
- Seguir liderando, financiando y participando en la investigación científica sobre las interacciones de la energía solar con la vida salvaje
- Programa de formación en Fresno State para estudiantes de biología y ecología



Estudios técnicos finalizados

- Análisis de temas de importancia crítica
- Evaluación del hábitat de alimentación del halcón de Swainson
- Evaluación de recursos biológicos
- Informe del estudio del protocolo de nidos del halcón de Swainson
- Reporte técnico de recursos culturales
- Estrategia de protección del halcón de Swainson
- Evaluación de los recursos paleontológicos
- Análisis del transporte
- Análisis técnico de ruido y vibraciones
- Análisis socioeconómico
- Informe técnico sobre la calidad del aire y los gases de efecto invernadero
- Evaluación del suministro de agua
- Evaluación del hábitat del Zorro Kit de San Joaquín

Participación temprana y alcance con las comunidades locales Intersect Power

Notificaciones de cortesía

- Carta enviada el 24 de abril del 2024 notificando a los vecinos (en un radio de 1 milla) sobre el proyecto y el proceso de tramitación de permisos de la CEC
- Carta enviada el 7 de octubre de 2024 notificando a los vecinos (en un radio de 1 milla) convocando a la reunión de alcance público de la CEC.

Reuniones informativas y visitas

- Organizaciones locales sin fines de lucro
- Escuelas de la zona
 - Universidad Estatal de Fresno
 - Escuela primaria Westside
 - Escuela primaria Cantua Creek
 - Golden Plains ISD
- Gobiernos locales del oeste del condado de Fresno Autoridades electas y personal
 - Kerman
 - Huron
 - San Joaquin
 - Mendota
 - Firebaugh
- Organizaciones locales de justicia medioambiental
 - Consejo de Liderazgo para la Justicia y la Responsabilidad.
 - El Colaborativo de Asma de California Central
 - El Instituto LEAP

Oportunidades de desarrollo económico

- Patrocinio de Presentaciones Informativas de Valleybuild en el oeste del Condado de Fresno
- Recorrido en autobús por las Ciudades cercanas enfocado a la provisión de bienes y servicios locales
- Apoyo a Escuelas de la zona, Cámara de Comercio, y agencias sin fines de lucro (CBOs) fuera de las organizaciones socias del plan de beneficios comunitarios, incluyendo:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The Fresno Center ◦ Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño ◦ Riverdale Community Youth Sports ◦ Programa de uso compartido de vehículos eléctricos- Green Raiteros 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Corporación Comunitaria Mendota ◦ Distrito Escolar Unificado de Golden Plains ◦ Cámara de Comercio de la Comunidad Afroamericana de Fresno ◦ Cámara de Comercio de Mendota
--	---



Principales organizaciones socias del Plan en Beneficio de la Comunidad de la CEC








Más de \$273,000 en donaciones a CBO y escuelas del área desde 2023

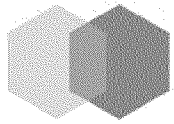
Tema central	Organización	Actividades principales	Estado de la CBA
Oportunidad Económica		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programa de prácticas universitarias para la protección del halcón de Swainson 	Realizado
	 Fresno Housing Education Corps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apoyar y ampliar el alcance de la oferta literaria y la programación relacionada con STEM y los programas de becas en el oeste del condado de Fresno 	Realizado
	 VALLEYBUILD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promover el programa de aprendices previos en todo el oeste del condado de Fresno y asociarse en el desarrollo de un programa de instalación solar que se incluirá en los próximos planes de estudio 	n/a (no de carácter financiero)
Acceso al transporte público	 FCRTA Fresno County Rural Transit Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ofrecer un suplemento de tarifas para el programa de microtránsito rural, garantizando el transporte de los residentes locales a los servicios esenciales 	Realizado
Reducción de la contaminación del aire	 CCAC CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ASTHMA COLLABORATIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apoyar servicios integrales de remediación y educación sobre el asma en el oeste del condado de Fresno. 	Realizado
	 TREE FRESNO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asociarse para plantar árboles de sombra en las escuelas de la zona oeste del condado de Fresno 	Realizado
Acceso a una vivienda a precios asequibles	Westside Elementary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ayudar con las mejoras en las escuelas y apoyar los esfuerzos para aumentar la oferta de vivienda en el área inmediata 	Realizado
Acceso a alimentos saludables	 CENTRAL CALIFORNIA FOOD BANK MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sostener y apoyar los programas rurales de alimentación integral en el oeste del condado de Fresno 	Realizado
	 CENTRO LA FAMILIA ADVOCACY SERVICES NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE CENTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complementar la distribución de alimentos y artículos de primera necesidad a las familias del oeste del condado de Fresno 	Realizado

El Proyecto de Energía Limpia de Darden tendrá un impacto positivo en varios aspectos en las comunidades del oeste del condado de Fresno



Fuente de Impacto económico	Valoración del impacto de la inversión	Cómo se benefician las comunidades locales
Acuerdo de beneficio para la comunidad	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Inversión directa total de \$5.1 millones de dólares● Se incluyen \$1.5 millones de dólares hasta el 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ayuda a identificar organizaciones y oportunidades de inversión que mejor se adapten a las comunidades locales
Ingresos del gobierno local	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Impuesto de venta local: \$59 millones en 2026 y 2027 + \$1.8 millones cada año● Promedio de impuestos sobre la propiedad: \$26 millones por año	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Trabaja con la Cámara de Supervisores del Condado para que destinen fondos a las comunidades del lado oeste
Empleos	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Acuerdo Laboral del Proyecto con Cinco Oficios.● \$160 millones en salarios a los empleados.● 1,200 trabajadores de tiempo completo por año a lo largo de 2 años construcción.● 16 puestos de trabajo permanentes en funcionamiento	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ayuda a identificar carencias en educación, capacitación, servicios de interpretación, transporte, cuidado de niños, u otras necesidades para lograr un mayor éxito en los programas de formación laboral
Inversión indirecta	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● \$273 millones invertidos a nivel local durante la construcción● 2.9 millones invertidos a nivel local cada año a lo largo de su operación	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Identifica y conecta a pequeñas empresas locales con oportunidades para satisfacer las necesidades directas o indirectas del proyecto
Infraestructuras para el futuro	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● La estación de distribución de 500 kilovoltios de Darden aprovecha el potencial de generación del oeste del condado de Fresno	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Respalda a Darden, y pone al oeste del condado de Fresno como un líder en la industria de la infraestructura verde

Nota: Los resultados reales pueden variar dependiendo de los cambios en las leyes federales y estatales, así como de otros factores. El impacto económico local es un indicador de la capacidad del proyecto y está sujeto a cambios en función de estos



Intersect
Power

Muchas gracias

Marisa Mitchell

Vicepresidenta / Asuntos

Medioambientales y Gestión de

Permisos

intersectpower.com



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Jim was quick to get back to me with two reports (attached). He offered some caveats, saying:

I did a study a few years ago in Sacramento County where we looked at use of moderately-sized solar projects. We did get continued use of the arrays – as long as a grassland substrate is maintained that supports rodent and insect populations. But one of the key things was that these 100 to 300 acre solar projects do not seem to result in a change in the foraging landscape and likely do not affect the nesting abundance and distribution – as long as they are part of an otherwise diverse agricultural landscape. It's less clear how birds might use larger projects where the landscape is converted on a grander scale.

From: Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2024 2:56 PM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

I did a quick search for any citations by Jim Estep and couldn't find any either. I've gone to the source and emailed Jim. I'll let you all know what he says.

From: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2024 4:35 PM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

Hi Carol,

If you have the Epsted citations, I'll see if I can find the papers. I'd be interested to see the papers if they provide evidence that the hawks are using solar fields with grassy vegetation.

Regarding Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy documents, the name of the documents comes from the Service's Wind Energy Guidelines. We haven't seen many impacts to bats from solar, but have retained the name for consistency. Many solar project proponents also develop wind projects. The primary reason we adopted this model was that the Wind Energy Guideline described an adaptive management framework that is useful in the solar context. We have also recommended that bird-related documents such as Nesting Bird Management Plans and Post-construction Monitoring be included with in the BBCS.

Our call is tomorrow afternoon, I should be able to get you some comments/recommendations early next week.

Thanks, Tom

Thomas Dietsch, PhD
Migratory Bird Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
~~(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214~~
Email is preferred: thomas_dietsch@fws.gov

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2024 6:31 AM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

Good morning and thanks for the update.
Yes, I'm working with Carrie Swanberg and Jim Vang of CDFW Region 4, and expecting their ITP language for SWHA and BUOW this week.
Nests will be maintained, and part of the applicant's proposed mitigation pathway is on-site revegetation (concurrent with project operations), planting suitable nest trees, and installing artificial structures. They cite to several Estep papers will seem to indicate that SWHA will continue to forage in solar fields. Unfortunately, I've yet to find and review those papers myself – are you familiar with Estep's work?

One thought on a BBCS: up to this point, neither the applicant nor I have anticipated any impacts to bats, the only bat that seems likely to show up might be western red bat, but I was anticipating that only along the project components west of I-5, which would largely consist of the 3 fiber optic lines alternatives on existing poles, and one of the substation improvements. Otherwise, the Plan sounds like a great idea, looking forward to hearing your thoughts further after your meeting.

Best,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist

Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 4:40 PM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

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Hi Carol,

We will probably recommend a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy. This is what we usually do for the public lands solar projects in the Mojave. We are having an internal call on December 6th. I'll be able to make our recommendations after that meeting, probably next week. Have you contacted CDFW for their recommendations? Also, will the project need to get permits to remove nests or will the nests be maintained because of the Threatened Status of Swainson's Hawk at the state level?

Thank you for sharing the minutes from our call and the pdf file from CNDBB.

Tom

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Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214
Email is preferred: thomas_dietsch@fws.gov

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 24, 2024 10:30 AM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

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Hi, Tom,

Thanks again for meeting with me last week. I've attached the agenda with my brief notes at the bottom. I also attached the Swainson's nest observations, which you do not need to keep confidential.
One question I had not gotten to ask is how the SPUT permit works? Might that be appropriate for the project or something to be considered in an Avian Management/Conservation Plan?
And will your feedback contain a sample/similar components of such a plan?

Thanks again,
Carol

From: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:26 AM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

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Hi Carol,

I'm available Wed afternoon 1:30-3pm, Thurs 2-3pm, and Friday 11-12, 1:30-2:30pm.

Thanks, Tom

Thomas Dietsch, PhD
Migratory Bird Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214
Email is preferred: thomas_dietsch@fws.gov

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 6:51 AM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

Resending to capture Matt – sorry I left you off this chain. You’re welcome to join as well.

Carol

From: Watson, Carol@Energy
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:23 AM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

Hi, Tom,
Thanks for jumping on board so quickly. As I can tell you more when we talk, this project falls under legislatively mandated timetables for the Energy Commission, so it’s not our typical process you’re accustomed to from the ARRA era projects (Ivanpah, Hidden Hills, Blythe, etc.) but instead is on a fast track.

How about a quick meeting this week? I can run you through the highlights of the project and hopefully save you some time swimming through the dockets. I’ve listed some available times:

Tues: 1-3
Wed: 9-10; 1-3
Thurs: 8-12; 1-3
Fri: 8-12; 1-2:30

Best,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:16 AM
To: Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

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Hi Carol,

I can provide technical support from the Migratory Bird office. Let me know if you'd like to set up a call to discuss the project or if there's any meetings that I should attend. In the meantime, I'm looking over the CEC docket for the project.

Thanks, Tom

Thomas Dietsch, PhD
Migratory Bird Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214
Email is preferred: thomas_dietsch@fws.gov

From: Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 8:37 AM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

Hello Carol,

Tom Dietsch would be the best person for this. I'm also copying Justin Sloan from our Sacramento Ecological Services program in case Justin is not already aware of the project. Justin is the San Joaquin Valley supervisor.

Much of the solar development in the SJ Valley has been on private land (see below; red circle is the very approximate location of this project), and occurred without much, if any, input from our Migratory Bird program. Consequently, I'm unaware of any avian mortality monitoring data that may be available for this region. If you know, or become aware of any, would you please let us know?

Thomas



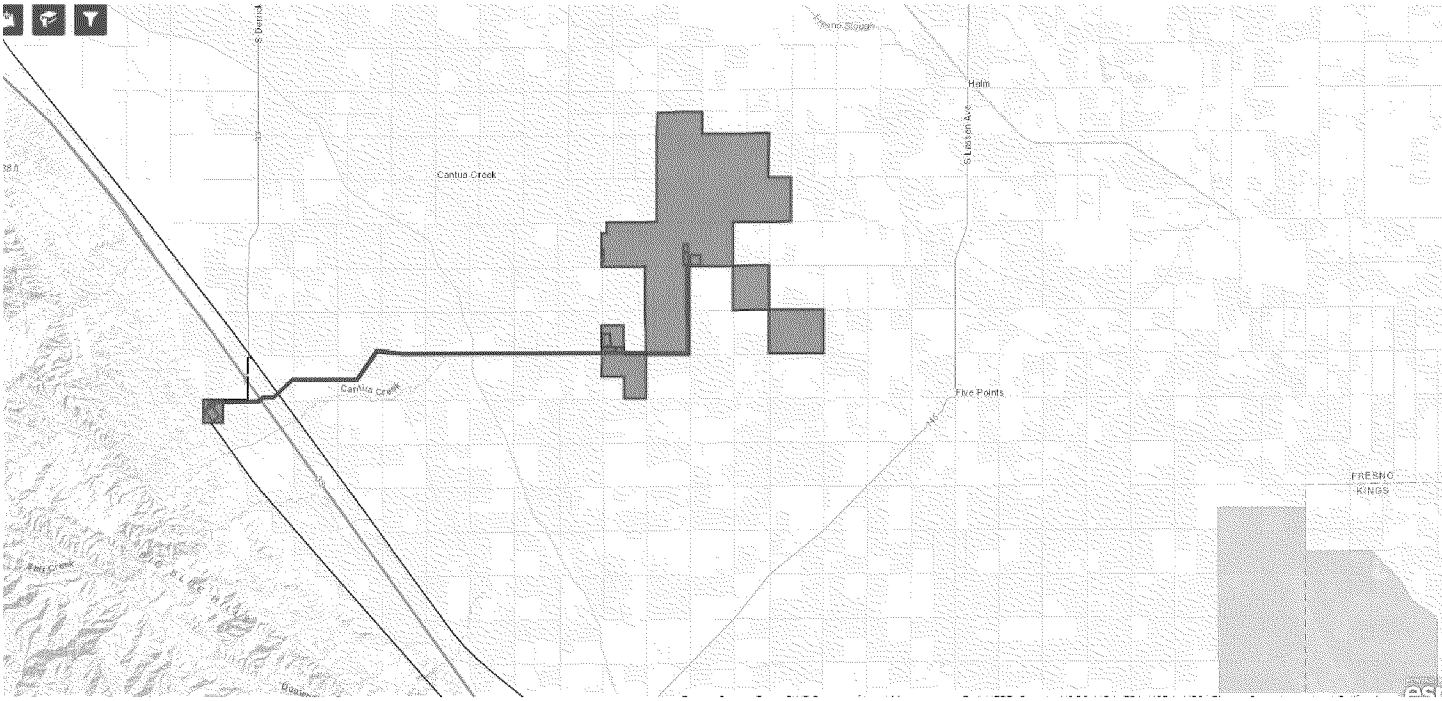
From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 3:02 PM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

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Good afternoon!

I'm seeking to identify a mig bird staffer to assist with a new project that the CA Energy Commission is reviewing. It's called the Darden Clean Energy Project, and it's a 9,100 acre solar field, BESS, a 15-20 mile gentie, and a utility switchyard in Fresno County. I'm working with Matt Nelson on terrestrial species impacts and he mentioned we ought pull in mig birds specialist and I agree.

Could either of you possibly point me in the right direction? I can provide further detail at that point, but I've put a figure below of the site to help orient you.



Thanks,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



Swainson's Hawk and Other Raptor Foraging Use of Solar Array Fields within an Agricultural Landscape in Sacramento County

October 2013



Prepared for:

**RECURRENT
ENERGY**

Prepared by:

ESTEP



*Environmental
Consulting*

Swainson's Hawk and Other Raptor Foraging Use of Solar Array Fields within an Agricultural Landscape in Sacramento County

Prepared for:

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Prepared by:

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Sacramento, CA 95833
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(916) 921-2515

October 2013

Introduction

Recurrent Energy constructed four photovoltaic solar energy projects in south Sacramento County in 2012. All occur within an agricultural landscape used by foraging raptors, including the state-listed Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). Because of its dependence on agricultural foraging habitats in the Central Valley, loss of suitable agricultural lands to urban development may be considered a significant environmental impact on the Swainson's hawk pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CDFG 1994). Loss of suitable agricultural land is typically mitigated through a compensatory process of acquisition, management, and preservation of replacement agricultural lands. To streamline its process for determining mitigation for losses of Swainson's hawk habitat, Sacramento County enacted a local ordinance that provides a mitigation option for habitat compensation using replacement ratios derived using a parcel size formula (Sacramento County 2006). However, during the environmental review process with the County, Recurrent Energy questioned whether the installation of a solar array would preclude Swainson's hawk foraging and therefore be considered a significant loss of foraging habitat similar to other types of development projects.

Swainson's hawks are highly active aerial hunters. Typical foraging behavior is a relatively low (less than 100 meters) circling flight above suitable foraging habitat. They avoid fields with tall or dense vegetation because this condition reduces visibility and access to prey (Bechard 1982, Estep 2009). However, some crops such as vineyards may provide some open accessible foraging space within the field (i.e., between the vineyard rows). The extent to which Swainson's hawks and other raptors would attempt to capture prey between rows of tall vegetation such as vineyards is uncertain, but is generally considered negligible, and thus vineyards and other similar cover types are considered unsuitable foraging habitat (CDFG 1994). Swolgaard et al. (2007) found some use of vineyards by foraging Swainson's hawks, but not to the extent of other crops and land cover types in the surrounding landscape. Still, the Swolgaard et al. (2007) study revealed that Swainson's hawks are not entirely averse to hunting in these conditions.

A typical solar array, however, has a greater separation between rows than do most vineyards. Recurrent also prepared a management plan for each of their solar projects that included establishing and maintaining a grass substrate that would promote sustainable rodent populations that are the primary source of prey for Swainson's hawks and other raptors. The solar trackers also provide perching opportunities for those species that typically hunt from perches, such as red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) and American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*). A report prepared for Recurrent Energy and presented to the County and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (Estep 2011a) concluded that because at least 60 percent of the area within the solar arrays would remain potentially available for foraging and that entire area (including beneath the solar panels) would provide habitat for small rodent populations, Swainson's hawks and other raptors may continue to use solar array fields for foraging and that mitigation that addresses habitat compensation for solar projects could be scaled based on the extent of use. The report recommended conducting an observational study to evaluate

foraging use of solar fields, which could be used to determine mitigation options for future solar projects.

While the County and the CDFW determined that there was insufficient evidence that indicated solar fields would continue to provide value to foraging Swainson's hawks, both indicated that with additional evidence through the recommended observational studies, they were open to further discussions regarding the affect of solar fields within an agricultural landscape.

Once the projects were constructed and operating, and once grasses were firmly established on the sites, Recurrent Energy undertook a one-year research project to examine the extent of use of the solar projects by Swainson's hawks and other raptors. This report summarizes the results of that research project.

Location

Due to their proximity to each other, three of the four solar projects (RE Bruceville LLC, RE Kammerer LLC, and RE McKenzie LLC, were used in this study. The study area is located at and in the vicinity of these three project sites in South Sacramento County. All are south of the City of Sacramento and east of Interstate 5 (Figure 1). The Kammerer and Bruceville project sites are immediately south of the City of Elk Grove between Interstate 5 and State Route 99. The McKenzie project site is just north of the City of Galt and just east of State Route 99 (Figure 1).

Description of the Solar Projects

The three solar projects, ranging in size from 105 acres to approximately 200 acres, consist of an array of photovoltaic solar panels installed in east-west-facing rows. The panels are connected uniformly in rows along a solar tracker frame that maintains conformity and allows the panels to pivot along a single axis as they track the sun. The trackers are set into the ground using 4-inch galvanized steel poles set in 1-foot concrete pads spaced approximately 10 feet apart along the row. The 8-foot-long solar panels are installed onto the frame with a 2-foot minimum clearance from the ground to panel edge at a 45 degree angle, the maximum tilt angle. The total height of the structure reaches a maximum of approximately 10 feet at full 45 degree tilt. Panel rows are spaced 20 feet apart from pole to pole. With 8-foot-long panels, this leaves 12 feet of open space between each row at horizontal, and slightly larger open space as the trackers angle. The collection systems are underground with the exception of grid tie inverters, which are spaced uniformly throughout each project site. Power is delivered to an onsite solar substation. Each project also includes internal gravel access roads and an 8-foot-high chain link security fence around the perimeter.

A management plan prepared for each site includes the establishment of grasses throughout the project sites, including beneath and between the trackers and solar panels.

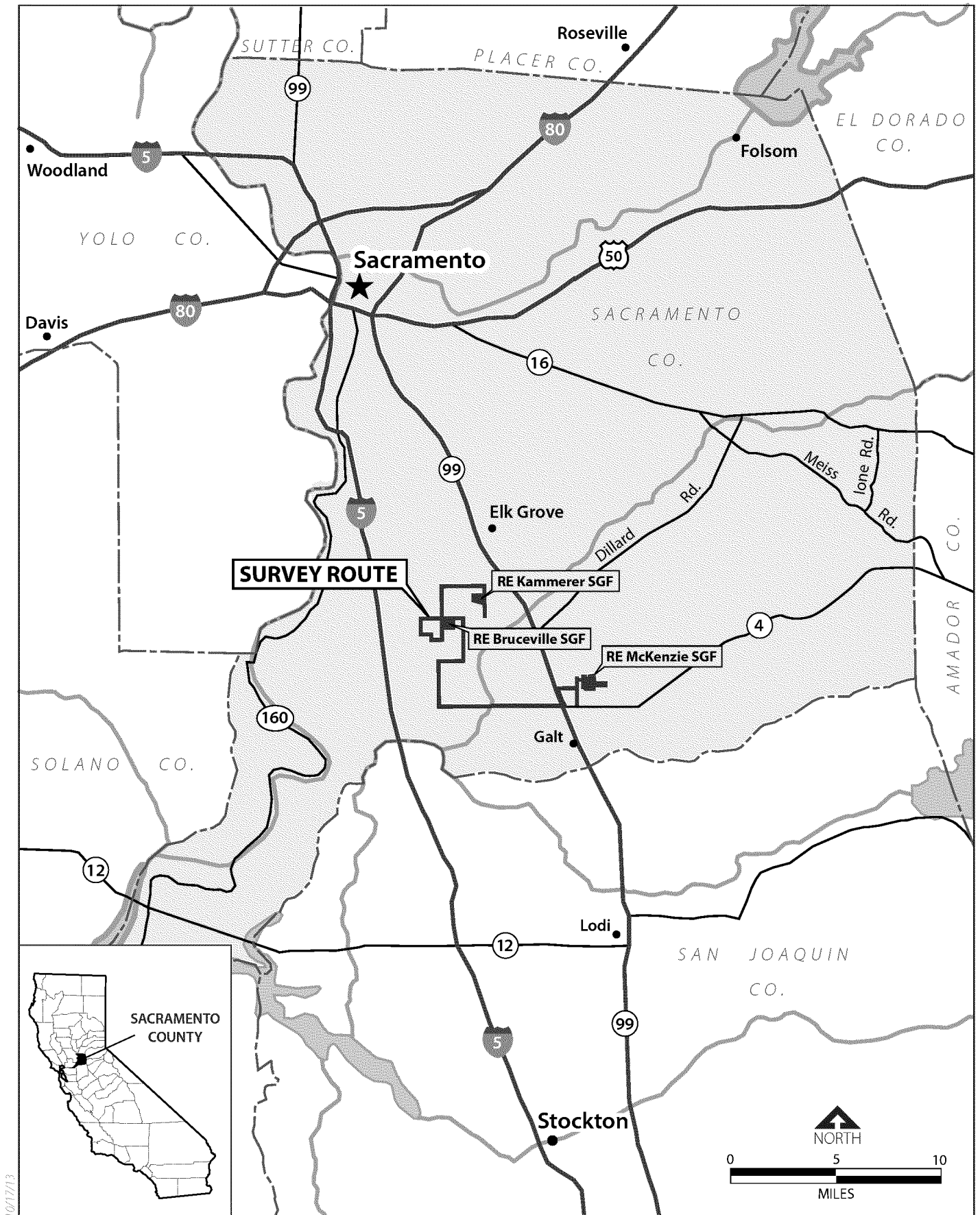


Figure 1
Regional Location

The grasses are maintained at a low (4 to 12 inches) height through a sheep grazing program that periodically rotates between the sites as needed. The grass ground cover is designed to encourage the establishment of rodent populations to promote raptor use of the site as well as to provide for rodent refugia to aid in the reestablishment of rodent prey populations on adjacent farmlands following cultivation.

Physiography and Land use

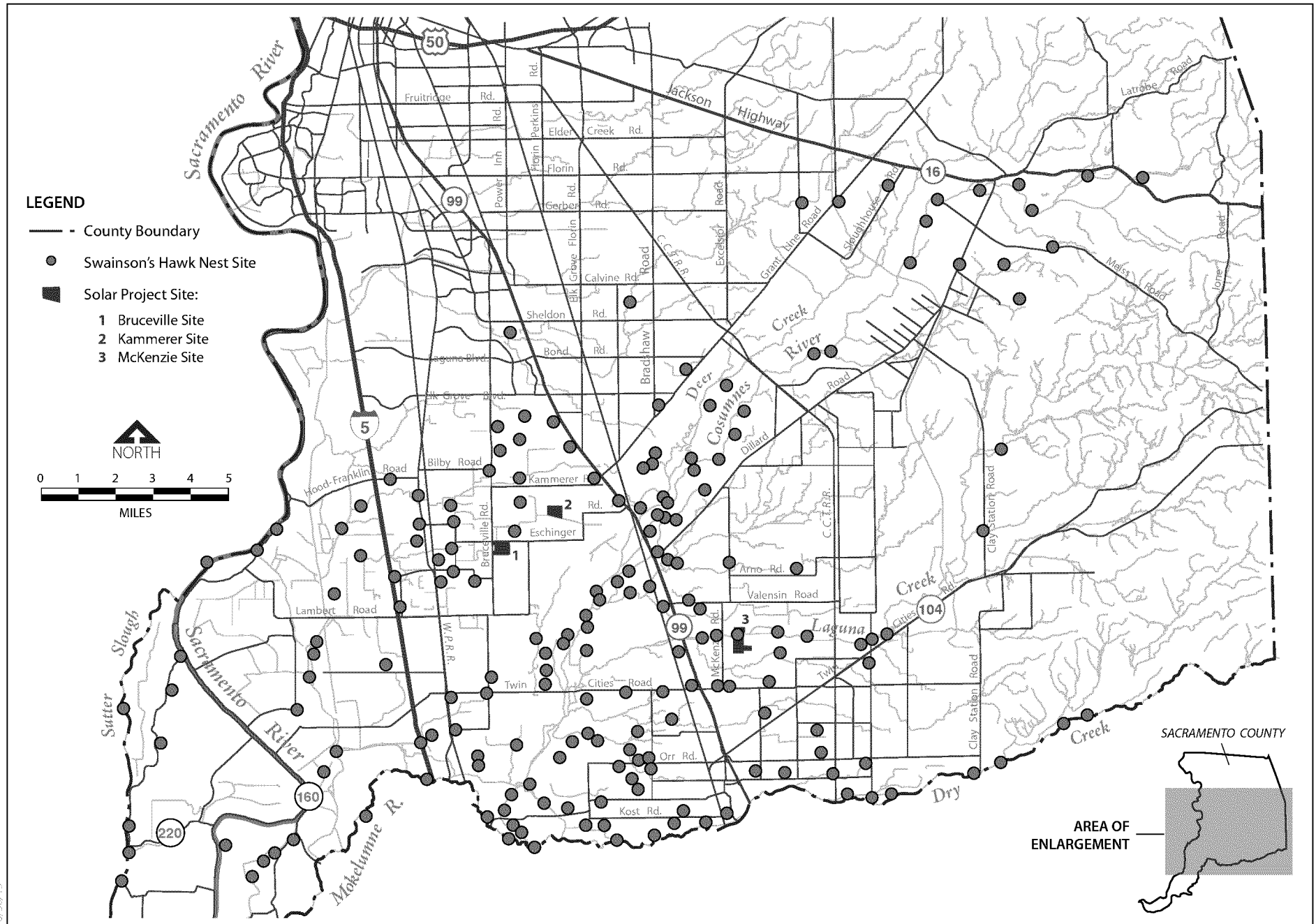
The surrounding land use is entirely agricultural, consisting of a combination of irrigated pasture, dry pasture, and irrigated cropland. Dominant crop types in the area include oat hay, alfalfa, corn, wheat, and vineyards. Rural urban areas also occur throughout the area including farm and ranch residences and related facilities and dairies. The landscape is flat with virtually no topographic relief other than seasonal and perennial drainages. Trees occur along riparian corridors, roadsides, and field borders, and around farm and ranch residences. These trees provide nesting habitat for several of the raptor species in the study area including Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), and American kestrel.

Distribution of Nesting Swainson's Hawks in South Sacramento County

The Swainson's hawk occurs throughout the undeveloped portions of Sacramento County. Surveys have been conducted throughout Sacramento County for several decades resulting in a substantial number of breeding records (California Natural Diversity Data Base 2013, Estep 2007, 2009a, 2012). Surveys conducted in 2006 reported a total of 188 active breeding sites in Sacramento County south of Jackson Highway (State Route 16) (Estep 2007). More recent surveys (Estep 2009a, 2012) reported additional active breeding sites within and south of the City of Elk Grove. Figure 2 illustrates the locations of reported Swainson's hawk nests in South Sacramento County in the vicinity of the project sites. The highest nesting density was found in the interior of the county where the land use is predominantly irrigated cropland and irrigated pastureland.

Purpose

This study was designed to meet the following objectives (1) examine how and the extent to which Swainson's hawks and other raptors forage on or otherwise use the solar facilities; and (2) evaluate the use of solar facilities and other available land uses/cover types relative to their availability on the landscape.



SOURCE: Estep 2007.

Figure 2
Swainson's Hawk Distribution in the Vicinity of the Solar Project Sites

Methods

Strip Transect Road Surveys

The strip transect road survey method (Fuller and Mosher 1987) was used to evaluate relative foraging use of different land cover types, including the solar arrays. A 26-mile survey route was selected based on the following factors:

- Incorporating the three solar facilities into the design
- Road/vehicle accessibility
- Visibility
- Road safety
- Diversity of land cover types

The survey area extended 600 feet from each side of the road for a total width of 1,200 feet. Initially, all land cover types were mapped and classified along the survey route. To conduct the survey, the surveyor slowly drove at a consistent pace between 10 and 15 mph, stopping as needed to identify and record raptors and raptor behavior within the survey area. Recorded behaviors included the following:

- Circling below 100 meters
- Soaring below 200 meters
- Flying through the survey area below 200 meters
- Kiting/Hovering
- Perching (adjacent poles/trees/fences)
- Standing on ground
- Prey capture attempt
- Prey capture successful
- Prey capture unsuccessful
- Aerial foraging

The surveyor recorded data as raptors were observed within the 1,200-foot-wide transect survey area. Land cover type and status, including vegetation height, and farming activity were recorded for each occurrence. Start times were variable in order to account for differences in foraging use patterns. Using this method, a reliable statistical analysis can be performed that measures habitat use as a proportion of availability. In other words, it determines whether a habitat type is used more or less than expected relative to its availability. In this way we can evaluate the relative use of all cover types in the survey area, including the solar array fields.

A survey form along with an accompanying data code sheet and field maps with the route and land cover types illustrated were used to record observational and related data while in the field. Surveys were conducted during daylight hours and were not conducted during severe weather events such as heavy rainfall, winds greater than 20 mph or foggy

conditions. Surveys were conducted twice weekly by the same surveyor between March 28 and August 29, 2013 for a total of 42 surveys.

Habitat Mapping. Land cover types were mapped and characterized in the field along the survey route on 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle maps. Current 2013 land use was documented in the field according to the land cover type categories listed below.

- Oats
- Irrigated pasture
- Dry pasture
- Solar field
- Alfalfa
- Tilled
- Wheat
- Vineyard
- Corn
- Grass
- Miscellaneous row/truck crop
- Wetland/riparian
- Ruderal/Urban

Field boundaries were recorded, confirmed, or adjusted as needed on USGS base maps. Tilled was included separately because some fields were tilled and unplanted for approximately one-half of the survey period before being planted. Rural residences and their surrounding footprint (e.g., barns, out buildings, yards, and equipment storage areas), adjacent ruderal areas, and other agricultural facilities, mainly dairies, were combined into a single category – Ruderal/ Urban. Following the initial field mapping of habitat/land use categories, the data were then re-mapped using aerial photos to confirm field boundaries.

These maps were then converted to graphic maps using Adobe Illustrator. Habitat/land use cover type acreages were calculated from the graphic maps using a plug-in filter from Telegraphics Inc. While this process provided a reasonably accurate representation of land cover types along the survey route, it did not exclude interior farm roads and other edge features. As a result, the acreage totals may exceed the actual acreage for some types. However, this was considered to have a negligible effect on the total calculations or the relative abundance of the various types.

Several crop type rotations occurred during the survey including wheat, oats, and tilled fields rotating to corn, and some tilled fields planted to vineyards. These rotations or conversions occurred at approximately the mid-point of the survey. To account for these changes and to satisfy the assumption that habitat availability is constant throughout the study (Manly et al. 2002), we used the same approach as Swolgaard et al. (2008) by tallying the areas of all fields that changed crops midseason, dividing the values in half, and assigning those values to each habitat.

Analysis. Documented raptor occurrences and acreages of land cover types were compiled and proportions of land cover types and occurrences within each land cover type calculated. Of the six species documented during the survey, only Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, and American kestrel had sufficient occurrences to be included in the statistical analysis. The null hypothesis stated that Swainson's hawks and other raptor species used each habitat for foraging in proportion to its availability in the survey area. Therefore, only behaviors that represented foraging were included in the analysis. For Swainson's hawk, only circling below 100 meters, the typical foraging behavior of Swainson's hawks, kiting/hovering, and prey capture attempts were included as foraging behaviors. Perching behavior was excluded because the species does not typically hunt from a perch. Perching was included as a foraging behavior for red-tailed hawk and American kestrel, species that often hunt from perches. Hypothesis testing for selection of foraging habitat consisted of a chi-square test for goodness of fit, followed by chi-square testing of individual types to determine if use was disproportionate to availability and whether it was positively or negatively correlated. While this approach may be regarded as very conservative compared with other more robust statistical tests used in habitat use/availability studies, it was considered appropriate to address the rather narrow objectives (use of solar array fields) of this one-year study.

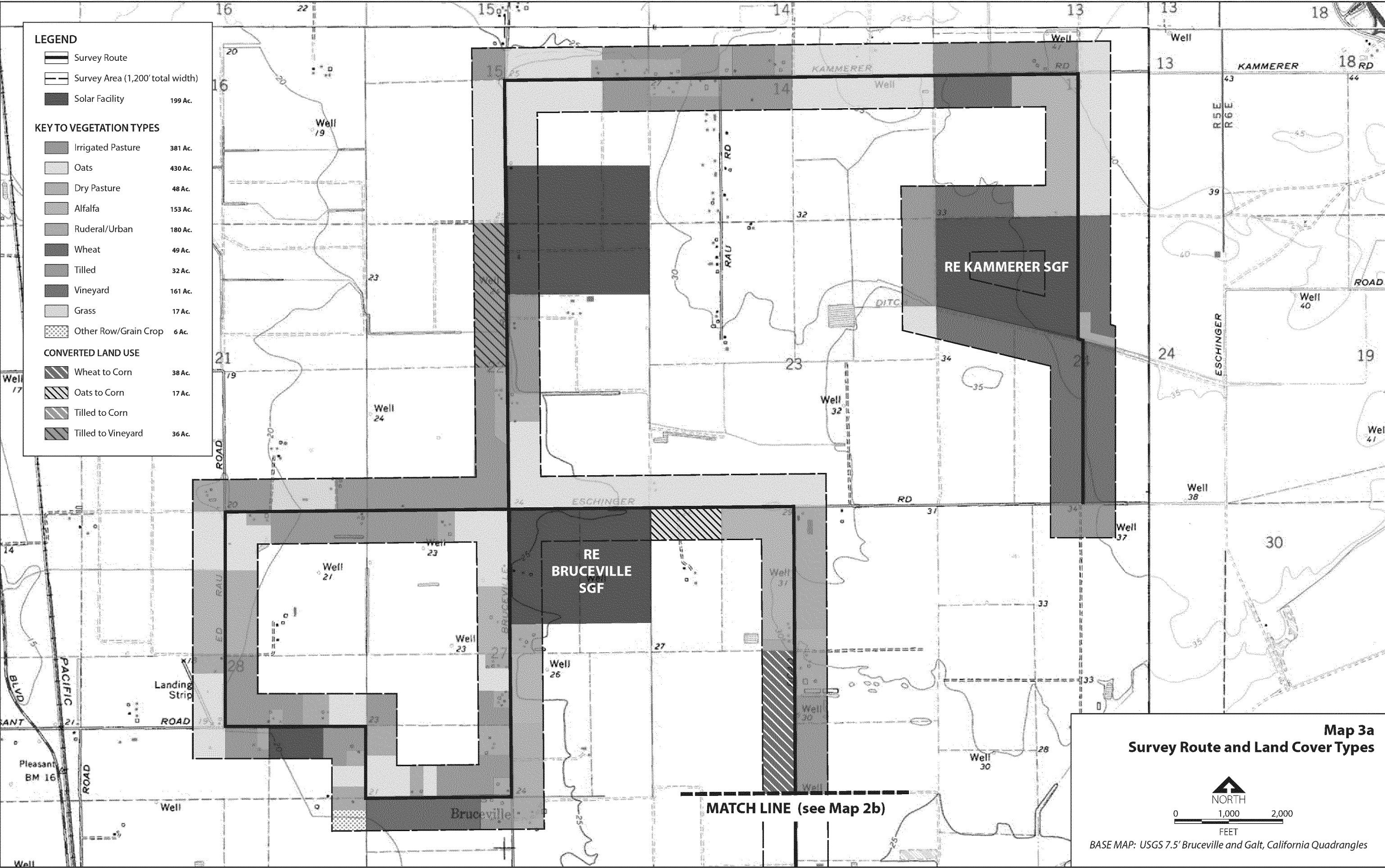
Stationary Observation Points

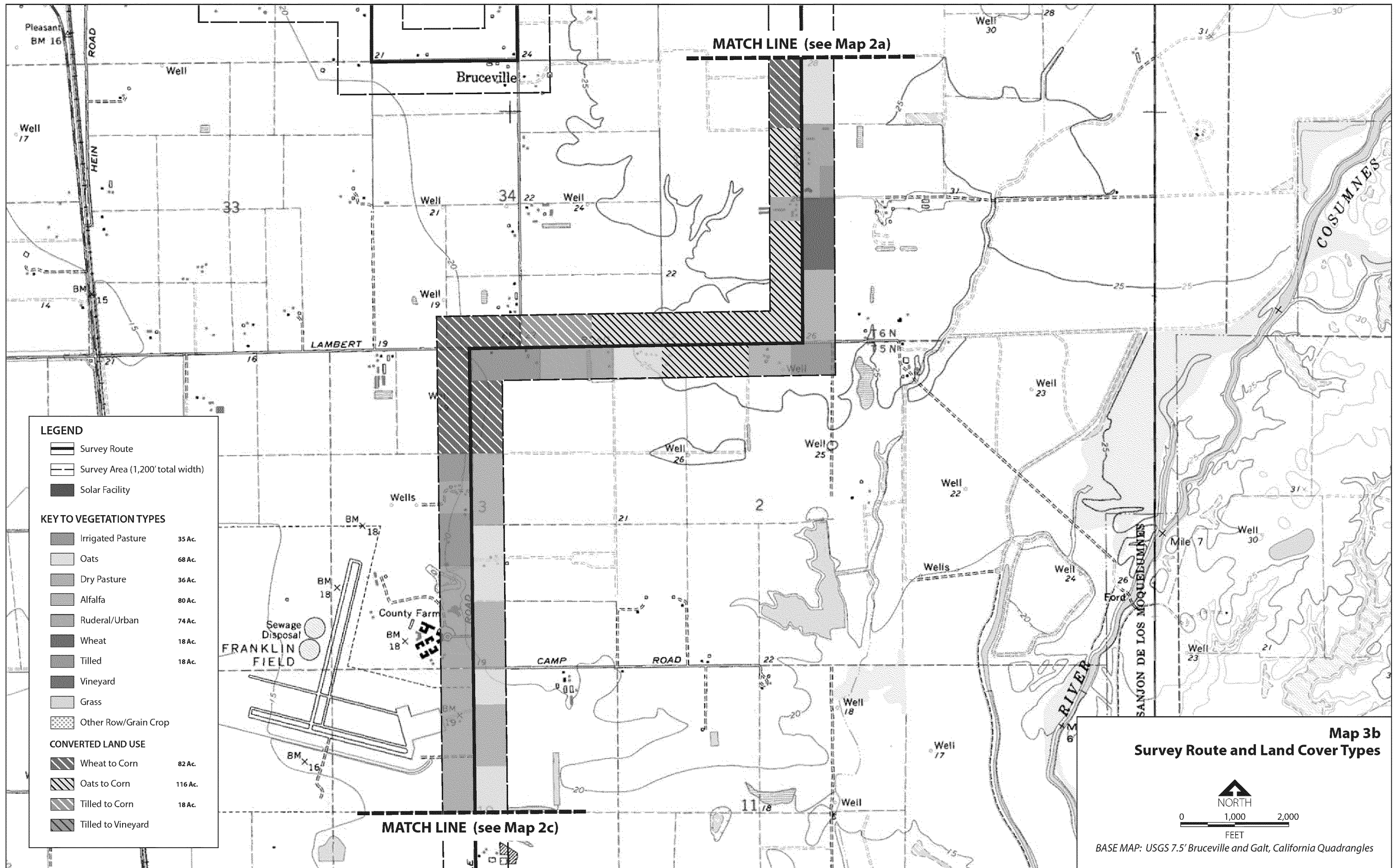
In addition to the road transect surveys, surveys were also conducted from stationary observation points around the perimeter of the three solar arrays. The purpose of these surveys was to document additional use of the solar fields by all raptor species and to increase the opportunity to record prey captures or prey capture attempts, which are generally less frequently observed during road transect surveys. Stationary observation point surveys were conducted at all three solar projects once per week in a rotational sequence between May 7 and August 28 for a total of 17 separate four-hour observation periods.

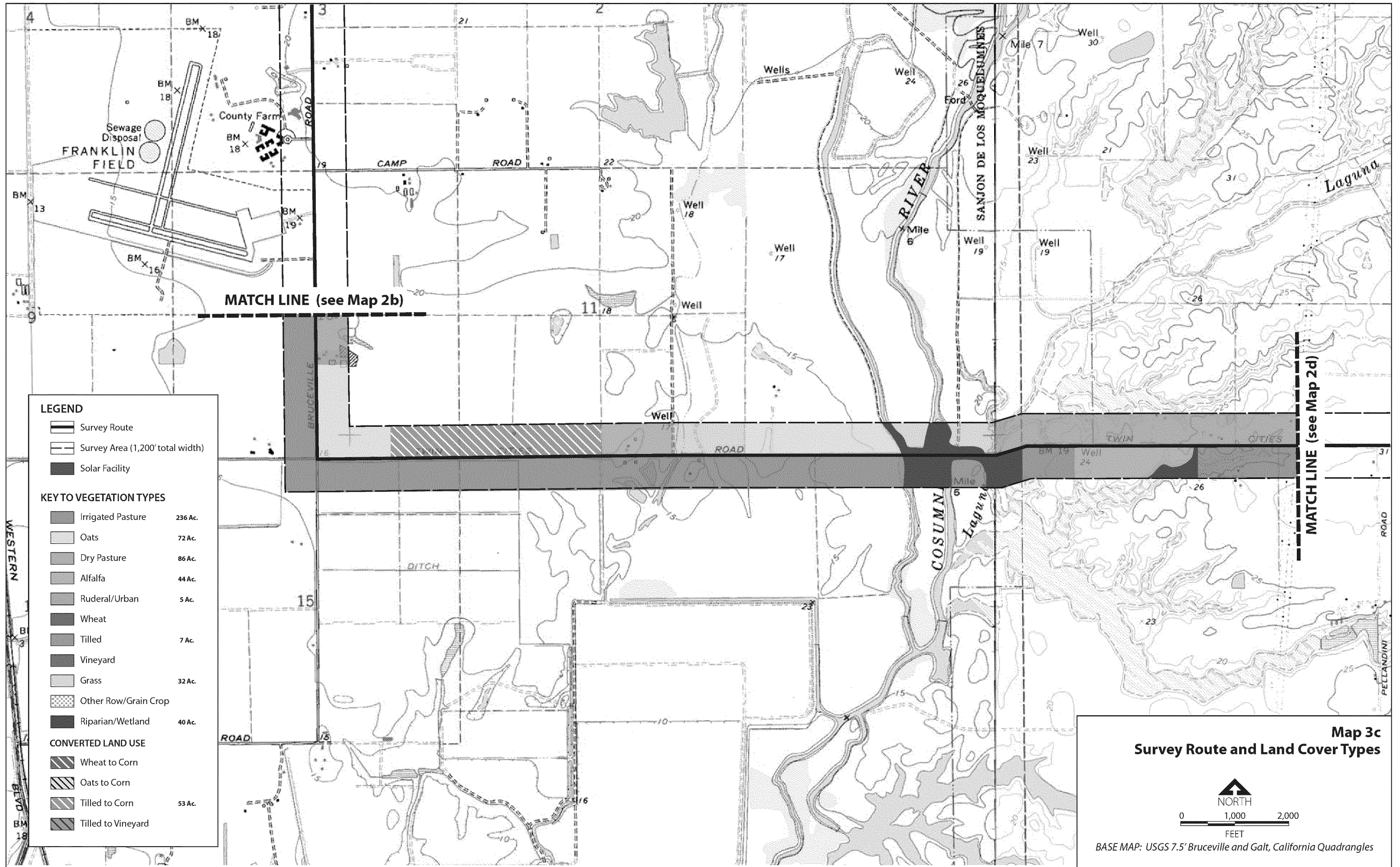
Results and Discussion

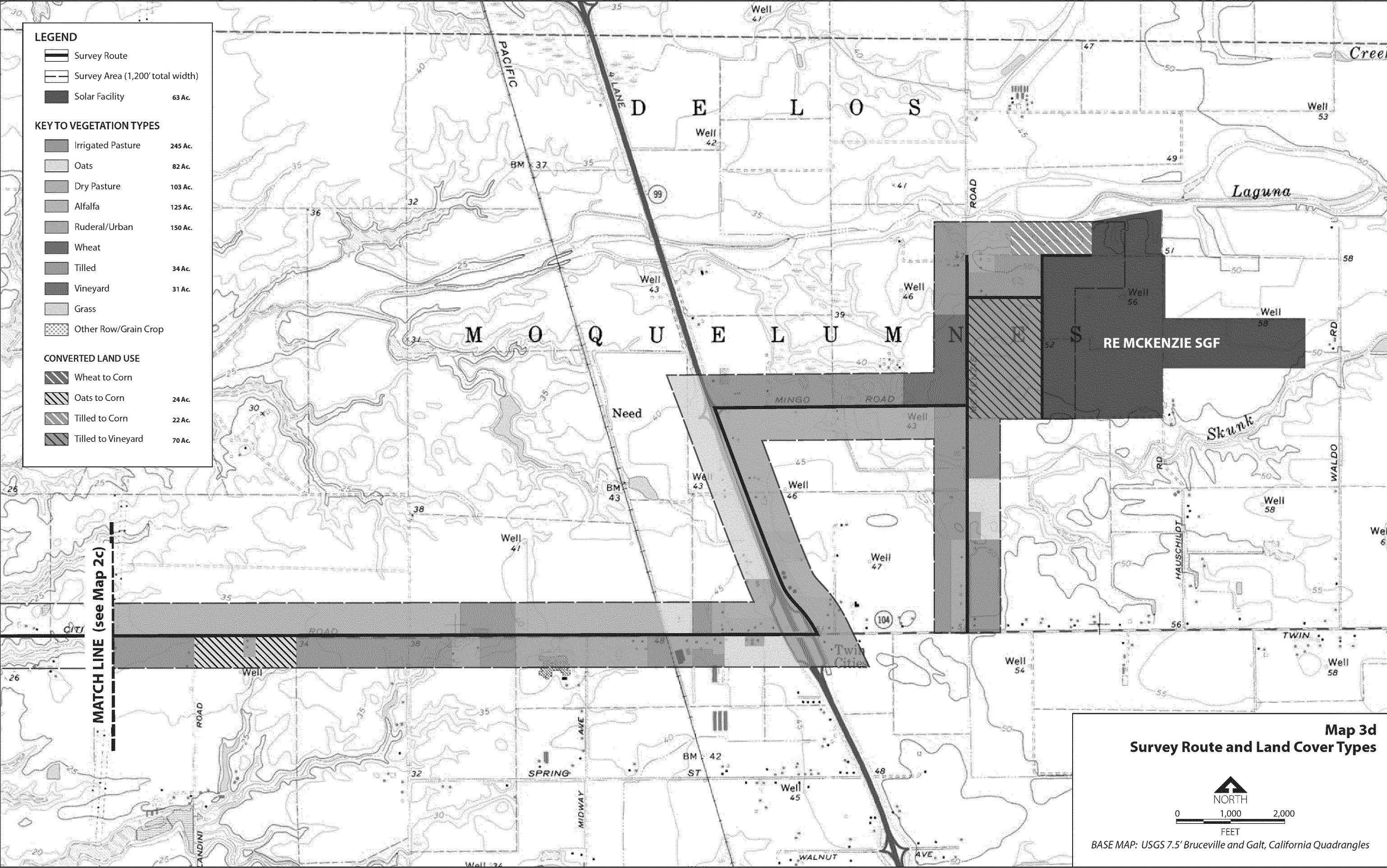
Habitats and Land Cover Types within the Survey Area

Table 1 presents the types and corresponding acreages of land cover/habitat types within the survey area. Figures 3a,b, and c illustrate the distribution of these types along the survey route. The land use along the approximately 26-mile route and throughout much of the south Sacramento County area consists of a mixture of grazing lands in the form of both irrigated and non-irrigated pasturelands and cultivated lands. Of the 3,794 acres within the survey area, 80 percent are active agricultural types including irrigated and non-irrigated pasturelands (31 percent), seasonally or annually cultivated crops (32 percent), semi-perennial hays (10.6 percent), and perennial crops (6.5 percent). The remaining 20 percent of the land uses consist of urban/ruderal (10.8 percent),









uncultivated grassland (1.3 percent), riparian (1.1 percent), and solar array fields (6.9 percent).

Table 1. Land cover/habitat types and corresponding acreages within the survey area.

Land Use Type	Acres	Percent of Total
Irrigated Pasture	897	23.6
Oats	730	19.2
Ruderal/Urban	409	10.8
Alfalfa	402	10.6
Dry Pasture	273	7.2
Solar Array Field	262	6.9
Vineyard	245	6.5
Tilled	180	4.7
Corn	174	4.6
Wheat	127	3.3
Grass	49	1.3
Riparian	40	1.1
Other Row/Grain Crop	6	0.2
Total	3,794	100

Irrigated and Non-irrigated Pasturelands. Irrigated pasture is the most common land use type in the survey area comprising nearly one-quarter of the survey area. These pastures are planted with grasses (e.g., bromes, ryegrass), irrigated, and grazed by livestock. They may be periodically cultivated and replanted. Non-irrigated, or dry pastures are uncultivated natural grasslands that are grazed by livestock. Both types are used by Swainson's hawks and other foraging raptors but are considered to have only moderate value due to low rodent prey populations compared to some cultivated lands (Estep 1989, 2009).

Seasonally or Annually Cultivated Crops. Within the survey area, these include oat hay, corn, and wheat crops, much of which is grown as silage to support local dairy operations. Tilled lands are cultivated lands that are between plantings and were included as a separate type because most of these areas were in a tilled condition for approximately one-half of the survey period before being planted to corn, which is often planted later in the season. These crops have variable suitability as foraging habitat depending on vegetation height and density, which influences prey accessibility (Bechard 1982, Estep 2009). Of the types found in the survey area, oat hay likely provides the highest value due to large rodent prey populations and relatively early harvest, which increases prey accessibility. After cutting, oat fields may continue to provide foraging value if the field is not disked and prepared for the following planting.

Semi-Perennial Hays. These are alfalfa hay fields that remain uncultivated for at least 3 consecutive years. During the spring and summer months, alfalfa fields are mowed approximately once per month and may be irrigated as frequently as once per week. This

is considered a high value foraging crop type for Swainson's hawk and other raptors because of the lack of seasonal or annual cultivation and because the regular mowing and irrigation operations increase prey accessibility (Estep 2009).

Perennial Crops. The only perennial crop type in the survey area is vineyards. While some use by Swainson's hawks has been documented (Swolgaard et al 2008), vineyards are generally considered to have very low foraging value because as they mature, the vegetation becomes tall and dense and largely precludes foraging access (Estep 1989).

Urban/Ruderal. Rural farm and ranch residences and associated out-buildings, dairy facilities, and other farming and ranching facilities occur along the survey route. Ruderal weedy or grassy patches also occur within or adjacent to some of the developed areas. While these areas provide relatively little foraging value, they may receive raptor activity in the form of perching, and where suitable trees or utility poles occur around their perimeter.

Uncultivated Grassland and Riparian. The survey route crosses the flood plain of the Cosumnes River where a small amount of riparian and associated uncultivated grassland were documented. The riparian forest in this area supports high value nesting habitat but would not typically be used for foraging by raptor species documented during the survey with the exception of the red-shouldered hawk. The small patches of grasslands may be used by foraging raptors, but usually do not support the prey abundance and accessibility compared with open, cultivated lands.

Solar Array Fields. A description of the three Recurrent solar fields is provided in the Introduction section. In addition to the Bruceville, Kammerer, and McKenzie solar projects, two other solar energy projects occur along the survey route and were incorporated into the survey area (Figure 3)

Strip Transect Road Surveys

A total of 975 raptor occurrences were documented within the survey area. Three of the seven documented species, Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, and American kestrel comprised 91 percent of the total occurrences. Swainson's hawk comprised nearly 40 percent of the total occurrences (Table 2).

Table 3 indicates the number of occurrences by species within each habitat or land cover type. Five of the 14 habitat/land cover types, oats, alfalfa, solar field, tilled, and irrigated pasture, comprised 73.2 percent of all occurrences. Over 14 percent of all documented occurrences and 13 percent of all Swainson's hawk occurrences were in solar fields. Thirty percent of all American kestrel occurrences were in solar fields.

Table 2. Species occurrences documented within the survey area.

Species	Number of Occurrences	Percent of Total
Swainson's hawk	375	38.5
Red-tailed hawk	304	31.2
American kestrel	207	21.2
Northern harrier	38	3.9
White-tailed kite	30	3.1
Red-shouldered hawk	17	1.7
Osprey	4	0.4
Total	975	100

Table 3. Species occurrences documented within each habitat/land cover type.

	SWHA	RTHA	AMKE	NOHA	WTKI	RSHA	OSPR	Total	% of Total
Oats	86	40	21	6	11	1	0	165	16.9
Alfalfa	73	40	33	9	1	0	0	156	16.0
Solar field	49	17	61	12	0	0	1	140	14.4
Tilled	48	53	37	0	0	2	1	130	13.3
Irr. pasture	50	57	8	1	1	5	1	123	12.6
Dry pasture	6	40	3	0	4	2	1	56	5.7
Rural/Urban	17	13	16	4	8	2	0	56	5.7
Field edge*	11	6	9	0	3	4	0	33	3.4
Vineyard	12	14	10	5	0	0	0	41	3.2
Corn	7	21	7	1	1	0	0	37	3.8
Wheat	5	2	2	0	0	1	0	10	1.0
Grass	6	1	0	0	1	0	0	8	0.8
Riparian	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.5
Misc. row crop	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	375	304	207	38	30	17	4	975	100

SWHA = Swainson's hawk; RTHA = red-tailed hawk; AMKE = American kestrel; NOHA = northern harrier; WTKI = white-tailed kite; RSHA = red-shouldered hawk; OSPR = osprey.

*Field or road edge was not a mapped habitat type, so these data are not included in the statistical analysis.

Tables 4, 5, and 6 show the behaviors associated with each occurrence in each habitat/land cover type for the Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, and American kestrel, respectively. Swainson's hawks (Table 4) generally spend less time perching, particularly while foraging, than do red-tailed hawks and American kestrels, species that often hunt from perches. Typical hunting behavior of Swainson's hawk is a circling flight at an altitude less than 100 meters. The largest proportion of Swainson's hawk occurrences (48 percent) were of circling flights below 100 meters. In contrast, the largest proportion of Red-tailed hawk and American kestrel occurrences (75 percent and 64 percent, respectively) were of perching individuals (Tables 5 and 6).

Table 4. Swainson's hawk behaviors – all occurrences

	Behaviors									total
	P	S	C	F	CA	CS	CU	G	K	
Oats	13	11	43	2	1	1	2	10	3	86
Irrigated pasture	10	9	26	2				1	1	49
Solar field	8	9	29	2					1	49
Alfalfa	17	8	27		1	3	3	14		73
Tilled	10	1	21	1		4	1	9	1	48
Wheat	1	1	2	0				1		5
Vineyard	1		10	1						12
Corn	3		4							7
Field edge	7	1	4							12
Grass	3		2					1		6
Ruderal/Urban	6		8	1	1				1	17
Dry pasture	2		3	1						6
Riparian	3		2							5
Misc. row crops										0
Total	84	40	181	10	3	8	6	36	7	375

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering.

Table 5. Red-tailed hawk behaviors – all occurrences

	Behaviors									total
	P	S	C	F	CA	CS	CU	G	K	
Oats	31		6					3		40
Irrigated pasture	51		5							56
Solar field	3	3	10		1					17
Alfalfa	25	1	7	4	1			3		41
Tilled	40		9	1	1			2		53
Wheat	1		1							2
Vineyard	9	1	4							14
Corn	16		4				1			21
Field edge	4			1				1		6
Grass	1									1
Ruderal/Urban	11		2							13
Dry pasture	36		3				1			40
Riparian										0
Misc. row crops										0
Total	228	5	51	6	3		2	9		304

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering.

Table 6. American kestrel behaviors – all occurrences

	Behaviors									total
	P	S	C	F	CA	CS	CU	G	K	
Oats	11		2	1	1	2	1		2	20
Irrigated pasture	6						2			8
Solar field	36	1	13	6	3		1		2	62
Alfalfa	19		2	2	2	3	1	1	3	33
Tilled	26		1	2	1		1		5	36
Wheat	2									2
Vineyard	10									10
Corn	7			1						8
Field edge	5		3	1						9
Grass										0
Ruderal/Urban	9		2	2			1		2	16
Dry pasture	2			1						3
Riparian										0
Misc. row crops										0
Total	133	1	23	16	7	5	7	1	14	207

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering.

To examine the extent of foraging within solar fields and to evaluate the foraging use of solar fields and other habitats/land use types relative to their availability within the survey area, those behaviors that were considered foraging behaviors were isolated from the total occurrences and used in the statistical analysis. For the Swainson's hawk this included the following behaviors:

- Circling below 100 meters
- Kiting/Hovering
- Standing on ground
- Prey capture (attempt, successful, unsuccessful)

For the red-tailed hawk and American kestrel, perching was also included as a foraging behavior. Note that with the exception of prey capture types and kiting/hoving, the remaining behaviors could be attributed to activities other than foraging. However, these are the primary foraging techniques of these species, and including them provides a reasonable estimation of foraging use for purposes of a comparative analysis.

Swainson's Hawk

Table 7 shows the relationship between foraging occurrences and habitat/land use type acreages for Swainson's hawk. Seventy-four percent of the foraging occurrences were in oat, alfalfa, tilled, and solar fields. A total of 12.8 percent of the foraging occurrences were in solar fields, which included only seven percent of the available habitat within the survey area.

Table 7. Swainson's hawk foraging occurrences within each habitat/land use type.

Land Use Type	Acres	Percent of Total	SWHA Foraging Observations	Percent of Total
Solar Array Field	262	7.0	30	12.8
Irrigated Pasture	897	23.9	28	11.9
Oats	730	19.5	60	25.5
Dry Pasture	273	7.3	3	1.3
Alfalfa	402	10.7	48	20.4
Ruderal/Urban	409	10.9	10	4.3
Corn	174	4.6	4	1.7
Wheat	127	3.4	3	1.3
Tilled	180	4.8	36	15.3
Vineyard	245	6.5	10	4.3
Grass	49	1.3	3	1.3
Other Crops	6	0.2	0	0
	3,754	100	235	100

The first chi-square test determines whether or not foraging use was in proportion to the availability of the habitats/land cover types in the survey area. As expected, the pattern of use indicated a high degree of habitat selectivity and thus the null hypothesis was rejected ($\chi^2_{11, d.f.} = 24.72$ $P < 0.01$) (Table 8). In other words, Swainson's hawks are selecting or avoiding specific crop or land cover types for foraging. Next, the contribution of the individual types are evaluated with regard to their significant contribution (positive or negative) to the chi-square determination (yellow highlighting). Those with an observed use that exceeds the expected use, have a significant positive contribution (orange highlighting) and those with an expected use that exceeds the observed use have a significant negative contribution (blue highlighting) ($\chi^2_{1, d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$). In other words, Table 8 indicates that Swainson's hawks appear to be using solar array fields, oats, alfalfa, and tilled fields at a significantly greater frequency than would be expected relative to their availability in the survey area.

Some caution is needed when interpreting these results. While the results indicate that habitat/land cover types overall are not used in proportion to their availability and that certain types have a significant contribution to this result, it does not necessarily indicate that those that do not have a significant contribution or that have a significant negative association have less overall value. For example, irrigated pasture accounted for the fifth highest number of Swainson's hawk foraging occurrences, but because irrigated pasture was particularly common within the survey area, the expected use exceeded the observed use. So while it does not appear to have been selected over other land cover types or used in proportion to its availability, 12 percent of all documented Swainson's hawk foraging occurred in irrigated pastures, and therefore this type, regardless of its availability or use, clearly has foraging value to this species.

Table 8. Chi-square values for Swainson's hawk.

Land Use Type	Available Habitat (%)	Observed Use of Habitat (Frequency)	Expected Use of Habitat (Frequency)	Chi-square Contribution
Solar Array Field	7.0	30	16.45	11.16
Irrigated Pasture	23.9	28	56.17	14.13
Oats	19.5	60	45.83	4.38
Dry Pasture	7.3	3	17.12	11.65
Alfalfa	10.7	48	25.15	20.76
Ruderal/Urban	10.9	10	25.62	9.52
Corn	4.6	4	10.81	4.29
Wheat	3.4	3	7.99	3.12
Tilled	4.8	36	11.28	54.17
Vineyard	6.5	10	15.28	1.82
Grass	1.3	3	3.06	0.001
Other Crops	0.2	0	0.47	0.47
	100	235	235	135.47*

*135.47 represents the sample statistic in the chi-square analysis. To be considered significant, this value must exceed the Critical Value (24.72, $P < 0.01$).

Red-tailed Hawk

Table 9 shows the relationship between foraging occurrences and habitat/land use type acreages for red-tailed hawk. Five types made up 77.2 percent of the foraging occurrences, irrigated pasture, tilled fields, dry pasture, alfalfa, and oats. Only 14 (5 percent) of red-tailed hawk occurrences were in solar fields.

Table 9. Red-tailed hawk foraging occurrences within each habitat/land use type.

Land Use Type	Acres	Percent of Total	RTHA Foraging Observations	Percent of Total
Solar Array Field	262	7.0	14	5.0
Irrigated Pasture	897	23.9	56	20.0
Oats	731	19.5	37	13.2
Dry Pasture	273	7.3	40	14.3
Alfalfa	402	10.7	36	12.9
Ruderal/Urban	409	10.9	13	4.6
Corn	174	4.6	21	7.5
Wheat	127	3.4	2	0.7
Tilled	180	4.8	47	16.8
Vineyard	245	6.5	13	4.6
Grass	49	1.3	1	0.4
Other Crops	6	0.2	0	0
	3,755	100	280	100

As expected, the pattern of use for red-tailed hawk also indicated a high degree of habitat selectivity and thus the null hypothesis was rejected ($\chi^2_{11, d.f.} = 24.72$ $P < 0.01$) (Table 10). The contribution of the individual types indicated that dry pasture, corn fields, and tilled fields were used significantly more than their relative availability and oats, ruderal/urban, and wheat were used significantly less than their relative availability ($\chi^2_{1, d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$).

As noted above, lack of a significant contribution or a significant negative contribution does not necessarily indicate lack of value. For example, over 13 percent of red-tailed hawk foraging occurrences were in oat fields, but because oat fields were particularly common within the survey area, the expected use exceeded the observed use. But despite the significant negative contribution to the sample statistic (Table 10) oat fields clearly have foraging value to this species. Similarly for alfalfa, while the extent of foraging occurrences did not significantly contribute to rejecting the null hypothesis, 13 percent of the foraging occurrences were in alfalfa, suggesting that regardless of its use relative to its availability, alfalfa fields also have foraging value to this species.

Table 10. Chi-square values for red-tailed hawk.

Land Use Type	Available Habitat (%)	Observed Use of Habitat (Frequency)	Expected Use of Habitat (Frequency)	Chi-square Contribution
Solar Array Field	7.0	14	19.6	1.6
Irrigated Pasture	23.9	56	66.9	1.9
Oats	19.5	37	54.6	5.7
Dry Pasture	7.3	40	20.4	18.8
Alfalfa	10.7	36	30.0	1.2
Ruderal/Urban	10.9	13	30.5	10.0
Corn	4.6	21	9.6	13.5
Wheat	3.4	2	9.5	5.9
Tilled	4.8	47	13.4	84.3
Vineyard	6.5	13	18.7	1.7
Grass	1.3	1	3.6	1.9
Other Crops	0.2	0	0.5	0.5
	100	280	280	147

*147 represents the sample statistic in the chi-square analysis. To be considered significant, this value must exceed the Critical Value (24.72, $P < 0.01$).

American Kestrel

Table 11 shows the relationship between foraging occurrences and habitat/land use type acreages for American kestrel. Three types made up 62.2 percent of the foraging occurrences, solar array fields, alfalfa, and tilled fields. Nearly 17 percent of all foraging occurrences were in solar fields.

Table 11. American kestrel foraging occurrences within each habitat/land use type.

Land Use Type	Acres	Percent of Total	AMKE Foraging Observations	Percent of Total
Solar Array Field	262	7.0	55	30.7
Irrigated Pasture	897	23.9	8	4.5
Oats	731	19.5	19	10.6
Dry Pasture	273	7.3	2	1.1
Alfalfa	402	10.7	31	17.3
Ruderal/Urban	409	10.9	16	8.9
Corn	174	4.6	7	3.9
Wheat	127	3.4	2	1.1
Tilled	180	4.8	29	16.2
Vineyard	245	6.5	10	5.6
Grass	49	1.3	0	0
Other Crops	6	0.2	0	0
	3,755	100	179	100

The pattern of use for American kestrel also indicated a high degree of habitat selectivity and thus the null hypothesis was rejected ($\chi^2_{11, d.f. = 24.72}$ $P < 0.01$) (Table 12). The contribution of the individual types indicated that solar fields, alfalfa, and tilled fields were used significantly more than their relative availability, and irrigated pasture, oats, and dry pasture were used significantly less than their relative availability ($\chi^2_{1, d.f. = 3.84}$ $P < 0.05$).

Foraging use of solar fields by American kestrels was particularly high due mainly to the high proportion of perching occurrences (58 percent) (Table 6). The solar panels and the perimeter fence provided excellent perching habitat for kestrels.

Table 12. Chi-square values for American kestrel.

Land Use Type	Available Habitat (%)	Observed Use of Habitat (Frequency)	Expected Use of Habitat (Frequency)	Chi-square Contribution
Solar Array Field	7.0	55	12.5	144.5
Irrigated Pasture	23.9	8	42.8	28.3
Oats	19.5	19	34.9	7.2
Dry Pasture	7.3	2	13.1	9.4
Alfalfa	10.7	31	19.2	7.3
Ruderal/Urban	10.9	16	19.5	0.6
Corn	4.6	7	8.2	0.2
Wheat	3.4	2	6.1	2.8
Tilled	4.8	29	8.6	48.4
Vineyard	6.5	10	11.6	0.2
Grass	1.3	0	2.3	2.3
Other Crops	0.2	0	0.4	0.4
	100	179	179	251.6

*251.6 represents the sample statistic in the chi-square analysis. To be considered significant, this value must exceed the Critical Value (24.72, $P < 0.01$).

Stationary Observation Points

Using the same definition for foraging behavior as was used during the driving transect surveys, Table 13 indicates that the majority of occurrences in solar fields during the stationary observation surveys were of foraging birds (74 percent). A total of 148 foraging occurrences were documented during the 68 hours of observation. Sixty-nine of these (47 percent) were of Swainson's hawks, 64 percent of which were foraging observations.

Table 14 shows the different behaviors of each species within the solar fields. Nearly 10 percent of the total foraging occurrences and over 7 percent of the Swainson's hawk foraging occurrences were prey captures or prey capture attempts.

Table 13. Total number of occurrences and the proportion of foraging occurrences in solar fields for all species observed.

Species	Total occurrences	Foraging occurrences	Percent Foraging occurrences
Swainson's hawk	108	69	63.9
Red-tailed hawk	23	23	100
American kestrel	58	48	82.8
Northern harrier	10	8	80
Total	199	148	74.4

Table 14. Behaviors in solar fields (all species). Foraging behaviors are highlighted.

	Behaviors								
	P	S	C	K	F	G	CA	CS	CU
SWHA		38	62	2	1		3	1	1
RTHA	2		19		1		1		
AMKE	32		5	2	10	2	2	2	3
NOHA	2				7		1		
Total	36	38	86	4	19	2	7	3	4

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering. SWHA = Swainson's hawk; RTHA = red-tailed hawk; AMKE = American kestrel; NOHA = northern harrier.

Conclusions

1. Swainson's hawks use and forage within managed solar array fields. The results of the driving transect surveys and the stationary observation point surveys indicate foraging use of the solar array fields by Swainson's hawks and other raptors. While it is difficult to observe the precise locations of prey capture attempts in solar array fields due to their height, the rows of solar trackers may not preclude foraging in the open grasslands between them. However, foraging hawks may also be focused primarily on the wider spaces between the sub-areas within the projects and around the perimeter of the projects. Of key importance is the management of a grassland substrate to promote rodent populations and maintaining this substrate at a height that promotes visibility and access to prey. Unlike most crop types, this condition is available in solar fields throughout the spring and summer breeding season, and thus provides a consistent and available source of prey. Many crop types, while important in the overall agricultural matrix, may be available for a relatively short period of time during the breeding season due to the planting, growth, and harvesting regime.

2. Swainson's hawk foraging use of solar array fields exceeds what would be expected based on their availability. This suggests that not only were the solar array fields being used by foraging Swainson's hawks, but that they were being selectively used at greater frequency than some of the other habitats/land cover types in the survey area.

3. Within the diverse agricultural landscape of the study area, the presence of the managed solar array fields (i.e., managed grassland substrate) did not appear to negatively affect the Swainson's hawk and other raptors. The solar array fields were used for foraging similarly to other moderate to high value agricultural cover types and their presence did not appear to affect the overall use of the landscape by Swainson's hawks or other raptors. As one element of an otherwise diverse agricultural matrix, the solar array fields provided a consistent and an apparently reasonably accessible source of prey, particularly for Swainson's hawks and American kestrels. However, this outcome should be viewed with some caution in that while this study indicated a positive

relationship, only 7 percent of the survey area was solar array field. How raptors might respond if this proportion was greater is unknown. Despite the generally positive relationship found in this study, there is likely a threshold that would begin to indicate a more negative outcome as the increase of solar array fields, like that of any single land cover type, affects the diversity of the agricultural landscape.

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Swainson's Hawk and Other Raptor Foraging Use of Solar Array Fields within an Agricultural Landscape in Sacramento County

Year 2

November 2021



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Year 2

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Introduction

This report presents data from the second year of a study to evaluate the use of photovoltaic solar energy projects by Swainson's hawks (*Buteo Swainsoni*) and other raptors within an agricultural landscape in the Sacramento Valley.

Background

Four photovoltaic solar energy projects were constructed in south Sacramento County in 2012. All occur within an agricultural landscape used by foraging raptors, including the state-listed Swainson's hawk. Because of its dependence on agricultural foraging habitats in the Central Valley, loss of suitable agricultural lands to urban development has been considered a potentially significant environmental impact on the Swainson's hawk pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CDFG 1994). Since the early 1990s, impacts considered significant were usually mitigated through a compensatory process of acquisition, management, and preservation of replacement agricultural lands. This process was based initially on guidance provided by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFG 1994) and later in Sacramento County through an ordinance enacted in 2006 (Sacramento County 2006). Because neither the CDFG guidance nor the county ordinance addressed the relationship between land conversion and the status of the Swainson's hawk breeding population or differentiated between different types of land use conversion, but instead assumed significance pursuant to CEQA based on broadly defined habitat availability/species abundance relationships, the proponents of the four solar projects questioned the reliability of the existing process to require compensatory mitigation relative to the specific conditions of a photovoltaic solar project compared with other types of land conversion, mainly urban development. As a result, through consultation with the county and CDFW, a one-year study was undertaken to assess the use of the photovoltaic solar projects by Swainson's hawks and other raptors.

The initial study was completed in 2013 (Estep 2013) and results were presented to the county and CDFW staff. Despite the evidence of ongoing Swainson's hawk and other raptor use of the solar projects, CDFW determined that the evidence gathered during a single year was insufficient and that the project should remain subject to the earlier guidelines (CDFG 1994) and county ordinance, and with concurrence from Sacramento County, the request to reevaluate the need for and extent of compensatory mitigation was rejected.

In 2018, the South Sacramento County Habitat Conservation Plan was approved and subsequently became the framework for ongoing mitigation and conservation efforts in Sacramento County, superseding earlier CDFW guidance and the county ordinance to address land conversion impacts to Swainson's hawk related to most development projects. However, solar energy projects were not included in the HCP as covered projects, and thus remain under the purview of independent CEQA review by Sacramento County to determine the significance of the land use conversion and the need for compensatory mitigation.

In 2021, Bona Terra Energy, LLC proposed construction of additional photovoltaic projects in South Sacramento County. Aware of the efforts in 2013 to investigate ongoing use of solar

projects and the resulting unsuccessful negotiations with the county and CDFW, they decided to undertake a second year of study in order to provide additional data to supplement the results from the initial 2013 study. If results were similar to the 2013 study, this additional information would again be presented to the county and CDFW in an effort to reassess the need for and extent of compensatory mitigation. This report summarizes the results of this additional research.

Summary of 2013 Results

The 2013 study, which is largely repeated in 2021, poses a simple question: Do Swainson's hawks and other raptors use photovoltaic solar arrays for foraging, and if so, within a diverse agricultural landscape, to what extent are they, and other land cover types, used in proportion to their availability? The results documented use by Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverious*), and northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), and indicated that Swainson's hawks used solar array fields at a significantly greater frequency than would be expected relative to their availability, suggesting that solar array fields were being selected by foraging Swainson's hawks. This result was also found for American kestrels. The report concluded that integrated within a diverse agricultural landscape, the presence solar array fields of moderate size and that maintain a suitable grassland substrate are unlikely to have a negative affect on Swainson's hawk distribution or abundance.

Location

The four solar projects installed in 2012 (referred to as Bruceville, Kammerer, McKenzie, and Dillard projects) were all used in this study. A fifth solar project (Belectric project), installed earlier, was also included. The study area is located at and in the vicinity of these five projects in South Sacramento County. All are south of the City of Sacramento and east of Interstate 5 (Figure 1). The Kammerer, Bruceville, and Belectric project sites are immediately south of the City of Elk Grove between Interstate 5 and State Route 99. The McKenzie project site is just north of the City of Galt and just east of State Route 99, and the Dillard project is further northeast, just south of State Route 16 (Figure 1).

Description of the Solar Projects

The four solar projects installed in 2012 range in size from approximately 45 acres to 200 acres and consist of an array of photovoltaic solar panels installed in east-west-facing rows. The earlier-installed 140-acre Belectric project is similarly designed with northeast-southwest-facing rows. The panels are connected uniformly in rows along a solar tracker frame that maintains conformity and allows the panels to pivot along a single axis as they track the sun. The trackers are set into the ground using 4-inch galvanized steel poles set in 1-foot concrete pads spaced approximately 10 feet apart along the row. The 8-foot-long solar panels are installed onto the frame with a 2-foot minimum clearance from the ground to panel edge at a 45-degree angle, the maximum tilt angle. The total height of the structure reaches a maximum of approximately 10 feet at full 45-degree tilt. Panel rows are spaced 20 feet apart from pole to pole. With 8-foot-long panels, this leaves 12 feet of open space between each row at horizontal, and slightly larger open space as the trackers angle. The collection systems are underground with the exception of grid tie

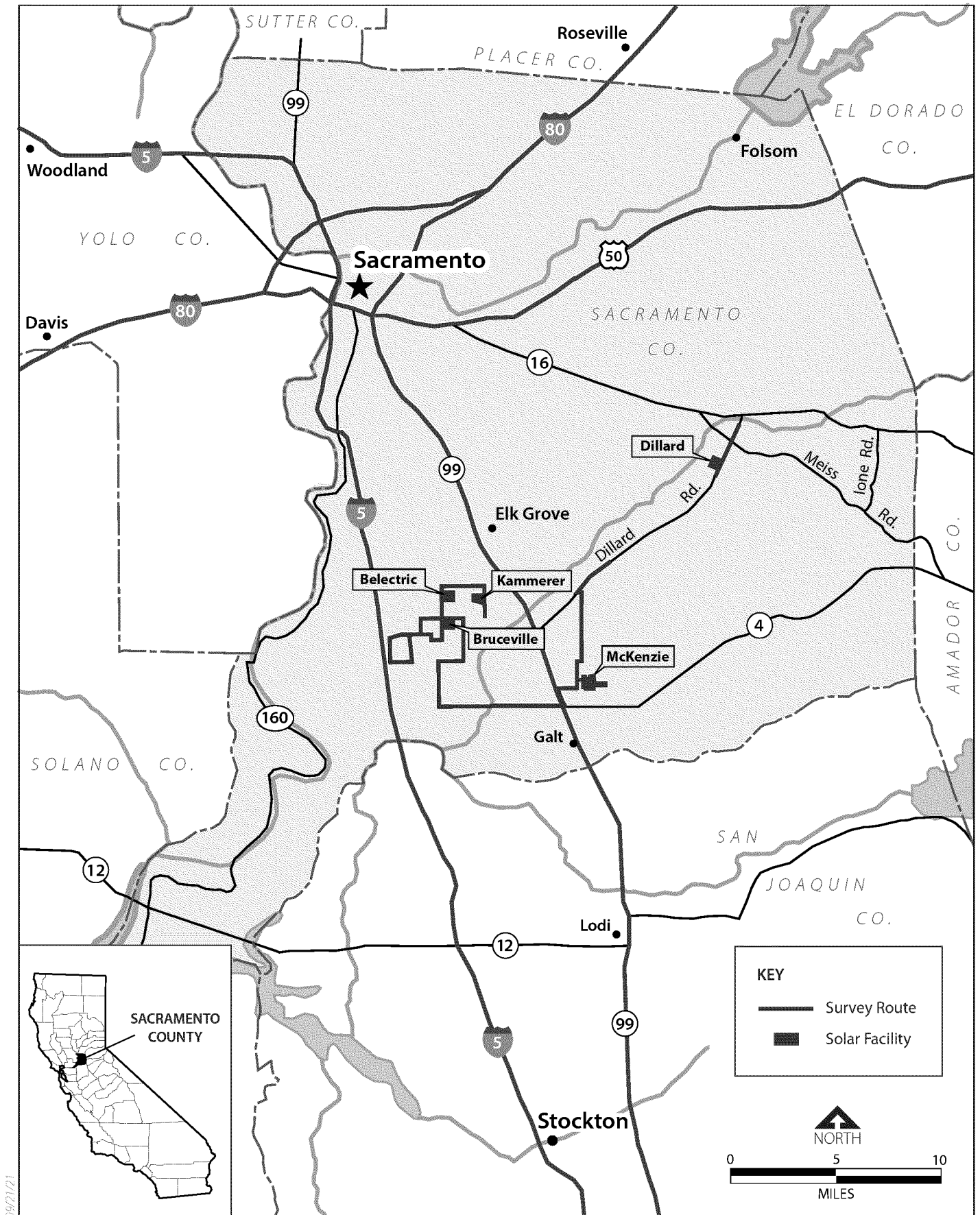


Figure 1
Regional Location of Survey Route and Photovoltaic Solar Facilities

inverters, which are spaced uniformly throughout each project site. Power is delivered to an onsite solar substation. Each project also includes internal gravel access roads and an 8-foot-high chain link security fence around the perimeter.

A management plan was prepared for each of the sites constructed in 2012, which includes the establishment of grasses throughout the project sites, including beneath and between the trackers and solar panels. The grasses are maintained at a low (4 to 12 inches) height through a sheep grazing program that periodically rotates between the sites as needed. The grass ground cover is designed to encourage the establishment of rodent populations to promote raptor use of the site as well as to provide for rodent refugia to aid in the reestablishment of rodent prey populations on adjacent farmlands following cultivation. The earlier-installed Belectric project also includes a similar grass substrate.

Differentiating the Structure and Management of Solar Arrays from Cultivated Habitats

The extent to which raptors are likely to use solar arrays compared with cultivated fields is largely a function of their design and management as well as the foraging behavior of each species. For example, Swainson's hawks are highly active aerial hunters. Typical foraging behavior is a relatively low (less than 100 meters) circling flight above suitable foraging habitat. They avoid fields with tall or dense vegetation because this condition reduces visibility and access to prey (Bechard 1982, Estep 2009). As a result, at first glance it would seem that a solar array, like a vineyard or orchard, would not provide suitable foraging conditions. Swolgaard et al. (2007) found some use of vineyards by foraging Swainson's hawks, but not to the extent of other crops and land cover types in the surrounding landscape. Still, the Swolgaard et al. (2007) study revealed that Swainson's hawks are not entirely averse to hunting in these conditions.

A typical solar array, however, has greater separation between rows than do most vineyards. For most photovoltaic solar projects, including the five included in this study, at least 60 percent of the area within the solar array remains potentially available at any given time. Most projects also retain open areas between array cells, along access roads, and between the arrays and the perimeter fence. Management of the substrate is also essential to ensure that the project supports available rodent prey for foraging raptors. In order to encourage a sustainable source of small rodent prey, a grass substrate is maintained year-round throughout the project area (Plate 1). Sheep grazing is used to control vegetation height and density, which also encourages accessibility of raptors to rodent prey (Plate 2). Because the grass substrate is maintained, it also functions as a stable source of recolonization of rodent populations into adjacent fields, which may be subject to seasonal fluctuations of rodent populations resulting from the planting/harvesting regime. In some cases, it is also possible to apply the principals of agrivoltaics (Goetzberger and Zastrow, 1982; Dolezal et al. 2021), the practice of agriculture in and around solar PV facilities, by including a mixture of grasses, forbs, and a variety of pollinator plant species. In addition to further encouraging rodent prey populations, this deep-rooted system helps save water, holds and improves the topsoil on-site, and encourages pollinators, which can benefit neighboring crops.



Plate 1. Solar array with grassland substrate.



Plate 2. Sheep grazing the grasslands at the Bruceville solar project site, 2021.

Physiography and Land use

The surrounding land use is entirely agricultural, consisting of a combination of irrigated pasture, dry pasture, and irrigated cropland. Dominant crop types in the area include oat hay, alfalfa, corn, wheat, and vineyards. Agricultural land use has changed since the 2013 study. Orchards, a land cover providing unsuitable foraging habitat for most raptors, have increased substantially, replacing row and grain crops, and potentially reducing overall use of the landscape by foraging raptors. Urbanization from the City of Elk Grove has also expanded southward toward the survey route. Although these dense urban developments were not included within the survey area, their increasingly close proximity likely affects raptor use of the surrounding area and thus may influence occurrences within the survey area.

Rural urban areas also occur throughout the area including farm and ranch residences and related facilities and dairies. The landscape is flat with virtually no topographic relief other than seasonal and perennial drainages, with the exception of the low grassland hills surrounding the Dillard project and to a lesser extent on the open grassland/rangelands of the Cosumnes River Preserve, north of the McKenzie project. Trees occur along riparian corridors, roadsides, and field borders, and around farm and ranch residences. These trees provide nesting habitat for several of the raptor species in the study area including Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*), American kestrel, and great-horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*).

Distribution and Foraging Behavior of Nesting Swainson's Hawks and other Raptor Species in South Sacramento County

Because of its status as a state-threatened species and its association with mitigation and conservation actions in the Central Valley, our target species for this study was the Swainson's hawk. However, all raptor species were recorded during the survey. A brief description of those species known to occur in the vicinity of the study area follows.

The Swainson's hawk is a medium-sized buteo most often characterized by its long, narrow, and tapered wings held in flight in a slight dihedral shape. The body size is somewhat smaller, thinner, and less robust than other buteos, although the wings are at least as long as other buteos. This body and wing shape allow for efficient soaring flight and aerial maneuverability, important for foraging, which Swainson's hawks do primarily from the wing, and during courtship and inter-specific territorial interactions (Plate 3). The species nests in trees along riparian corridors, field edges, roadsides, isolated trees, and around rural homesites; and forages in compatible cultivated landscapes and grasslands.



Plate 3. Adult Swainson's hawk showing the long, tapered wings that allow for efficient soaring and flight maneuverability.

The Swainson's hawk occurs throughout the undeveloped portions of Sacramento County. Surveys have been conducted throughout Sacramento County for several decades resulting in a substantial number of breeding records (California Natural Diversity Data Base 2021, Estep 2007, 2009a, 2012). Surveys conducted in 2006 reported a total of 188 active breeding sites in Sacramento County south of Jackson Highway (State Route 16) (Estep 2007). More recent surveys (Estep 2009a, 2012) reported additional active breeding sites within and south of the City of Elk Grove. Additional nesting sites are reported in eBird, a publicly-accessed online repository of bird occurrence data. Several additional nest sites were also reported during road transect surveys conducted for this study, one of which is located within the substation of the Kammerer solar project site (Plates 4 and 5).

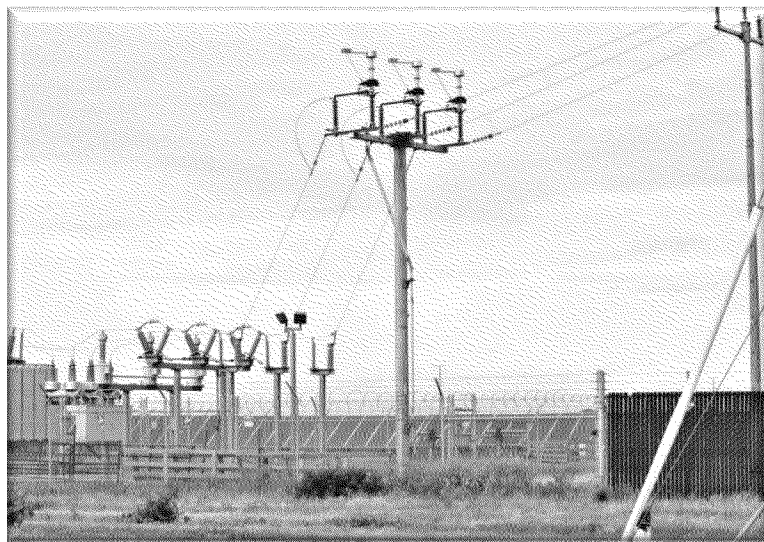


Plate 4. Swainson's hawk nest in the Kammerer substation, 2021.



Plate 5. Swainson's hawk nest at Kammerer solar site, 2021.

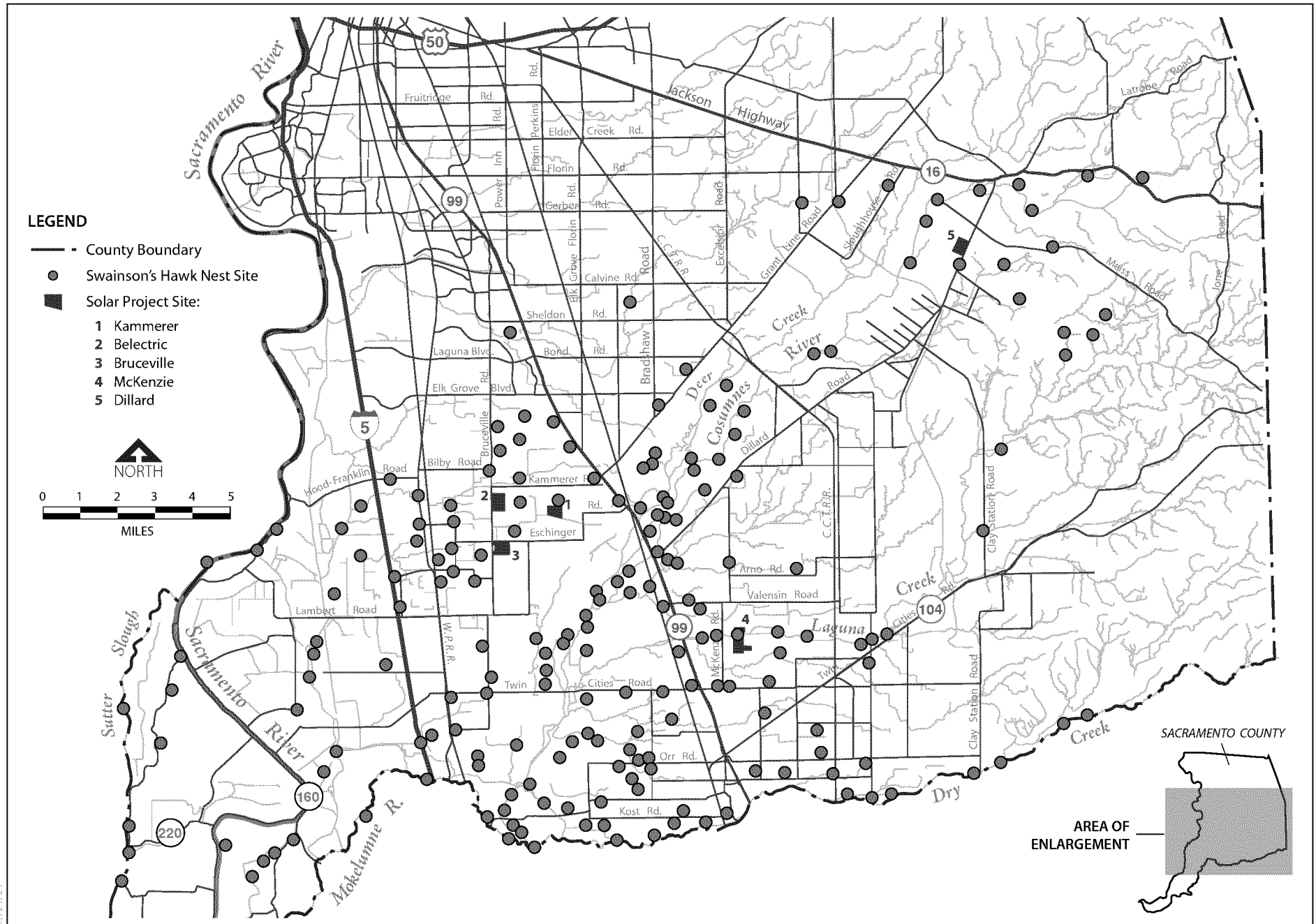
Figure 2 illustrates the locations of reported Swainson's hawk nests in South Sacramento County in the vicinity of the solar project sites. The highest nesting density was found in the interior of the county where the land use is predominantly irrigated cropland and irrigated pastureland.

In the Central Valley, the distribution of the red-tailed hawk is similar to the Swainson's hawk. There is substantial overlap in the habitat associations of the two species. Similar in size, but more robust in body than the Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawks are somewhat less-active hunters, often hunting from perches. Distribution in the vicinity of the study area is similar to the Swainson's hawk, and although red-tailed hawks are more common range-wide, they are less abundant than Swainson's hawks in the irrigated agricultural landscape of the Central Valley (Estep 2007, 2008, 2012, 2020, Estep and Dinsdale 2012).

Red-shouldered hawks are distributed throughout the Central Valley, and are found primarily in riparian and other woodland habitats. As a result, their distribution is less uniform across the landscape compared with Swainson's hawk and red-tailed hawk, and although underreported, they are also less common. Red-shouldered hawks forage primarily in woodlands and along woodland edges, but will opportunistically hunt in open agricultural and grassland habitats.

White-tailed kites also occur throughout the Central Valley, using similar nesting and foraging habitats as Swainson's hawk and red-tailed hawk. However, they are substantially less common and more specialized in their use of foraging habitats and their hunting behavior, particularly their use of kiting or hovering technique while searching for rodent prey.

American kestrel is also distributed throughout the Central Valley, and although populations fluctuate, the species is relatively common and ubiquitous in agricultural landscapes. Kestrels also nest in similar riparian and other woodland habitats, in tree rows, or in small woodlots or in



SOURCE: Estep 2021.

Figure 2
Swainson's Hawk Distribution in the Vicinity of the Solar Project Sites

trees surrounding rural farm houses. They typically hunt from a perch – often seen along utility line corridors – or using a hovering technique similar to white-tailed kite.

Northern harrier is a ground-nesting raptor also commonly observed in agricultural and grassland landscapes in the Central Valley that uses a low-elevation coursing flight technique while hunting for small rodents. Great-horned owl, with a similar Central Valley distribution, nests in riparian and other woodland habitats and hunts, usually from a perch, in cultivated fields and grasslands. Burrowing owl, also a ground-nesting species, occurs primarily in open grassland habitats but is also occasionally found in cultivated landscapes. Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) is uncommonly found in riparian and other woodland habitats in the Central Valley where it uses a meandering flight pattern under the canopy to surprise prey. However, like all raptors in the altered landscape of the Central Valley, they will opportunistically hunt in open cultivated or grassland habitats.

Purpose

This study was designed to meet the following objectives (1) examine how and the extent to which Swainson's hawks and other raptors forage on or otherwise use the solar facilities; and (2) evaluate raptor use of solar facilities and other available land cover types relative to their availability on the landscape. Through this investigation, the purpose was to provide a general estimation of the use of the solar project facilities compared to other available land cover types and to provide data that can be used to assess the potential for changes in the distribution and abundance of Swainson's hawks resulting from the presence of moderately-sized solar facilities within an otherwise diverse, expansive, and dynamic agricultural landscape.

Methods

Strip Transect Road Surveys

The strip transect road survey method (Fuller and Mosher 1987) was used to evaluate relative foraging use of different land cover types, including the solar arrays. The transect route included the same 26-mile route used during the 2013 study, but included an additional 14 miles for a total route distance of approximately 40 miles. The survey route was selected based on the following:

- Incorporating the five solar facilities into the design
- Road/vehicle accessibility
- Visibility
- Road safety
- Diversity of land cover types

The survey area extended 600 feet from each side of the road for a total width of 1,200 feet. Initially, all land cover types were mapped and classified along the survey route. To conduct the survey, the surveyor slowly drove at a consistent pace between 10 and 15 mph, stopping as needed to identify and record raptors and raptor behavior. Recorded behaviors included:

- Circling below 100 meters
- Soaring below 200 meters
- Flying through the survey area below 200 meters
- Kiting/Hovering
- Perching (adjacent poles/trees/fences)
- Standing on ground
- Prey capture attempt
- Prey capture successful
- Prey capture unsuccessful
- Aerial foraging

The surveyor recorded data as raptors were observed within the 1,200-foot-wide transect survey area. Land cover type and status, including vegetation height, and farming activity were recorded for each occurrence. Start times were variable in order to account for differences in foraging use patterns. Using this method, a reliable statistical analysis can be performed that measures habitat use as a proportion of availability. In other words, it determines whether a habitat type is used more or less than expected relative to its availability. In this way we can evaluate the relative use of all cover types in the survey area, including the solar array fields.

A survey form along with an accompanying data code sheet and field maps with the route and land cover types illustrated were used to record observational and related data while in the field. Surveys were conducted during daylight hours and were not conducted during severe weather events such as heavy rainfall, winds greater than 20 mph or foggy conditions. Surveys were conducted twice weekly by the same surveyor between April 19 and August 31, 2021 for a total of 39 surveys.

Habitat Mapping. Land cover types were mapped and characterized in the field along the survey route on 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle maps. Current 2021 land use was documented in the field according to the land cover type categories listed below.

- Oats
- Alfalfa
- Dry Pasture
- Irrigated pasture
- Ruderal/Developed
- Vineyard
- Orchard
- Grassland
- Corn
- Tilled
- Solar Array field
- Idle/Fallow
- Riparian/Wetland
- Wheat

Field boundaries were recorded, confirmed, or adjusted as needed on USGS base maps. Tilled was included separately because some fields were tilled and unplanted for approximately one-half of the survey period before being planted. Rural residences and their surrounding footprint (e.g., barns, out buildings, yards, and equipment storage areas), adjacent ruderal areas, and other agricultural facilities, mainly dairies, were combined into a single category – Ruderal/Developed. Following the initial field mapping of habitat/land use categories, the data were then re-mapped using aerial photos to confirm field boundaries.

These maps were then converted to graphic maps using Adobe Illustrator. Habitat/land use cover type acreages were calculated from the graphic maps using a plug-in filter from Telegraphics Inc. While this process provided a reasonably accurate representation of land cover types along the survey route, it did not exclude interior farm roads and other edge features. As a result, the acreage totals may exceed the actual acreage for some types. However, this was considered to have a negligible effect on the total calculations or the relative abundance of the various types.

Several crop type rotations occurred during the survey including wheat, oats, and tilled fields rotating to corn. These rotations or conversions occurred at approximately the mid-point of the survey. To account for these changes and to satisfy the assumption that habitat availability is constant throughout the study (Manly et al. 2002), we used the same approach as Swolgaard et al. (2008) by tallying the areas of all fields that changed crops midseason, dividing the values in half, and assigning those values to each habitat.

Analysis. Documented raptor occurrences and acreages of land cover types were compiled and proportions of land cover types and occurrences within each land cover type calculated. As in the 2013 study, of the nine species documented during the survey, only Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, and American kestrel had sufficient occurrences to be included in the statistical analysis. The null hypothesis stated that Swainson's hawks and other raptor species used each habitat for foraging in proportion to its availability in the survey area. Therefore, only behaviors that represented foraging were included in the analysis. To ensure consistency with the 2013 results, foraging behaviors for Swainson's hawk included circling below 100 meters, the typical foraging behavior of Swainson's hawks, kiting/hovering, and prey capture attempts. Perching behavior was initially excluded because the species does not typically hunt from a perch. However, in 2021, additional calculations were run that included perching as a foraging behavior to account for observed behavioral changes in Swainson's hawk use of solar array fields since 2013. Perching was included as a foraging behavior for red-tailed hawk and American kestrel, species that often hunt from perches.

Hypothesis testing for selection of foraging habitat consisted of a chi-square test for goodness of fit, followed by chi-square testing of individual types to determine if use was disproportionate to availability and whether it was positively or negatively correlated. While this approach may be regarded as very conservative compared with other more robust statistical tests used in habitat use/availability studies, it was considered appropriate to address the rather narrow objectives (use of solar array fields) of this study.

Stationary Observation Point Surveys

In addition to the strip transect road surveys, surveys were also conducted from stationary observation points around the perimeter of four of the five solar arrays (not including the Belectric project). The purpose of these surveys was to document additional use of the solar fields by all raptor species and to increase the opportunity to record prey captures or prey capture attempts, which are generally less frequently observed during road transect surveys. Stationary observation point surveys were conducted at the four solar projects once per week in a rotational sequence between April 22 and August 25 for a total of 19 separate four-hour observation periods totaling 76 hours of observation.

Results and Discussion

Land Cover Types within the Survey Area

Table 1 presents the types and corresponding acreages of land cover within the survey area. Figures 3a through 3h illustrate the distribution of these types along the survey route. The land use along the approximately 40-mile route and throughout much of the south Sacramento County area consists of a mixture of grazing lands in the form of both irrigated and non-irrigated pasturelands and cultivated lands. Of the 5,501 acres within the survey area, 79 percent are active agricultural types including irrigated and non-irrigated pasturelands (21.7 percent), seasonally or annually cultivated crops (28.8 percent), semi-perennial hays (12.2 percent), and perennial crops (16.1 percent). The remaining 21 percent of the land cover consists of ruderal/developed (9.7 percent), uncultivated grassland (6.2 percent), riparian (1.4 percent), and solar array fields (3.7 percent). Two primary changes occurred since the 2013 survey: the expansion of orchards – largely at the expense of irrigated pasture acreage, and the increase in grassland, which is due mainly to expanding the survey route through a portion of the Cosumnes River preserve (Table 1).

Table 1. Land use types and acreages in the survey area, 2021 and 2013.

Land Cover Type	Acres	Percent of Total 2021	Percent of Total 2013
Oats	844	15.3	19.2
Alfalfa	672	12.2	10.6
Dry Pasture	613	11.1	7.2
Irrigated Pasture	585	10.6	23.6
Ruderal/Developed	531	9.7	10.8
Vineyard	495	9.0	6.5
Orchard	393	7.1	0
Grassland	340	6.2	1.3
Corn	283	5.1	4.6
Tilled	235	4.3	4.7
Solar Array Field	206	3.7	6.9
Idle/Fallow	159	2.9	0.2
Riparian/Wetland	77	1.4	1.1
Wheat	68	1.2	3.3
Total	5,501	100	100

Seasonally or Annually Cultivated Crops. Within the survey area, these include oat hay, corn, and wheat crops, much of which is grown as silage to support local dairy operations. Tilled lands are cultivated lands that are between plantings and were included as a separate type because most of these areas were in a tilled condition for approximately one-half of the survey period before being planted to corn, which is often planted later in the season. These crops have variable suitability as foraging habitat depending on vegetation height and density, which influences prey accessibility (Bechard 1982, Estep 2009). Of the types found in the survey area, oat hay likely provides the highest value due to large rodent prey populations and relatively early harvest, which increases prey accessibility. After cutting, oat fields may continue to provide foraging value if the field is not disked and prepared for the following planting.

Semi-Perennial Hays. These are alfalfa hay fields that remain uncultivated for at least 3 consecutive years. During the spring and summer months, alfalfa fields are mowed approximately once per month and may be irrigated as frequently as once per week. This is considered a high value foraging crop type for Swainson's hawk and other raptors because of the lack of seasonal or annual cultivation and because the regular mowing and irrigation operations increase prey accessibility (Estep 2009).

Irrigated and Non-irrigated Pasturelands. Irrigated pastures are planted with grasses (e.g., bromes, ryegrass, clovers), irrigated, and grazed by livestock. They may be periodically cultivated and replanted. Non-irrigated, or dry pastures are uncultivated natural grasslands that are grazed by livestock. Both types are used by Swainson's hawks and other foraging raptors but are considered to have only moderate value due to low rodent prey populations compared to some cultivated lands (Estep 1989, 2009).

Perennial Crops. Perennial crops include vineyards and orchards. Although some use by Swainson's hawks has been documented (Swolgaard et al 2008), vineyards are generally considered to have low foraging value because as they mature, the vegetation becomes tall and dense and largely precludes foraging access (Estep 1989). Orchards, primarily nut orchards, have expanded throughout the region and in 2021 represent 7.1 percent of the land cover in the survey area, up from 0 percent in 2013. This land cover is considered unsuitable for Swainson's hawk foraging due to the dense canopy and inaccessibility to the ground.

Urban/Ruderal. Rural farm and ranch residences and associated out-buildings, dairy facilities, and other farming and ranching facilities occur along the survey route. Ruderal weedy or grassy patches also occur within or adjacent to some of the developed areas. Although these areas provide relatively little foraging value, they often provide perching habitat or nest sites where suitable trees or utility poles occur around their perimeter.

Uncultivated Grassland and Riparian. The survey route crosses the flood plain of the Cosumnes River where a small amount of riparian and associated uncultivated grassland were documented. The riparian forest in this area supports high value nesting habitat but would not typically be used for foraging by raptor species documented during the survey with the exception of red-shouldered hawk and Cooper's hawk. The small patches of grassland may be used by foraging raptors, but usually do not support the prey abundance and accessibility compared with open, cultivated lands. The expanded route for 2021 included additional open grassland through

the Cosumnes River Preserve and in the vicinity of the Dillard project at the eastern terminus of the route.

Solar Array Fields. A description of the five solar fields is provided in the Introduction section.

Strip Transect Road Surveys

Data on species occurrence, land cover, and behavior are compiled into the following tables, which provide insight into the use of solar fields compared with other land cover types by each raptor species, and inform the statistical outcome presented in the chi-square value tables from which the relative importance of each land cover can be inferred.

A total of 1,029 raptor occurrences were documented within the survey area. Three of the seven documented species, Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, and American kestrel comprised 92.4 percent of the total occurrences. Swainson's hawk comprised 30.4 percent of the total occurrences (Table 2), down from 38.5 percent in 2013, speculatively due to orchard expansion in the region. In 2021, red-tailed hawks were the most commonly documented species in the survey area at 39.8 percent, up from 31.2 percent in 2013.

Table 2. Species occurrences documented within the survey area, 2021.

Species	Number of Occurrences	Percent of Total
Red-tailed hawk	410	39.8
Swainson's hawk	313	30.4
American kestrel	228	22.2
Red-shouldered hawk	42	4.1
White-tailed kite	20	1.9
Osprey	5	0.5
Cooper's Hawk	5	0.5
Northern harrier	4	0.4
Great-horned Owl	2	0.2
Total	1,029	100

Table 3 shows the number of occurrences by species within each land cover type. Alfalfa was associated with the largest proportion of all raptor occurrences at 23.6 percent, and the largest proportion of occurrences for red-tailed hawk (21.2 percent), Swainson's hawk (27.2 percent), American kestrel (26.3 percent), and red-shouldered hawk (23.8 percent). Dry pasture, irrigated pasture, solar fields, and oats also supported relatively high overall raptor occurrences, particularly red-tailed hawks, Swainson's hawks, and American kestrels.

Although solar fields made up only 3.7 percent of the survey area (Table 1), 8.7 percent of all raptor occurrences and 11.2 percent of all Swainson's hawk occurrences were documented in solar fields. Nearly 13 percent of all American kestrel occurrences and 4.6 percent of all red-tailed hawk occurrences were in solar fields.

Table 3. Species occurrences documented within each land cover type, 2021.

Land Cover Type	Species									Total	% of Total
	RTHA	SWHA	AMKE	RSHA	WTKI	OSPR	NOHA	COHA	GHOW		
Alfalfa	87	85	60	10	1					243	23.6
Dry pasture	56	34	11	3	1					105	10.2
Irrigated, pasture	53	20	15	5						93	9.0
Solar field	19	35	29	4				2	1	90	8.7
Oats	14	33	32		3				1	83	8.1
Vineyard	48	16	7	3			2	2		78	7.6
Corn	24	16	25	2				1		68	6.6
Field edge*	13	15	16	8	6	5				63	6.1
Tilled	11	25	20	3	1		1			61	5.9
Idle/Fallow	27	2	6		8					43	4.2
Orchard	38	4	1							43	4.2
Wheat	4	16	5							25	2.4
Grassland	15	5	1				1			22	2.1
Riparian/wetland	1	2		4						7	0.7
Ruderal/Develop	0	5								5	0.5
Total	410	313	228	42	20	5	4	5	2	1,029	100

SWHA = Swainson's hawk; RTHA = red-tailed hawk; AMKE = American kestrel; NOHA = northern harrier; WTKI = white-tailed kite; RSHA = red-shouldered hawk; OSPR = osprey; COHA = Cooper's hawk, GHOW = great-horned owl.

*Field or road edge was not a mapped habitat type, so these data are not included in the statistical analysis.

Species occurrences by behavior type are presented in Table 4. Perched occurrences were most common followed by circling below 100 meters, and together comprised nearly 82 percent of all occurrences. A total of 831 occurrences (81 percent) were considered potential foraging occurrences (Table 4).

Table 4. Behaviors documented by species. Potential foraging behaviors are highlighted.

Behavior Code	Species									Total	% of Total
	RTHA	SWHA	AMKE	RSHA	WTKI	COHA	OSPR	NOHA	GHOW		
P	304	122	145	31	14	2	3		1	622	60.4
C	81	122	10	4	2		1			220	21.4
F	13	14	24	4	3	3	1	3	1	66	6.4
G	1	28	1	1						31	3.0
CS	1	9	12	1						23	2.2
K		5	14		1					20	1.9
CU	2	3	11							16	1.6
S	5	9						1		15	1.5
CA	3	1	9	1						14	1.4
AF			2							2	0.2
Total	410	313	228	42	20	5	5	4	2	1029	100

SWHA = Swainson's hawk; RTHA = red-tailed hawk; AMKE = American kestrel; NOHA = northern harrier; WTKI = white-tailed kite; RSHA = red-shouldered hawk; OSPR = osprey. P-perching; C-circling below 100m; F-flying through below 200m; G-on the ground; CS-successful prey capture; K-kiting/hovering; CU-unsuccessful prey capture; S-soaring below 200m; CA-prey capture attempt; AF-aerial foraging.

Table 5 summarizes all raptor behaviors by land cover type. Tables 6, 7, and 8 show the behaviors associated with each occurrence in each land cover type for the Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, and American kestrel, respectively. Swainson's hawks (Table 6) generally spend less time perching, particularly while foraging, than do red-tailed hawks and American kestrels, species that often hunt from perches. Typical hunting behavior of Swainson's hawk is a circling

flight at an altitude less than 100 meters. Nearly 40 percent of all Swainson's hawk occurrences were of circling flights below 100 meters. The proportion of perching occurrences (39%) was similar (up from 29% in 2013); however, in contrast, the largest proportion of Red-tailed hawk and American kestrel occurrences (74 percent and 64 percent, respectively) were of perching individuals (Tables 7 and 8).

Table 5. All raptor behaviors by land cover type

Land Cover Type	Behaviors										Total
	P	S	C	F	CA	CS	CU	G	K	AF	
Oats	48	2	23	1			3	1	5		83
Alfalfa	141	2	39	9	5	12	8	18	9		243
Dry pasture	66	1	22	8	1	2	1	4			105
Irrigated pasture	59	4	17	5	1	3	1	2		1	93
Ruderal/Developed	4		1								5
Vineyard	44	2	26	6							78
Orchard	35		8								43
Grassland	12		7	2	1						22
Corn	44	1	13	6		1	2			1	68
Field edge*	38		13	11					1		63
Tilled	35		16	5		1		4			61
Solar field	51		22	10	4	2	1				90
Idle/fallow	32		7	2	2						43
Riparian/Wetland	4		1	1					1		7
Wheat	6	3	8			2		2	4		25
Total	619	15	223	66	14	23	16	31	20	2	1029

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering, AF = aerial foraging. *Field or road edge was not a mapped habitat type, so these data are not included in the statistical analysis.

Table 6. Swainson's hawk behaviors by land cover type

Land Cover Type	Behaviors										Total
	P	S	C	F	CA	CS	CU	G	K	AF	
Oats	9	2	21					1			33
Alfalfa	26	1	24	5	1	7	2	17	2		85
Dry pasture	13	1	14	2		1		3			34
Irrigated pasture	9	1	8				1	1			20
Ruderal/Developed	4		1								5
Vineyard	5		11								16
Orchard			4								4
Grassland	2		2	1							5
Corn	10	1	5								16
Field edge	7		4	3					1		15
Tilled	8		11	2				4			25
Solar field	24		10			1					35
Idle/fallow	2										2
Riparian/wetland				1					1		2
Wheat	3	3	7					2	1		16
Total	122	9	122	14	1	9	3	28	5		313

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering. *Field or road edge was not a mapped habitat type, so these data are not included in the statistical analysis.

Table 7. Red-tailed hawk behaviors by land cover type

Land Cover Type	Behaviors										Total
	P	S	C	F	CA	CS	CU	G	K	AF	
Oats	12		2								14
Alfalfa	71	1	11	1	1		2				87
Dry pasture	45		8	2				1			56
Irrigated pasture	37	3	8	3	1	1					53
Ruderal/Developed											0
Vineyard	32	1	14	1							48
Orchard	34		4								38
Grassland	9		5		1						15
Corn	15		8	1							24
Field edge	8		4	1							13
Tilled	9		1	1							11
Solar field	7		10	2							19
Idle/Fallow	22		4	1							27
Riparian/wetland			1								1
Wheat	3		1								4
Total	304	5	81	13	3	1	2	1			410

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering. *Field or road edge was not a mapped habitat type, so these data are not included in the statistical analysis.

Table 8. American kestrel behaviors by land cover type

Land Cover Type	Behaviors										Total
	P	S	C	F	CA	CS	CU	G	K	AF	
Oats	23			1			3		5		32
Alfalfa	35		3	3	3	5	4	1	6		60
Dry pasture	5			4		1	1				11
Irrigated pasture	11		1	1		1				1	15
Ruderal/Developed											0
Vineyard	4		1	2							7
Orchard	1										1
Grassland	1										1
Corn	17			4		1	2			1	25
Field edge	9		2	5							16
Tilled	18		1			1					20
Solar field	17		2	4	4	1	1				29
Idle/fallow	4				2						6
Riparian/Wetland											0
Wheat						2			3		5
Total	145		10	24	9	12	11	1	14	2	228

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering, AF = aerial foraging. *Field or road edge was not a mapped habitat type, so these data are not included in the statistical analysis.

To examine the extent of foraging within solar fields and to evaluate the foraging use of solar fields and other land cover types relative to their availability within the survey area, those behaviors that were considered foraging behaviors were isolated from the total occurrences and used in the statistical analysis. For Swainson's hawk this included the following behaviors:

- Circling below 100 meters

- Kiting/Hovering
- Standing on ground
- Prey capture (attempt, successful, unsuccessful)

However, review of the data revealed an increase in Swainson's hawk perching occurrences compared with 2013, particularly at solar array fields (Plate 6). Although many of these were attributed to the proximity of the active nest at the Kammerer solar site, it also appeared that Swainson's hawk perching within the solar arrays had increased and may be attributed to using the structures as hunting perches within the array. The proportion of perching occurrences within in the solar array in 2021 (7.7 percent) increased nearly four times of that reported in 2013 (2.1 percent). As a result, although the analysis was initially conducted using the behaviors noted above, it was repeated using perching as a potential foraging behavior. Only those perching events within the solar arrays that were not attributed to the nesting activity at the Kammerer solar site were used.



Plate 6. Adult Swainson's hawk perched on solar panel at the McKenzie site. This use of the solar array suggests potential onsite foraging activity.

For the red-tailed hawk and American kestrel, perching was also included as a foraging behavior since these species commonly hunt from a perch. Note that with the exception of prey capture types and kiting/hovering, the remaining behaviors could be attributed to activities other than foraging. However, these are the primary foraging techniques of these species, and including them provides a reasonable estimation of foraging use for purposes of a comparative analysis.

Swainson's Hawk

Table 9 shows the relationship between foraging occurrences and habitat/land use type acreages for Swainson's hawk. As expected, 33.3 percent of the foraging occurrences were in alfalfa.

Oats, dry pasture, and tilled fields account for an additional 34.5 percent. Although comprising only 3.7 percent of the land cover, 6.9 percent of the foraging occurrences were in solar fields. Table 10 shows the same relationship but includes additional perching occurrences within solar fields considered potential foraging occurrences, increasing the proportion of foraging occurrences in solar fields to 10.6 percent.

Table 9. Swainson's hawk foraging occurrences within each land cover type.

Land Cover Type	Acres	Percent of Total	SWHA Foraging Observations	Percent of Total
Oats	844	15.3	22	13.8
Alfalfa	672	12.2	53	33.3
Dry Pasture	613	11.1	18	11.3
Irrigated Pasture	585	10.6	10	6.3
Ruderal/Developed	531	9.7	1	0.6
Vineyard	495	9.0	11	6.9
Orchard	393	7.1	4	2.5
Grassland	340	6.2	2	1.3
Corn	283	5.1	5	3.1
Tilled	235	4.3	15	9.4
Solar Array Field	206	3.7	11	6.9
Idle/Fallow	159	2.9	0	0
Riparian/Wetland	77	1.4	1	0.6
Wheat	68	1.2	10	6.3
Total	5,501	100	163	100

Table 10. Swainson's hawk foraging occurrences within each land cover type (including perching occurrences within solar array fields).

Land Cover Type	Acres	Percent of Total	SWHA Foraging Observations	Percent of Total
Oats	844	15.3	22	12.9
Alfalfa	672	12.2	53	31.2
Dry Pasture	613	11.1	18	10.6
Irrigated Pasture	585	10.6	10	5.9
Ruderal/Developed	531	9.7	1	0.6
Vineyard	495	9.0	11	6.5
Orchard	393	7.1	4	2.4
Grassland	340	6.2	2	1.2
Corn	283	5.1	5	2.9
Tilled	235	4.3	15	8.2
Solar Array Field	206	3.7	18	10.6
Idle/Fallow	159	2.9	0	0
Riparian/Wetland	77	1.4	1	0.6
Wheat	68	1.2	10	5.9
Total	5,501	100	170	100

The first chi-square test determines whether or not foraging use was in proportion to the availability of the land cover types in the survey area. As expected, the pattern of use indicates a high degree of habitat selectivity and thus the null hypothesis was rejected ($\chi^2_{13, d.f.} = 34.528$, $P < 0.001$) (Table 11). In other words, Swainson's hawks are selecting or avoiding specific crop or land cover types for foraging. Next, the contribution of the individual types was evaluated with regard to their significant contribution (positive or negative) to the chi-square

determination. Those with an observed use that exceeds the expected use, have a significant positive contribution (brown highlighting) and those with an expected use that exceeds the observed use have a significant negative contribution (blue highlighting) ($\chi^2_{1,d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$). In other words, Table 11 indicates that Swainson's hawks appear to be using alfalfa, tilled, wheat, and solar array fields at a significantly greater frequency than would be expected relative to their availability in the survey area.

Table 12 shows the same relationship but includes the additional perching occurrences within solar fields considered potential foraging occurrences (Table 10), resulting in a similar outcome, but with a substantially greater positive contribution from solar array fields. In other words, Swainson's hawks are not avoiding solar array fields within the agricultural landscape and appear to be using them at a greater frequency than would be expected given their availability.

Some caution is needed when interpreting these results. While the results indicate that land cover types overall are not used in proportion to their availability and that certain types have a significant contribution to this result, it does not necessarily indicate that those that do not have a significant contribution or that have a significant negative association lack value. For example, dry pasture accounted for the third highest number of Swainson's hawk foraging occurrences, but because dry pasture was relatively common within the survey area, the expected use was similar to the observed use. So, while it does not appear to have been selected over other land cover types or used in proportion to its availability, 10.6 percent of all documented Swainson's hawk foraging occurred in dry pastures, and therefore this type, regardless of its availability or use, clearly has foraging value to this species.

Table 11. Chi-square values for Swainson's hawk.

Land Cover Type	Available Land Cover (%)	Observed Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Expected Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Chi-square Contribution
Oats	15.3	22	24.94	0.35
Alfalfa	12.2	53	19.89	55.12
Dry Pasture	11.1	18	18.09	0.00
Irrigated Pasture	10.6	10	17.28	3.07
Ruderal/Developed	9.7	1	15.81	13.87
Vineyard	9.0	11	14.67	0.92
Orchard	7.1	4	11.57	4.95
Grassland	6.2	2	10.11	6.51
Corn	5.1	5	8.31	1.32
Tilled	4.3	15	7.01	9.11
Solar Array Field	3.7	11	6.03	4.10
Idle/Fallow	2.9	0	4.72	4.72
Riparian/Wetland	1.4	1	2.28	0.72
Wheat	1.2	10	1.96	32.98
Total	100	163	163	137.74*

*137.74 represents the sample statistic in the chi-square analysis. To be considered significant, this value must exceed the Critical Value ($\chi^2_{13,d.f.} = 34.528$ $P < 0.001$), indicating that the observed frequencies are significantly different from the expected frequencies. The brown-highlighted rows indicate the land cover types that have a significant positive contribution and the blue-highlighted rows indicate a significant negative contribution ($\chi^2_{1,d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$).

Table 12. Chi-square values for Swainson's hawk (including perching in solar arrays).

Land Cover Type	Available Land Cover (%)	Observed Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Expected Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Chi-square Contribution
Oats	15.3	22	26.01	0.62
Alfalfa	12.2	53	20.74	50.18
Dry Pasture	11.1	18	18.87	0.04
Irrigated Pasture	10.6	10	18.02	3.57
Ruderal/Developed	9.7	1	16.49	14.55
Vineyard	9.0	11	15.30	1.21
Orchard	7.1	4	12.07	5.40
Grassland	6.2	2	10.54	6.92
Corn	5.1	5	8.67	1.55
Tilled	4.3	15	7.31	8.09
Solar Array Field	3.7	18	6.29	21.80
Idle/Fallow	2.9	0	4.93	4.93
Riparian/Wetland	1.4	1	2.38	0.80
Wheat	1.2	10	2.04	31.06
Total	100	170	170	150.72*

*150.72 represents the sample statistic in the chi-square analysis, which exceeds the Critical Value ($\chi^2_{13,df}=34.528$ $P<0.001$), indicating that the observed frequencies are significantly different from the expected frequencies. The brown-highlighted rows indicate the land cover types that have a significant positive contribution and the blue-highlighted rows indicate a significant negative contribution ($\chi^2_{1,df}=3.84$ $P<0.05$).

Red-tailed Hawk

Table 13 shows the relationship between foraging occurrences and land use type acreages for red-tailed hawk. Three types comprised nearly 50 percent of the foraging occurrences, alfalfa, irrigated pasture, and dry pasture. Red-tailed hawk was also found more frequently in vineyards and orchards, which together comprised 22 percent of the total foraging occurrences. Most of these were perching individuals and were thus considered potential foraging occurrences, although it is likely that many were roosting rather than foraging. Solar fields accounted for 4.5 percent of the red-tailed hawk occurrences and just 3.7 percent of the total land cover.

Table 13. Red-tailed hawk foraging occurrences within each land cover type.

Land Cover Type	Acre	Percent of Total	RTHA Foraging Observations	Percent of Total
Oats	844	15.3	14	3.7
Alfalfa	672	12.2	85	22.4
Dry Pasture	613	11.1	54	14.2
Irrigated Pasture	585	10.6	47	12.4
Ruderal/Developed	531	9.7	0	0
Vineyard	495	9.0	46	12.1
Orchard	393	7.1	38	10.0
Grassland	340	6.2	15	3.9
Corn	283	5.1	23	6.1
Tilled	235	4.3	10	2.6
Solar Array Field	206	3.7	17	4.5
Idle/Fallow	159	2.9	26	6.8
Riparian/Wetland	77	1.4	1	0.3
Wheat	68	1.2	4	1.1
Total	5,501	100	380	100

As expected, the pattern of use for red-tailed hawk also indicates a high degree of habitat selectivity and thus the null hypothesis was rejected ($\chi^2_{13, d.f.} = 34.528$ $P < 0.001$) (Table 14). The contribution of the individual types indicated that alfalfa, idle/fallow fields, and to a marginal extent vineyards and orchards, were used significantly more than their relative availability and oats and ruderal/developed, were used significantly less than their relative availability ($\chi^2_{1, d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$). Although not contributing significantly to the sample statistic, the results also indicate that solar fields were not avoided by foraging red-tailed hawks. Instead, they accounted for 4.5 percent of all red-tailed hawk foraging occurrences with observed use higher than expected use.

As noted above, lack of a significant contribution or a significant negative contribution does not necessarily indicate lack of value. For example, dry and irrigated pastures accounted for 14.2 and 12.4 percent of foraging occurrences, respectively (Table 13). But because these types occurred more frequently in the survey area, even though observed use exceeded expected use, neither had a significant positive contribution. However, the proportion of occurrences clearly suggests the importance of these land cover types to foraging red-tailed hawks.

Table 14. Chi-square values for red-tailed hawk.

Land Cover Type	Available Land Cover (%)	Observed Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Expected Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Chi-square Contribution
Oats	15.3	14	58.14	33.51
Alfalfa	12.2	85	46.36	32.21
Dry Pasture	11.1	54	42.18	3.31
Irrigated Pasture	10.6	47	40.28	1.12
Ruderal/Developed	9.7	0	36.86	36.86
Vineyard	9.0	46	34.20	4.07
Orchard	7.1	38	26.98	4.50
Grassland	6.2	15	23.56	3.11
Corn	5.1	23	19.38	0.68
Tilled	4.3	10	16.34	2.46
Solar Array Field	3.7	17	14.06	0.61
Idle/Fallow	2.9	26	11.02	20.36
Riparian/Wetland	1.4	1	5.32	3.51
Wheat	1.2	4	4.56	0.07
Total	100	380	380	146.38*

*146.38 represents the sample statistic in the chi-square analysis. To be considered significant, this value must exceed the Critical Value ($\chi^2_{13, d.f.} = 34.528$ $P < 0.001$), indicating that the observed frequencies are significantly different from the expected frequencies. The brown-highlighted rows indicate the land cover types that have a significant positive contribution and the blue-highlighted rows indicate a significant negative contribution ($\chi^2_{1, d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$).

American Kestrel

Table 15 shows the relationship between foraging occurrences and habitat/land use type acreages for American kestrel. Three types made up 58.6 percent of the foraging occurrences, alfalfa, oats, and solar array fields. Thirteen percent of all foraging occurrences were in solar fields.

Table 15. American kestrel foraging occurrences within each land cover type.

Land Cover Type	Acres	Percent of Total	AMKE Foraging Observations	Percent of Total
Oats	844	15.3	31	16.1
Alfalfa	672	12.2	57	29.5
Dry Pasture	613	11.1	7	3.6
Irrigated Pasture	585	10.6	14	7.3
Ruderal/Developed	531	9.7	0	0
Vineyard	495	9.0	5	2.6
Orchard	393	7.1	1	0.5
Grassland	340	6.2	1	0.5
Corn	283	5.1	21	10.9
Tilled	235	4.3	20	10.4
Solar Array Field	206	3.7	25	13.0
Idle/Fallow	159	2.9	6	3.1
Riparian/Wetland	77	1.4	0	0
Wheat	68	1.2	5	2.6
Total	5,501	100	193	100

The pattern of use for American kestrel also indicates a high degree of habitat selectivity and thus the null hypothesis was rejected ($\chi^2_{13, d.f.} = 34.528$ $P < 0.001$) (Table 16). The contribution of the individual types indicate that alfalfa, solar fields, tilled, and corn fields were used significantly more than their relative availability, and dry pasture, ruderal/developed, vineyard, orchard, and grassland were used significantly less than their relative availability ($\chi^2_{1, d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$).

Foraging use of solar fields by American kestrels was particularly high due mainly to the high proportion of perching occurrences (63.6 percent) (Table 8). The solar panels and the perimeter fence provided excellent perching habitat for kestrels (Plate 7).

Table 16. Chi-square values for American kestrel.

Land Cover Type	Available Land Cover (%)	Observed Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Expected Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Chi-square Contribution
Oats	15.3	31	29.53	0.07
Alfalfa	12.2	57	23.55	47.51
Dry Pasture	11.1	7	21.42	9.71
Irrigated Pasture	10.6	14	20.46	2.04
Ruderal/Developed	9.7	0	18.72	18.72
Vineyard	9.0	5	17.37	8.81
Orchard	7.1	1	13.70	11.77
Grassland	6.2	1	11.97	10.05
Corn	5.1	21	9.84	12.66
Tilled	4.3	20	8.30	11.70
Solar Array Field	3.7	25	7.14	44.68
Idle/Fallow	2.9	6	5.60	0.03
Riparian/Wetland	1.4	0	2.70	2.70
Wheat	1.2	5	2.32	3.09
Total	100	193	193	183.54

*183.54 represents the sample statistic in the chi-square analysis. To be considered significant, this value must exceed the Critical Value ($\chi^2_{13, d.f.} = 34.528$ $P < 0.001$), indicating that the observed frequencies are significantly different from the expected frequencies. Brown-highlight indicates a significant contribution and blue indicates negative contribution ($\chi^2_{1, d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$).



Plate 7. American kestrel perch-hunting on a solar panel at the Kammerer Site.

All Raptors

Table 17 shows the relationship between foraging occurrences and land cover type acreages for all raptors combined. Not unexpectedly, the largest proportion of foraging occurrences for all raptors combined occurred in alfalfa fields (26.2 percent), although this land cover type made up just 12.2 percent of the survey area. Dry pasture, irrigated pasture, and oats were also relatively frequently used and combined for a total of 29.3 percent of the occurrences, although they made up 37 percent of the survey area. Solar array fields, 3.7 percent of the survey area, contributed 7.2 percent of the foraging occurrences for all raptors combined.

The overall pattern of use for all raptor species combined also indicates a high degree of habitat selectivity and thus the null hypothesis was rejected ($\chi^2_{13, d.f.} = 34.528$ $P < 0.001$) (Table 18). The contribution of the individual types indicates that alfalfa, solar fields, idle/fallow, and tilled fields were used significantly more than their relative availability, and ruderal/developed, grassland, and oats were used significantly less than their relative availability ($\chi^2_{1, d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$). With the same cautionary notes expressed above relating to existing knowledge of observed habitat value and the availability/frequency formulation used here, it is clear that raptors are not avoiding solar array fields and at least to some extent appear to be selecting them.

Table 17. All raptor foraging occurrences within each land cover type.

Land Cover Type	Acres	Percent of Total	All Raptor Foraging Observations	Percent of Total
Oats	844	15.3	71	9.1
Alfalfa	672	12.2	205	26.2
Dry Pasture	613	11.1	83	10.6
Irrigated Pasture	585	10.6	75	9.6
Ruderal/Developed	531	9.7	1	0.1
Vineyard	495	9.0	67	8.6
Orchard	393	7.1	43	5.5
Grassland	340	6.2	19	2.4
Corn	283	5.1	51	6.5
Tilled	235	4.3	46	5.9
Solar Array Field	206	3.7	56	7.2
Idle/Fallow	159	2.9	39	5.0
Riparian/Wetland	77	1.4	6	0.8
Wheat	68	1.2	19	2.4
Total	5,501	100	781	100

Table 18. Chi-square values for all raptors.

Land Cover Type	Available Land Cover (%)	Observed Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Expected Use of Land Cover (Frequency)	Chi-square Contribution
Oats	15.3	71	119.49	19.68
Alfalfa	12.2	205	95.28	126.35
Dry Pasture	11.1	83	86.69	0.16
Irrigated Pasture	10.6	75	82.79	0.73
Ruderal/Developed	9.7	1	75.76	73.77
Vineyard	9.0	67	70.29	0.15
Orchard	7.1	43	55.45	2.80
Grassland	6.2	19	48.42	17.88
Corn	5.1	51	39.83	3.13
Tilled	4.3	46	33.58	4.59
Solar Array Field	3.7	56	28.90	25.41
Idle/Fallow	2.9	39	22.65	11.80
Riparian/Wetland	1.4	6	10.93	2.22
Wheat	1.2	19	9.37	9.90
Total	100	781	781	298.57

*298.57 represents the sample statistic in the chi-square analysis. To be considered significant, this value must exceed the Critical Value ($\chi^2_{13, d.f.} = 34.528$ $P < 0.001$), indicating that the observed frequencies are significantly different from the expected frequencies. The brown-highlighted rows indicate the land cover types that have a significant positive contribution and the blue-highlighted rows indicate a significant negative contribution ($\chi^2_{1, d.f.} = 3.84$ $P < 0.05$).

Stationary Observation Points

A total of 160 raptor occurrences were reported within the solar array fields during the stationary observation point surveys (Table 19). Of these, 126 (78.8 percent) were considered foraging occurrences. Consistent with the driving transect survey results, American kestrel (38.8 percent) and Swainson's hawk (36.9 percent) were the most commonly observed raptors. Nearly 60 percent of the Swainson's hawk occurrences were considered foraging occurrences. Some of the perching occurrences may also have been associated with foraging behavior, but were excluded for consistency with the 2013 data.

Although fewer Swainson's hawks were observed in 2021 (59) than in 2013 (108), the proportion of foraging occurrences (59.3 percent in 2021 and 63.9 percent in 2013) was similar. Results were also consistent for all other species between 2013 and 2021.

Table 20 shows the different behaviors of each species within the solar fields. Similar to the road transect results, the most common behaviors were circling below 100 meters and perching, comprising 78.6 percent of foraging occurrences. Nearly 17 percent of the foraging occurrences were prey captures or prey capture attempts.

Table 19. Total number of occurrences and the proportion of foraging occurrences in solar fields for all species observed.

Species	Total occurrences	Foraging occurrences	Percent Foraging occurrences
Swainson's hawk	59	35	59.3
Red-tailed hawk	27	26	96.3
American kestrel	62	55	88.7
Red-shouldered hawk	2	1	50.0
Cooper's hawk	8	7	87.5
Northern harrier	1	1	100
Peregrine falcon	1	1	100
Total	160	126	78.8

Table 20. Behaviors in solar fields (all species). Foraging behaviors are highlighted.

	Behaviors								
	P	S	C	K	F	G	CA	CS	CU
SWHA	14	2	32	1	8		1	1	
RTHA	3	1	21			1	1		
AMKE	31		5	2	8		9	5	2
RSHA			1		1				
COHA	2		3		1		2		
NOHA					1				
PEFA			1						
Total	50	3	63	3	19	1	13	6	2

P = perching; S = soaring below 200 m; C = circling below 100 meters; F = Flying below 200 meters; CA = prey capture attempt; CS = prey capture successful; CU = prey capture unsuccessful; G = standing on the ground; K = kiting/hovering. SWHA = Swainson's hawk; RTHA = red-tailed hawk; AMKE = American kestrel; RSHA = red-shouldered hawk; COHA = Cooper's hawk; NOHA = northern harrier; PEFA = peregrine falcon.

Summary and Conclusions

The results of this study indicate ongoing raptor use of moderately-sized solar array fields following conversion from cultivated uses. Results of the strip transect road survey indicate raptor use in general, and specifically Swainson's hawk and American kestrel use of solar array fields exceeds expected use based on their availability within the agricultural landscape. This suggests that solar array fields are not avoided by these species and may be selected at a greater frequency than many cultivated land cover types. The stationary observation point surveys confirm use within solar array fields, including foraging or potential foraging use by all species observed.

Comparison with 2013 Results

Data from 2021 are consistent with the 2013 results. Although there were some differences in the use of specific cultivated land cover types for some species, similar use patterns were found, particularly the overall use of solar array fields.

The total number and the relative proportion of Swainson's hawks in 2021 (30.4 percent) was less than in 2013 (38.5 percent), while the numbers of other species, including red-tailed hawk, American kestrel, and red-shouldered hawk, increased in 2021 (Table 21). This may have been due in part to the expansion of the strip transect road survey route, which increased the proportion of grasslands, and to the conversion to orchards along the route, which decreased the proportion of irrigated pasture (Table 22). The extent of orchard expansion throughout the region has resulted in declines of available habitat for Swainson's hawk (Estep 2020).

The proportion of Swainson's hawk foraging observations in solar array fields was greater in 2013 (12.8 percent) than in 2021 (6.9 percent). However, the observed use of solar array fields by Swainson's hawk has changed since 2013, with a greater proportion of perching occurrences in 2021. Perching was not included as a potential foraging behavior in 2013, but 2021 observations suggest that perching within the solar array may have become a more common technique for foraging within the array. Thus, the data were recalculated by including several perching occurrences considered to be foraging behaviors, resulting in the proportion of foraging observations approaching 11 percent and greater consistency with 2013 results. However, either result (including and not including the additional perching occurrences) resulted in an observed use of solar array fields by Swainson's hawks that exceeded expected use. In other words, in either case, Swainson's hawks appear to be using solar array fields at a significantly greater frequency than would be expected relative to their availability.

Conclusions

The following conclusions are the same as were made in the 2013 study (Estep 2013).

1. Swainson's hawks use and forage within managed solar array fields. The results of the driving transect surveys and the stationary observation point surveys indicate foraging use of the solar array fields by Swainson's hawks and other raptors. While it is difficult to observe the precise locations of prey capture attempts in solar array fields due to their height, the rows of

solar trackers may not preclude foraging in the open grasslands between them. However, foraging hawks may also be focused primarily on the wider spaces between the sub-areas within the projects and around the perimeter of the projects. Of key importance is the management of a grassland substrate to promote rodent populations and maintaining this substrate at a height that promotes visibility and access to prey. Unlike most crop types, this condition is available in solar fields throughout the spring and summer breeding season, and thus provides a consistent and available source of prey. Many crop types, while important in the overall agricultural matrix, may be available for a relatively short period of time during the breeding season due to the planting, growth, and harvesting regime.

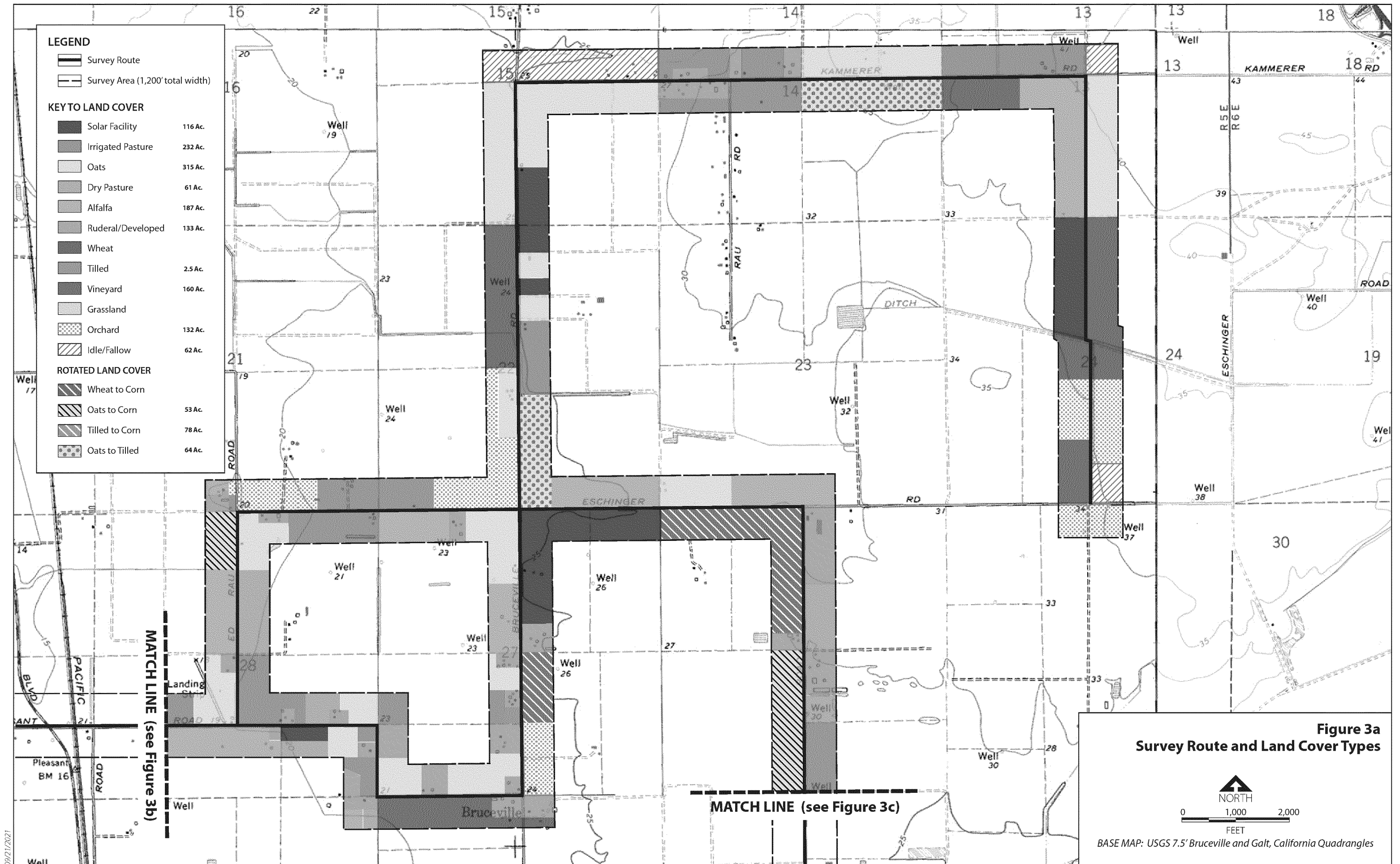
2. Swainson's hawk foraging use of solar array fields exceeds what would be expected based on their availability. This suggests that not only were the solar array fields being used by foraging Swainson's hawks, but that they were being selectively used at greater frequency than some of the other land cover types in the survey area. The data indicates a similar conclusion for American kestrel, and although not selected at a greater frequency, data on red-tailed hawk use of solar array fields indicate they were not avoided.

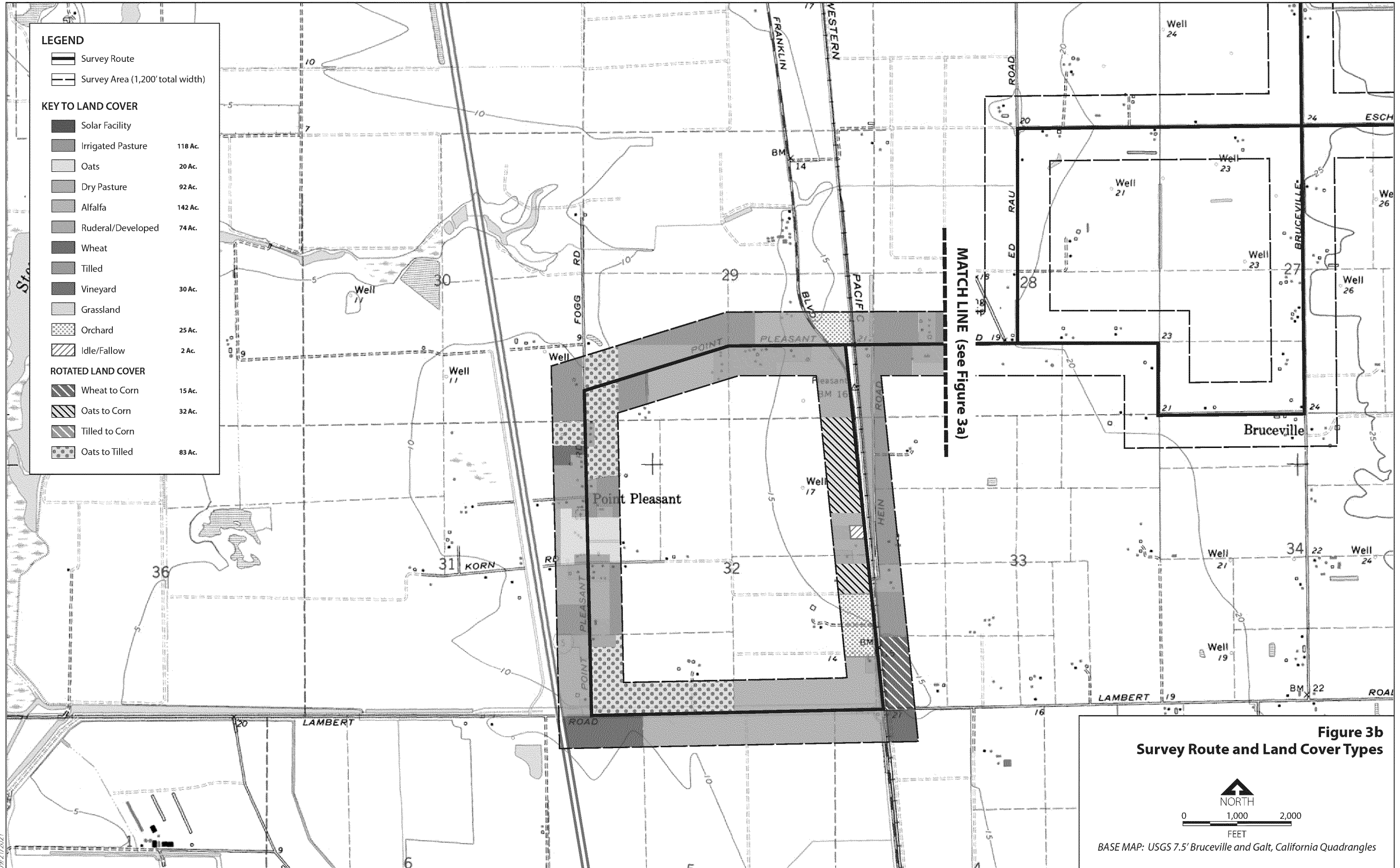
3. Within the diverse agricultural landscape of the study area, the presence of the managed solar array fields (i.e., managed grassland substrate) did not appear to negatively affect the Swainson's hawk and other raptors. The solar array fields were used for foraging similarly to other moderate to high value agricultural cover types and their presence did not appear to affect the overall use of the landscape by Swainson's hawks or other raptors. As one element of an otherwise diverse agricultural matrix, the solar array fields provided a consistent and an apparently reasonably accessible source of prey, particularly for Swainson's hawks and American kestrels. However, this outcome should be viewed with some caution in that while this study indicated a positive relationship, only a small percent of the survey area was solar array field. But these results suggest that solar array fields designed and managed similarly as those included within this study and integrated into a diverse agricultural landscape may not negatively affect Swainson's hawk and other raptors.

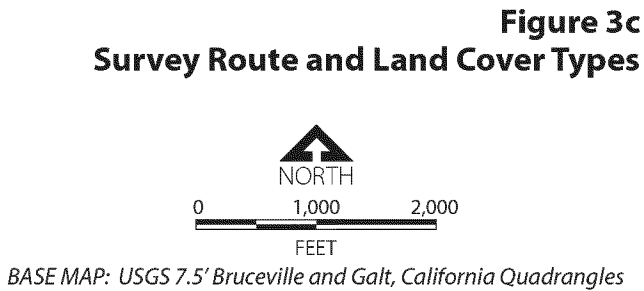
References

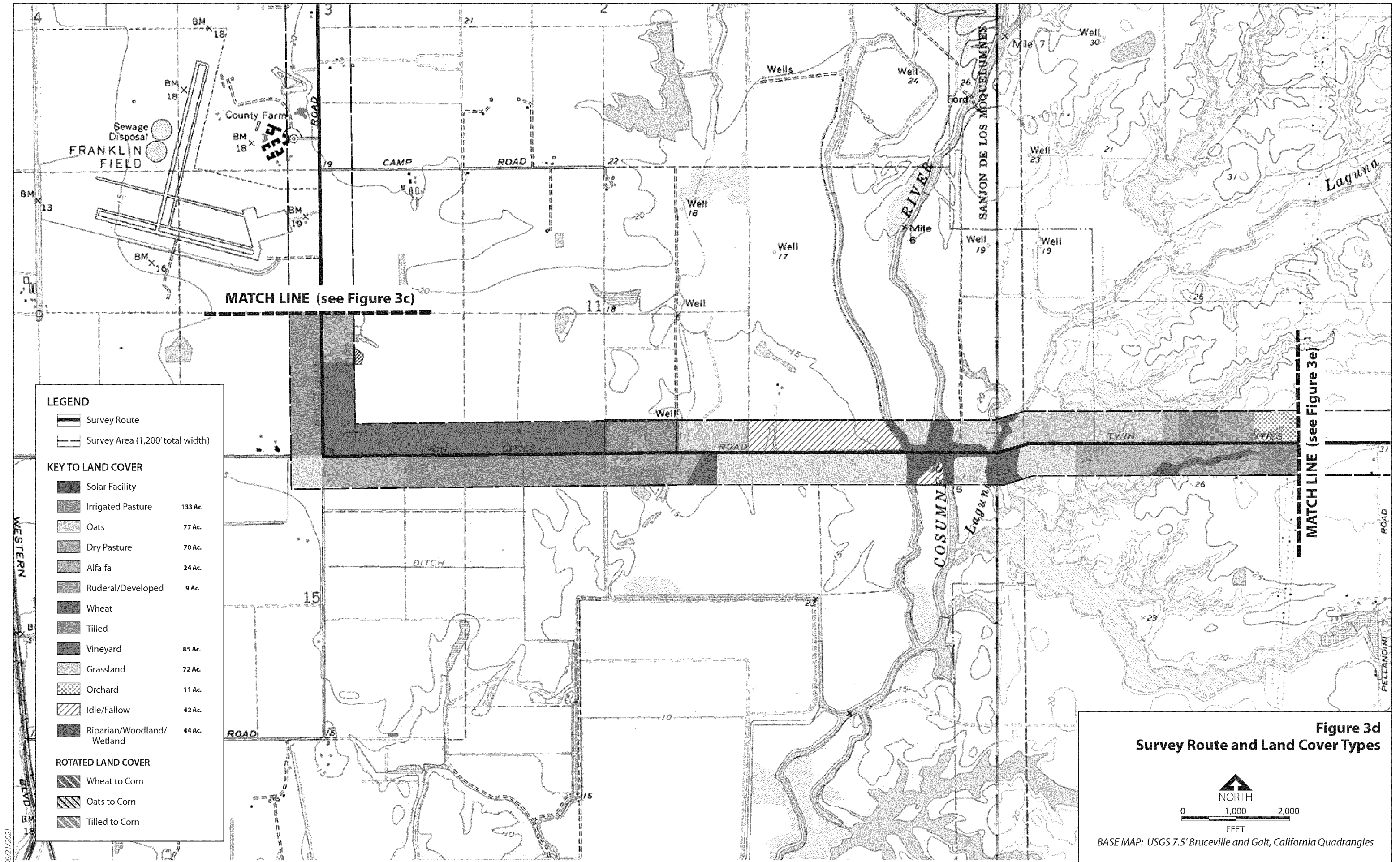
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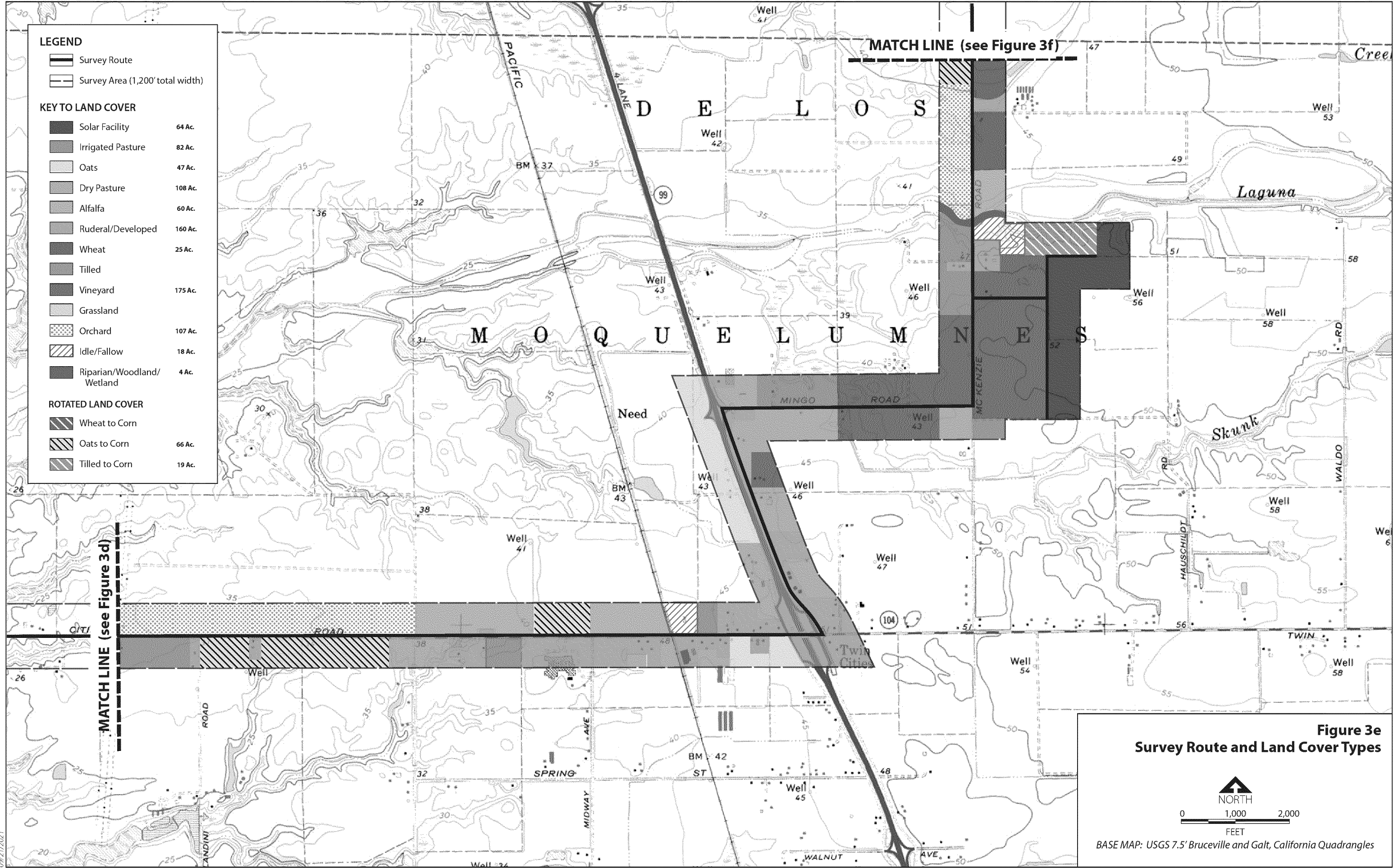
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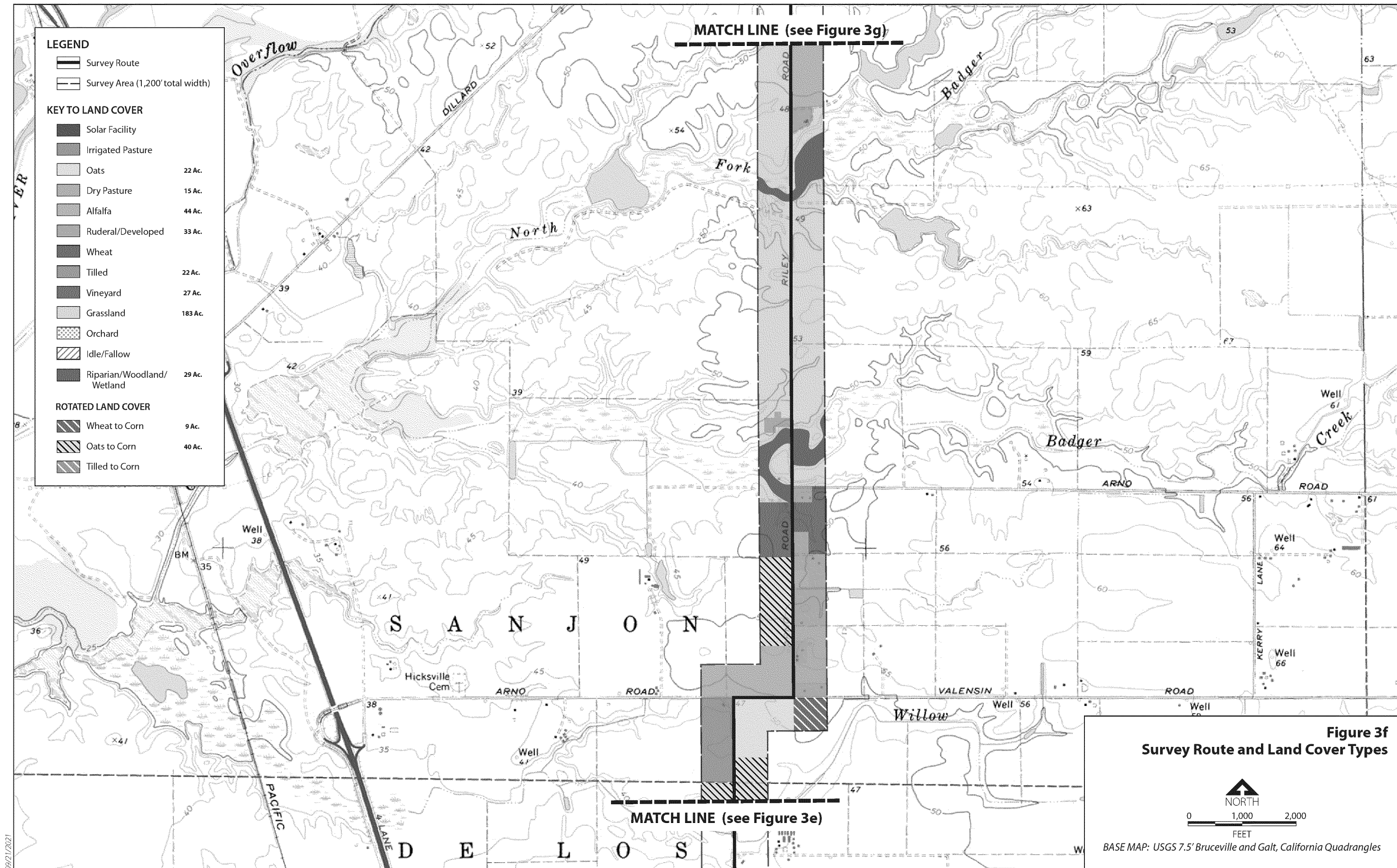


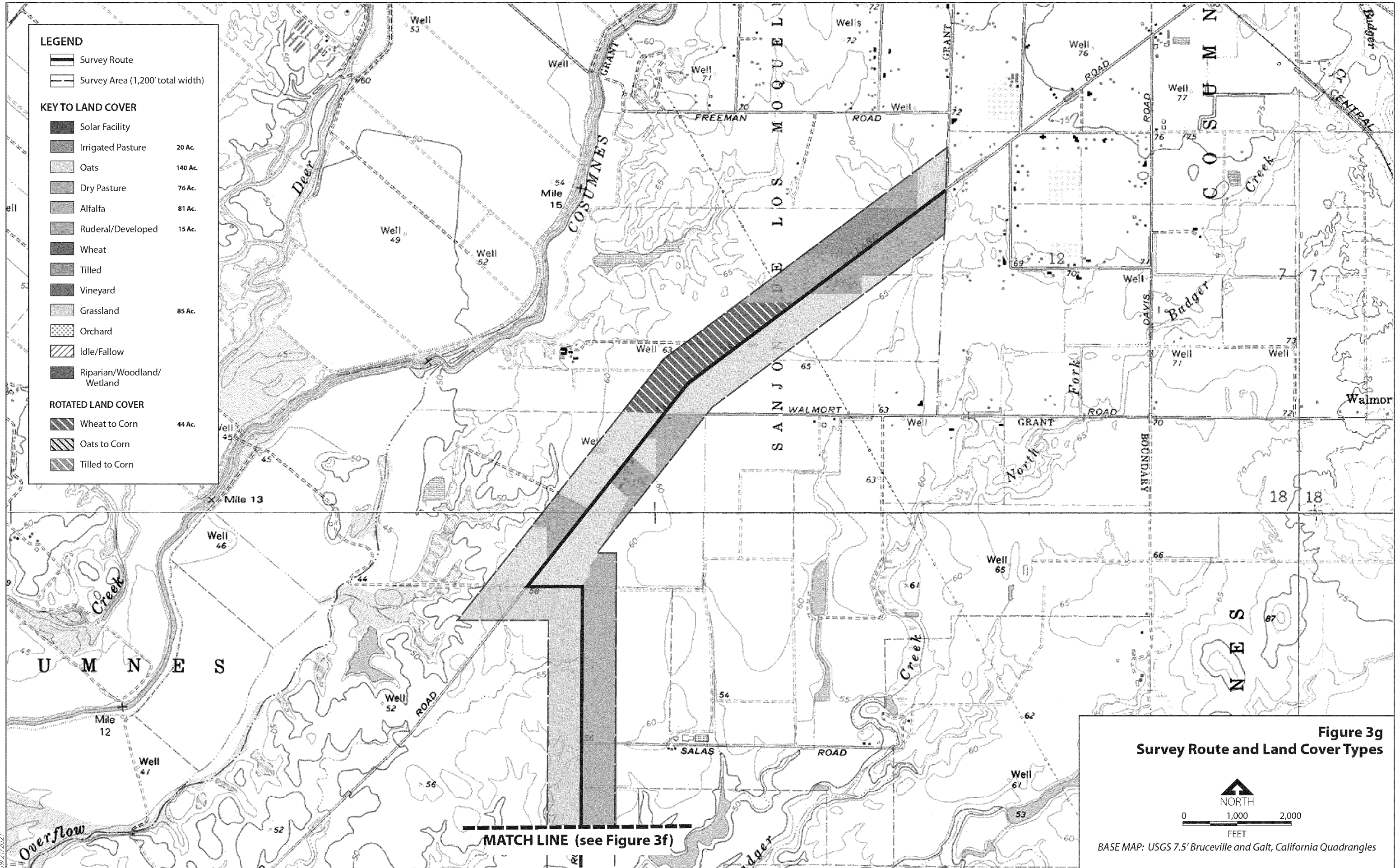


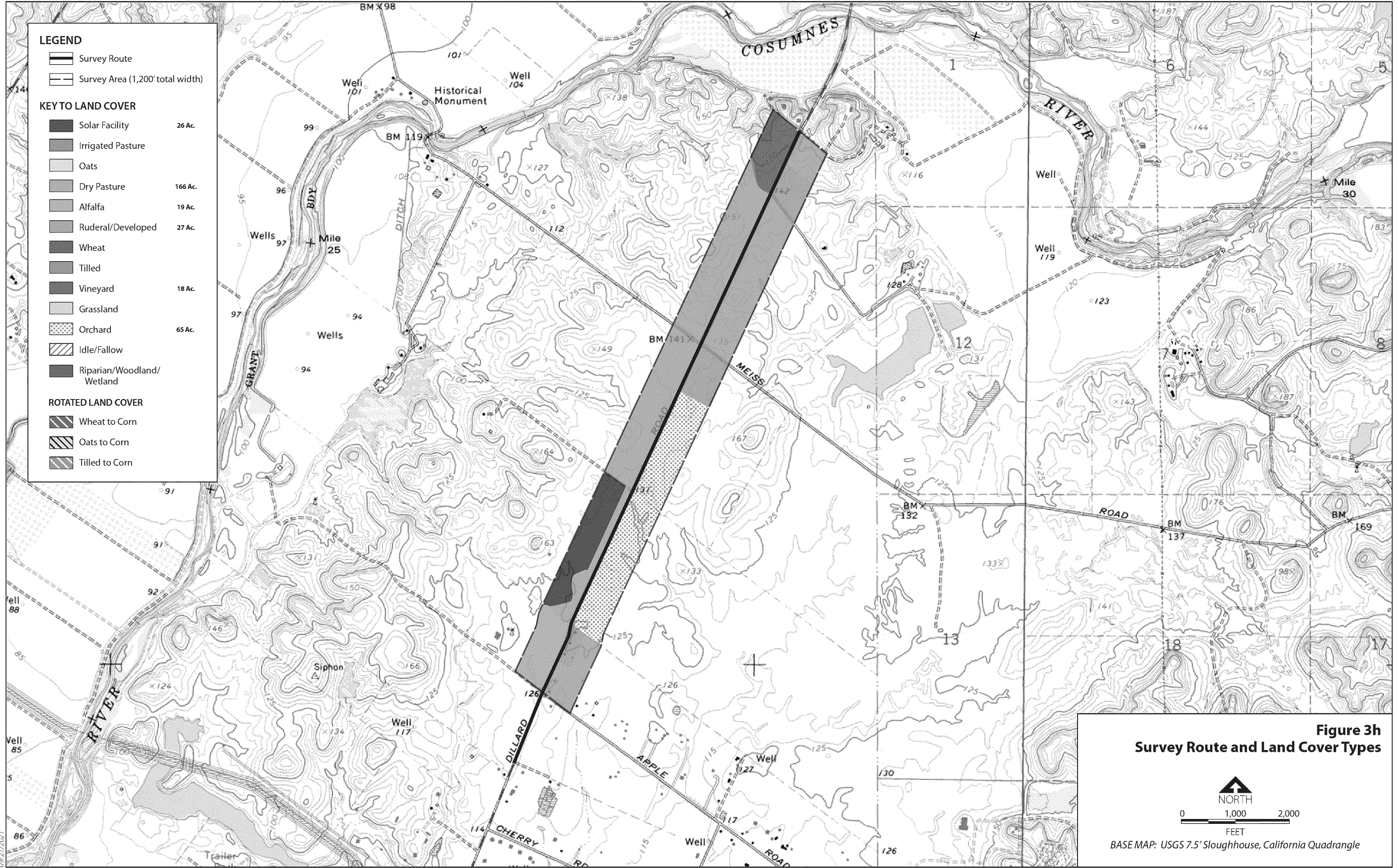












From: Watson, Carol@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=84E32D50C7DC47D89812B468A50090ED-WATSON, CAR]
Sent: 12/7/2024 4:41:11 PM
To: Leeman, Thomas [Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov]; Dietsch, Thomas V [thomas_dietsch@fws.gov]; Nelson, Matthew J [matthew_nelson@fws.gov]
CC: Sloan, Justin [Justin_Sloan@fws.gov]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

Thank you for this prompt turnaround.

I will review this weekend....is it too early to contemplate a meeting, say, early the following week (12/16) to go over your incoming results? With this tight legislatively-mandated publication period, I apologize for the crunch. My section is due the first week of January. Also, can I forward your email to CDFW or would you prefer it kept amongst ourselves.

Best,
Carol

From: Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2024 4:21 PM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

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Hello all,

Jim was quick to get back to me with two reports (attached). He offered some caveats, saying:

I did a study a few years ago in Sacramento County where we looked at use of moderately-sized solar projects. We did get continued use of the arrays – as long as a grassland substrate is maintained that supports rodent and insect populations. But one of the key things was that these 100 to 300 acre solar projects do not seem to result in a change in the foraging landscape and likely do not affect the nesting abundance and distribution – as long as they are part of an otherwise diverse agricultural landscape. Its less clear how birds might use larger projects where the landscape is converted on a grander scale.

Thomas

From: Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2024 2:56 PM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

I did a quick search for any citations by Jim Estep and couldn't find any either. I've gone to the source and emailed Jim. I'll let you all know what he says.

Thomas

From: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>

Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2024 4:35 PM

To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>

Cc: Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

Hi Carol,

If you have the Epsted citations, I'll see if I can find the papers. I'd be interested to see the papers if they provide evidence that the hawks are using solar fields with grassy vegetation.

Regarding Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy documents, the name of the documents comes from the Service's Wind Energy Guidelines. We haven't seen many impacts to bats from solar, but have retained the name for consistency. Many solar project proponents also develop wind projects. The primary reason we adopted this model was that the Wind Energy Guideline described an adaptive management framework that is useful in the solar context. We have also recommended that bird-related documents such as Nesting Bird Management Plans and Post-construction Monitoring be included with in the BBCS.

Our call is tomorrow afternoon, I should be able to get you some comments/recommendations early next week.

Thanks, Tom

Thomas Dietsch, PhD

Migratory Bird Biologist

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8

Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008

~~(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214~~

Email is preferred: thomas_dietsch@fws.gov

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2024 6:31 AM

To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>

Cc: Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

Good morning and thanks for the update.

Yes, I'm working with Carrie Swanberg and Jim Vang of CDFW Region 4, and expecting their ITP language for SWHA and BUOW this week.

Nests will be maintained, and part of the applicant's proposed mitigation pathway is on-site revegetation (concurrent with project operations), planting suitable nest trees, and installing artificial structures. They cite to several Estep papers will seem to indicate that SWHA will continue to forage in solar fields. Unfortunately, I've yet to find and review those papers myself – are you familiar with Estep's work?

One thought on a BBCS: up to this point, neither the applicant nor I have anticipated any impacts to bats, the only bat that seems likely to show up might be western red bat, but I was anticipating that only along the project components west of I-5, which would largely consist of the 3 fiber optic lines alternatives on existing poles, and one of the substation improvements. Otherwise, the Plan sounds like a great idea, looking forward to hearing your thoughts further after your meeting.

Best,
Carol

Carol Watson
Staff Biologist
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 4:40 PM

To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>

Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

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Hi Carol,

We will probably recommend a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy. This is what we usually do for the public lands solar projects in the Mojave. We are having an internal call on December 6th. I'll be able to make our recommendations after that meeting, probably next week. Have you contacted CDFW for their recommendations? Also, will the project need to get permits to remove nests or will the nests be maintained because of the Threatened Status of Swainson's Hawk at the state level?

Thank you for sharing the minutes from our call and the pdf file from CNDBB.

Tom

Thomas Dietsch, PhD
Migratory Bird Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
~~(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214~~
Email is preferred: thomas_dietsch@fws.gov

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 24, 2024 10:30 AM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) Mig Birds meeting followup

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hi, Tom,

Thanks again for meeting with me last week. I've attached the agenda with my brief notes at the bottom. I also attached the Swainson's nest observations, which you do not need to keep confidential.

One question I had not gotten to ask is how the SPUT permit works? Might that be appropriate for the project or something to be considered in an Avian Management/Conservation Plan?

And will your feedback contain a sample/similar components of such a plan?

Thanks again,

Carol

From: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:26 AM
To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Carol,

I'm available Wed afternoon 1:30-3pm, Thurs 2-3pm, and Friday 11-12, 1:30-2:30pm.

Thanks, Tom

Thomas Dietsch, PhD

Migratory Bird Biologist

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8

Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008

~~(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214~~

Email is preferred: thomas_dietsch@fws.gov

From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 6:51 AM

To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Nelson, Matthew J <matthew_nelson@fws.gov>

Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

Resending to capture Matt – sorry I left you off this chain. You're welcome to join as well.

Carol

From: Watson, Carol@Energy
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:23 AM
To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>
Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

Hi, Tom,

Thanks for jumping on board so quickly. As I can tell you more when we talk, this project falls under legislatively mandated timetables for the Energy Commission, so it's not our typical process you're accustomed to from the ARRA era projects (Ivanpah, Hidden Hills, Blythe, etc.) but instead is on a fast track.

How about a quick meeting this week? I can run you through the highlights of the project and hopefully save you some time swimming through the dockets. I've listed some available times:

Tues: 1-3

Wed: 9-10; 1-3

Thurs: 8-12; 1-3

Fri: 8-12; 1-2:30

Best,

Carol

Carol Watson

Staff Biologist

Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division

California Energy Commission

715 P Street

Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:16 AM

To: Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>; Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

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Hi Carol,

I can provide technical support from the Migratory Bird office. Let me know if you'd like to set up a call to discuss the project or if there's any meetings that I should attend. In the meantime, I'm looking over the CEC docket for the project.

Thanks, Tom

Thomas Dietsch, PhD

Migratory Bird Biologist

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8

Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008

~~(760) 431-9440 Ext. 214~~

Email is preferred: thomas_dietsch@fws.gov

From: Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 8:37 AM

To: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>; Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>

Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>; Sloan, Justin <Justin_Sloan@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

Hello Carol,

Tom Dietsch would be the best person for this. I'm also copying Justin Sloan from our Sacramento Ecological Services program in case Justin is not already aware of the project. Justin is the San Joaquin Valley supervisor.

Much of the solar development in the SJ Valley has been on private land (see below; red circle is the very approximate location of this project), and occurred without much, if any, input from our Migratory Bird program. Consequently, I'm unaware of any avian mortality monitoring data that may be available for this region. If you know, or become aware of any, would you please let us know?

Thomas



From: Watson, Carol@Energy <Carol.Watson@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 3:02 PM

To: Dietsch, Thomas V <thomas_dietsch@fws.gov>; Leeman, Thomas <Thomas_Leeman@fws.gov>

Cc: Stroud, Andrea@Energy <Andrea.Stroud@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Darden Clean Energy (23-OPT-02) seeking Mig Bird Office Assistance

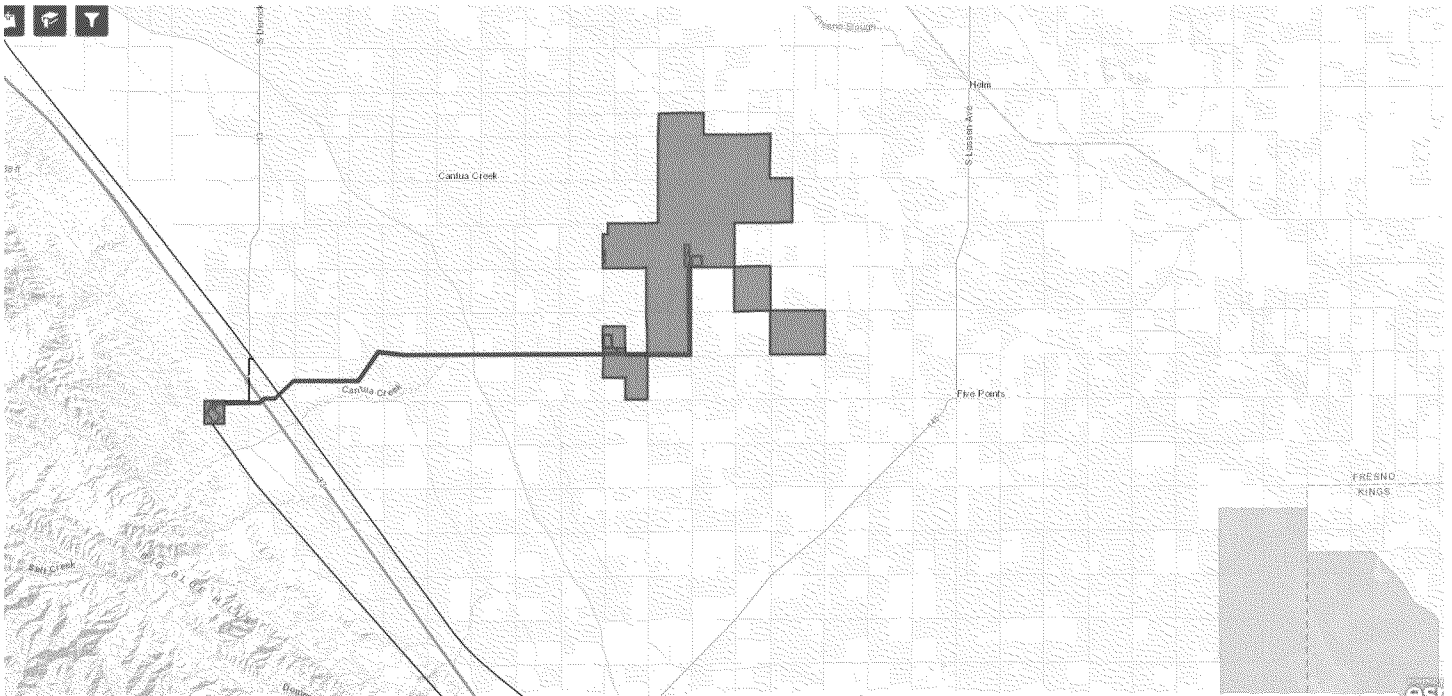
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Good afternoon!

I'm seeking to identify a mig bird staffer to assist with a new project that the CA Energy Commission is reviewing.

It's called the Darden Clean Energy Project, and it's a 9,100 acre solar field, BESS, a 15-20 mile gentie, and a utility switchyard in Fresno County. I'm working with Matt Nelson on terrestrial species impacts and he mentioned we ought pull in mig birds specialist and I agree.

Could either of you possibly point me in the right direction? I can provide further detail at that point, but I've put a figure below of the site to help orient you.



Thanks,

Carol

Carol Watson

Staff Biologist

Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division

California Energy Commission

715 P Street

Sacramento, CA 95814



From: Vorters, Dian@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=2C5604E712A74C029E412542E0DB72AC-VORTERS, DI]
Sent: 12/18/2024 7:56:39 PM
To: Branch, Alexander(Harleelee)@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=efe78fbc6c1e408da007e97ea1d8cdf6-WildlifeHar]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]
CC: Swanberg, Carrie@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=14e182d204a9453892624e45297fac1e-WildlifeCar]; Barker, Kelley@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1babb990bfb4aeea329a0e698ace138-WildlifeKel]; Mulligan, Rhannon@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a62a013861764f1e8556eaf023a2cc94-WildlifeRhi]; Vang, Jim@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=32237e96460546779116e0d64096b692-WildlifeJim]; Vance, Julie@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6520208b372048588fbfe79308ba3f9c-WildlifeJul]; Tomlinson, Krista@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0b9c5c6ec182444e9150d634cfda0969-WildlifeKri]; Pinkerton, Matthew@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=88b6ef1fba134a2cb0aacd56262dc6c4-Pinkerton,]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Cusato, Anthony@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92bb3e53fa2c490d87929b4b84ce28c9-b8359c82-60]; Cabrera, Crystal@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed6e32a127144ccfa19a6f4347765a9e-00a33618-ff]
Subject: RE: Darden Confidentiality Agreement Per Govt. Code section 7921.505(c)(5)

Hi Harlee,

Please accept this as authorization for our CA Energy Commission STEP staff and assigned attorneys to review and maintain as confidential communications from CDFW related to the Biological Resources section of CEC's Staff Assessment of the Darden Project. The information will be maintained as confidential pursuant to Government Code section 7921.505(c)(5).

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Dian

Dian M. Vorters | Deputy Director
 California Energy Commission
 Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
 715 P St, Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 937-2339 Work Cell



**CALIFORNIA
 ENERGY COMMISSION**

From: Branch, Alexander(Harllee)@Wildlife <Alexander.Branch@Wildlife.ca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2024 10:03 AM

To: Vorters, Dian@Energy <Dian.Vorters@Energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Swanberg, Carrie@Wildlife <Carrie.Swanberg@wildlife.ca.gov>; Barker, Kelley@Wildlife <Kelley.Barker@wildlife.ca.gov>; Mulligan, Rhiannon@Wildlife <Rhiannon.Mulligan@Wildlife.ca.gov>; Vang, Jim@Wildlife <Jim.Vang@wildlife.ca.gov>; Vance, Julie@Wildlife <Julie.Vance@wildlife.ca.gov>; Tomlinson, Krista@Wildlife <Krista.Tomlinson@wildlife.ca.gov>

Subject: Darden Confidentiality Agreement Per Govt. Code section 7921.505(c)(5)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dian and Alex,

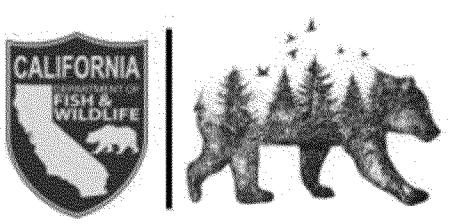
By this email, CDFW agrees to maintain the confidentiality of all draft versions of the Biological Resources section of CEC's Staff Assessment of the Darden Energy Project Opt-In Application (Staff Assessment). These draft versions will be made available when CEC provides CDFW shared access to the versions through Microsoft Sharepoint, which allows both agencies to add confidential communications to the shared document. These draft versions have been designated by CEC as confidential and not subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act. This agreement is pursuant to Govt. Code section 7921.505(c)(5). Jim Vang, Carrie Swanberg, Julie Vance, Kelley Barker, Rhiannon Mulligan, Krista Tomlinson of CDFW and assigned CDFW counsel, including myself, Angela Donlan, and Steven Ingram, will be the only CDFW staff reviewing the document and their view will be authorized in writing by me, Attorney IV for CDFW.

This agreement takes effect immediately and will remain in effect until it is superseded by a common interest agreement that is currently being negotiated between CEC and CDFW. The agreement will be entitled 'COMMON INTEREST AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AND THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGARDING APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION UNDER THE WARREN-ALQUIST STATE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT.'

If additional information is required, please let me know.

Please reply to this email indicating your agreement likewise and identify the staff from CEC who will be authorized to review and maintain records or communications with claims of confidentiality or privileges from CDFW within the draft versions of CEC's Staff Assessment.

Harllee Branch, Senior Attorney (IV)
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Office of the General Counsel
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 809-3098



Managing California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public.

From: Knight, Eric@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BE42548337F44852A291A9845F226F62-KNIGHT, ERI]
Sent: 9/12/2023 12:38:17 AM
To: Kerr, Steven@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d0d5a66bed2249fca830918f58b3b921-Kerr, Steve]; Roark, Gabriel@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed87ff1e22cd49f3aaff644c82538d46-Roark, Gabr]; Hilliard, Jon@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=27a838bfda534669858cb8cf13dd12a4-Hilliard, J]; Fooks, Brett@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=870df74143964b71ada0039bf13c5a9a-Fooks, Bret]; Hughes, Joseph@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7dd5e80572b644209e9607ba7bdc630-Hughes, Jos]; Khoshmashrab, Shahab@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=debfeb665b7a45629f72eae824bce58-Khoshmashra]; Abulaban, Abdel-Karim@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c1ff1d38281a068b2708271d22c0d94-Abulaban, A]; Vorters, Dian@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2c5604e712a74c029e412542e0db72ac-Vorters, Di]; Hesters, Mark@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=adc98e7718ae442bab67f41b128d006-Hesters, Ma]; Bonner, Lawrence(Larry)@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1869dadea1e4452e9802a366a8cd9d2a-WildlifeLaw]; Vance, Julie@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6520208b372048588fbfe79308ba3f9c-WildlifeJul]; Tomlinson, Krista@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0b9c5c6ec182444e9150d634cfda0969-WildlifeKri]; Vang, Jim@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=32237e96460546779116e0d64096b692-WildlifeJim]; Salisbury, Lance@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e84246efdc554269954e6e82aac31265-WildlifeLan]; Mulligan, Rhannon@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a62a013861764f1e8556eaf023a2cc94-WildlifeRhi]; Maher, Lani@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5dd1ddd3656b47ad999ed889a3382664-WildlifeLan]; Branch, Alexander(Harilee)@Wildlife [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=efe78fbc6c1e408da007e97ea1d8cdf6-WildlifeHar]; Crader, Phillip@Waterboards [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7210c7994d3941d4a5501541b6a379f1-Waterboards]; Scroggins, Matt@Waterboards [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c470ea493fb242f7ba5e9520bbdcef35-Waterboards]; Salazar, Brandon@Waterboards [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a5d008b0f3ed40aaa76d11f9bd7eb10d-Waterboards]; Coster, Lynn@Waterboards [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=40727eee7ecc43358146f3840a76982e-Waterboards]; Shaw, Jeremy [jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov]; Randall, David A. [drandall@fresnocountyca.gov]; rfreeman@wwd.ca.gov; Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]; Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Payne, Leonidas@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=aa9d25dde24e40429efa06c4eed35807-Payne, Leon]; Badie, Mona@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4230574616834c8a8b023cf986dc310c-Badie, Mona]
CC: Huber, Elizabeth@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=93f40660c3d446578d63390926fd5e5a-Huber, Eliz]; Barrera, Linda@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4f9b3dca0d1b4c68ae27200d78e68bcd-Barrera, Li]; Gallardo, Noemi@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6d80af906f4f4846958a22a1fbfc0795-Gallardo, N]; Qaquandah,

James@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7da5ec0923de49488685fdaa76c71e51-Qaqundah, J]; Dyas, Mary@Energy
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a9f34cdb42bb40b0adc5e440506d8b01-Dyas, Mary@]; Riordan,
 Patrick@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac5d55bd7fad49519eaa9e71fc43871d-Riordan, Pa]; Lindsey Sarquilla
 [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; David Daitch [ddaitch@rinconconsultants.com]; Lorentzen, Wayne@DTSC
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=67ab2660d3724727a6074450f5a5e96d-DTSCWLorent]; Koch, Lori@DTSC
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a3269442b99e4b6eac71ca1ce19d5078-DTSCCLKoch]; Ferouz, Muzhda@DTSC
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a5970a2c9e7942c19e64ec8ca6a4b057-DTSCMFerouz]; Uy, Kevin@Energy
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b3f32afe75744b439810f99c721c7c38-Uy, Kevin@E]; Catalina Suarez
 [Catalina@intersectpower.com]; Andrea Nocito [Andrea@intersectpower.com]; Anderson, Hilarie@Energy
 [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
 (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0986bc201f7d4e03b7399ee3051c52b3-Anderson, H]; Camille Wasinger
 [camille@intersectpower.com]

Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project - Site map
Attachments: Darden Project Site_Draft_Sept2023.pdf

Attached is a site map to facilitate discussion at Friday's Opt-in pre-filing meeting for the Darden Clean Energy Project



Eric Knight





Manager
 Siting & Environmental Branch
 Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
 California Energy Commission
 (916) 591-9931








Darden Clean Energy Project

Fresno County, California

Project Components

-  Solar Facility
 Utility Switchyard
 Utility Switchyard Parcel
 Gen-Tie Line ROW





Option 1

-  BESS
 Green Hydrogen Facility
 O&M Facilities
 Step-Up Substation
 Gen-Tie Line ROW Extension

Option 2

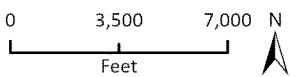
-
- BESS
- Green Hydrogen Facility
- O&M Facilities
- Step-Up Substation

Alternate Green Hydrogen Site

-  Green Hydrogen Facility
-  Green Hydrogen Substation
-  Green Hydrogen Switchyard
-  Green Hydrogen Parcels

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Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 11/8/2023 1:18:01 AM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Barrera, Linda@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4f9b3dca0d1b4c68ae27200d78e68bcd-Barrera, Li]; Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) opt-in application inquiry

Thanks Becky.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 5:15 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Barrera, Linda@Energy <Linda.Barrera@energy.ca.gov>; Evelyn Langsdale <elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) opt-in application inquiry

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ann and Lisa,

All documents have been filed.

I will definitely keep you informed on ARCHES and will coordinate with my team to get an update on the latest communications received.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 Director, Environmental & Permitting
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735
 (e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 4:50 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Barrera, Linda@Energy <Linda.Barrera@energy.ca.gov>; Evelyn Langsdale <elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) opt-in application inquiry

Thank you so much for that information Becky. We will copy Lindsey and Evelyn on emails to you.

Can you keep us updated on when you hear if Darden will be included in ARCHES. We are assuming that is the key detail that will determine whether the hydrogen portion goes forward. Correct us if that is not the case.

Thanks,

Lisa

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 4:01 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Barrera, Linda@Energy <Linda.Barrera@energy.ca.gov>; Evelyn Langsdale <elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: Re: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) opt-in application inquiry

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Ann,

We are still tracking to have everything submitted today and continue to upload the various documents. GIS data has been uploaded through Kiteworks and Travis David confirmed receipt. I'll send another email when everything has been successfully filed.

The ARCHES hub was awarded funding by the DOE. While Intersect's Darden project was included in that application, ARCHES has not yet announced which projects will be selected and included in the final hub plan.

Please also include Lindsey and Evelyn from Rincon on email communications.

Thank you,

Becky Moores

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 2:31:18 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Barrera, Linda@Energy <Linda.Barrera@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) opt-in application inquiry

Hi Becky,

Just checking in on a few items:

- Do you have an estimated date when the application will be completely uploaded to the docket? Friday is state holiday so staff will be out of office (Veteran's Day)

- Please notify us when you have filed the last item in the application, including the confidential material and items through kiteworks (eg. GIS data, etc.)
- Was the project a U.S. DOE Hydrogen Hub award recipient thru ARCHES?
- Please confirm all people from your team who need to be cc'd on emails from the PMs at the CEC.

Thank you for filing everything so far. Any questions please let me or Lisa Worrall know.

Thanks!

Ann

Ann Crisp
Senior Environmental Planner
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 776-7975
Fax: (916) 651-8868



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 11/8/2023 11:34:06 PM
To: Becky Moores (becky.moores@intersectpower.com) [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]
CC: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) CDFW information for ITP application

Hi Becky,

Staff has reviewed Appendix U (TN 252929) and found it does not include all the information required to be in an Incidental Take Permit application. Staff stated (per email) on Oct 3, 2023, that the incidental take permit should not include a crosswalk but should include all the pertinent details in one place. However, Appendix U provides a crosswalk to other appendices and chapters of the application under the headings of Project Description, Project Location, Impact Analysis, Jeopardy Analysis, Proposed Mitigation Measures, Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, and Funding Sources and Availability.

Under Public Resources Code section 25545.2, CEC requests that the ITP application be a complete stand-alone document for ease of review. Please follow CDFW instructions (available at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/CESA/Permitting/Incidental-Take-Permits> and resubmit Appendix U to include complete answers to all questions in one stand-alone document.

This will facilitate expedited review of the ITP application with our MOU agency partners. Until this is submitted the application will not be considered completely uploaded.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall
 Senior Environmental Planner
 California Energy Commission
 Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
 715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
 Direct: (916) 661-8367
 Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 11/9/2023 1:11:00 AM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
CC: David, Travis@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=08b483b8d5464b41b536daf809eb1a0d-David, Trav]; Energy - GIS [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e6f8ddb65f0f4a3190ad863248c91580-Energy - GI]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Request for modeling files and GIS project component shape files

Will do. Thanks.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 5:08 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: David, Travis@Energy <travis.david@energy.ca.gov>; Energy - GIS <GIS@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>; Evelyn Langsdale <elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Request for modeling files and GIS project component shape files

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Hi Lisa,

Looks like the data successfully transferred through your Kiteworks system. Let us know if you need any additional files.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 2:28 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: David, Travis@Energy <travis.david@energy.ca.gov>; Energy - GIS <GIS@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Mayer, Alex@Energy <Alex.Mayer@Energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) Request for modeling files and GIS project component shape files

Hi Becky,

We need to get modeling files with the cells unlocked for all modeling used in Appendix N (eg. HRA, HARP, CalEEMod, and AERMOD.).

We also need the GIS shape files for the project components (eg. Linears, project boundaries, etc.)

This information is needed before we can confirm that the application has been fully submitted.

Thank you very much,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 11/2/2023 12:31:03 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]; Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]
CC: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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Hi Lisa,

That's not a problem. I will wait to submit the final document until Monday 11/6. The wire transfer for the application fee should go out on Friday, but I will confirm that and let the appropriate parties know (per Eric's previous email) when that is completed.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 5:46 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Hi Becky,

I wanted to let you know that it would be helpful for us if the last item that you docket is not docketed until Monday.

This is because once all of the sections of your application have been docketed and filing fees are paid, under the regulations, staff are required to send out notification of the application within three calendar days. So, for example, if we receive everything on Friday, the number of work days are reduced down to just one day. We need all three days.

Let Ann or me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
 Senior Environmental Planner
 California Energy Commission
 Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
 715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
 Direct: (916) 661-8367

Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 9:43 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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Hello,

We are working through final production of our application materials and plan to submit on Friday.

Best,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 1:20 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Thanks so much Becky.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 12:17 PM
To: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Ann,

Thanks for the quick call just now. As we discussed, I will not begin submitting documents today. We continue to work through our various reports to finalize and produce, and we are addressing a few key items that need more time to get through. I will provide another update early next week on when we anticipate having our materials ready for submittal, with the goal of trying to get everything uploaded in one day so you have a 'complete' submittal to start reviewing.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 8:51 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>; Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: Re: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Good morning Becky,

Just checking in to see if you plan to start filing today?

Also, I received a partial voicemail from Julie, the voicemail cut off so not completely sure what it was regarding but she mentioned maps. Is there someone named Julie on your team?

Thanks!

Ann

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 1:45 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

<p>CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.</p>

Hi Lisa,

We are anticipating having our submittal documents ready by end of next week. I hope to have things submitted by end of day on Friday 10/27, but given the process to get all the documents uploaded, it could push a little past that. I will keep you updated on document submission and the wire transfer.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 10:52 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Good morning Becky,

Can you give us an update on when you anticipate filing Darden. Thanks so much,

Lisa

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2023 12:41 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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Absolutely, not a problem.

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 4:34 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Thank you so much for letting us know. It helps out with our workflow. Can you give us at least one day's notice before you docket, if possible, although we are ready waiting.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 2:29 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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Lisa and Ann,

Thank you for reaching out and the introductions. I am very much looking forward to working with you both on this project. I am leading the permitting efforts for Darden and will be your main point of contact. Marisa Mitchell is head of Intersect's environmental and permitting group and will be engaged throughout the process as well. Rincon is our environmental consultant supporting the opt-in application efforts with Lindsey Sarquilla as project manager.

We are diligently working on finalizing the application documents, but we may be slipping into the following week (week of October 23) for submittal of all materials.

Best,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 2:36 PM

To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Hi Becky,

Are you on schedule for filing the Darden application this Monday or Tuesday?

The docket is set up and so is the webpage. Here is a link to the webpage: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/solar-photovoltaic-pv/darden-clean-energy-project>

Ann Crisp, who has also worked at the CEC as a staff biologist is the primary project manager and I am working with her as a Co-Project Manager for this project. We are looking forward to reviewing this project.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 10/25/2023 4:51:16 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
CC: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Hi Becky,

It is generally best to submit the documents in one group over fewer days, but if you want to start on Friday and continue on Monday, that is okay too.

Lisa

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 8:54 AM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lisa,

We are still hoping to start submitting some items on Friday, but we may need a few extra days to finalize everything and may not have all documents uploaded until maybe Monday or Tuesday next week. Is it okay to spread out submittal to your system over a few days or does that create a problem at all?

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 2:48 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Wonderful. Thanks for the update. I know it takes a while to get the whole application uploaded for dockets.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 1:45 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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Hi Lisa,

We are anticipating having our submittal documents ready by end of next week. I hope to have things submitted by end of day on Friday 10/27, but given the process to get all the documents uploaded, it could push a little past that. I will keep you updated on document submission and the wire transfer.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 10:52 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Good morning Becky,

Can you give us an update on when your anticipate filing Darden. Thanks so much,

Lisa

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2023 12:41 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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Absolutely, not a problem.

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 4:34 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon)

<lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>

Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Thank you so much for letting us know. It helps out with our workflow. Can you give us at least one day's notice before you docket, if possible, although we are ready waiting.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 2:29 PM

To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>

Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Lisa and Ann,

Thank you for reaching out and the introductions. I am very much looking forward to working with you both on this project. I am leading the permitting efforts for Darden and will be your main point of contact. Marisa Mitchell is head of Intersect's environmental and permitting group and will be engaged throughout the process as well. Rincon is our environmental consultant supporting the opt-in application efforts with Lindsey Sarquilla as project manager.

We are diligently working on finalizing the application documents, but we may be slipping into the following week (week of October 23) for submittal of all materials.

Best,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 2:36 PM

To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Hi Becky,

Are you on schedule for filing the Darden application this Monday or Tuesday?

The docket is set up and so is the webpage. Here is a link to the webpage: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/solar-photovoltaic-pv/darden-clean-energy-project>

Ann Crisp, who has also worked at the CEC as a staff biologist is the primary project manager and I am working with her as a Co-Project Manager for this project. We are looking forward to reviewing this project.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov





Darden / ARCHES Sacramento Update

August 2023





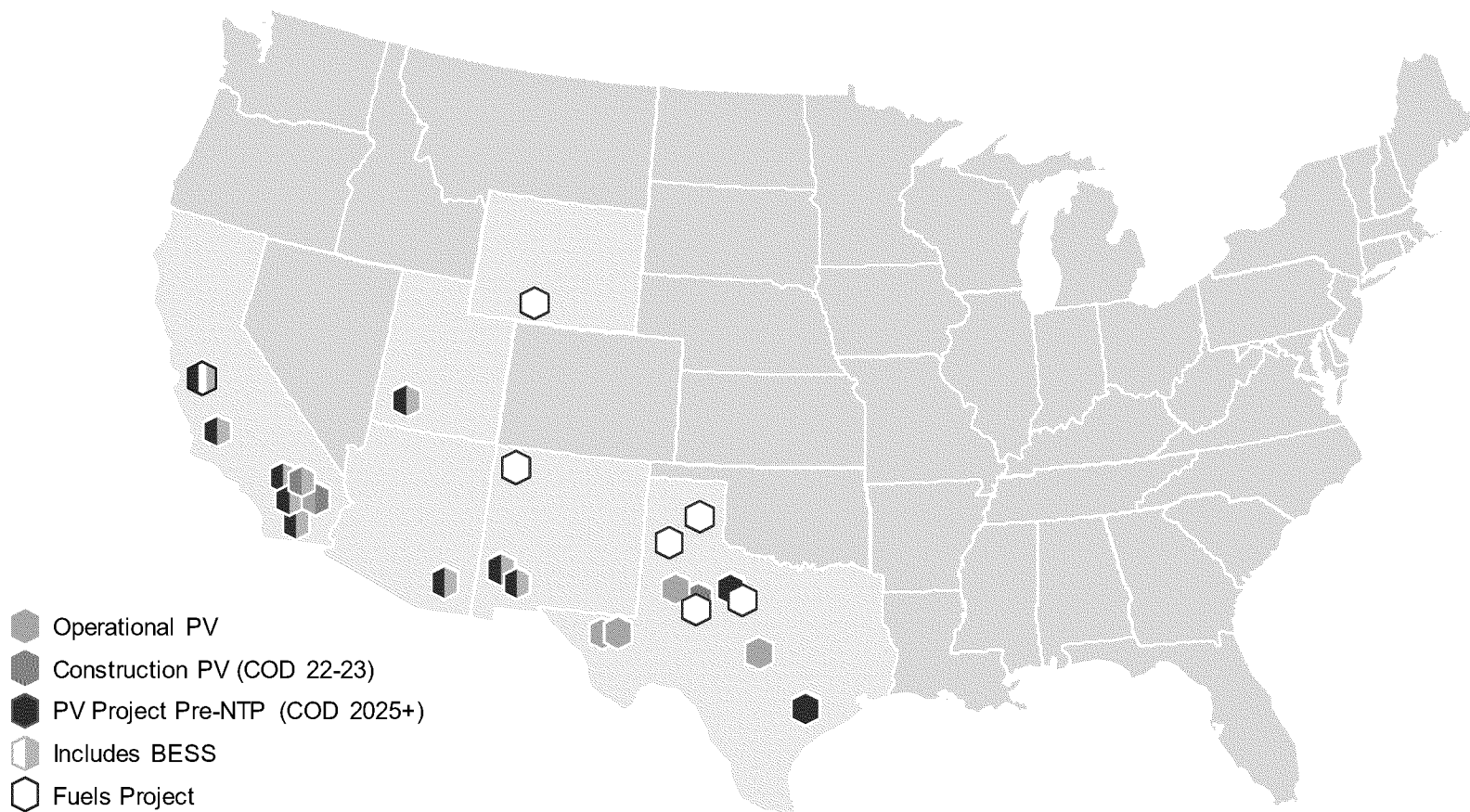
Intersect Power is redefining the scope of the clean energy industry by enabling new pathways between clean electricity and the broader economy.

The zero carbon industries of the future are enabled by the clean electricity technologies of today.

Building and Operating Clean Assets



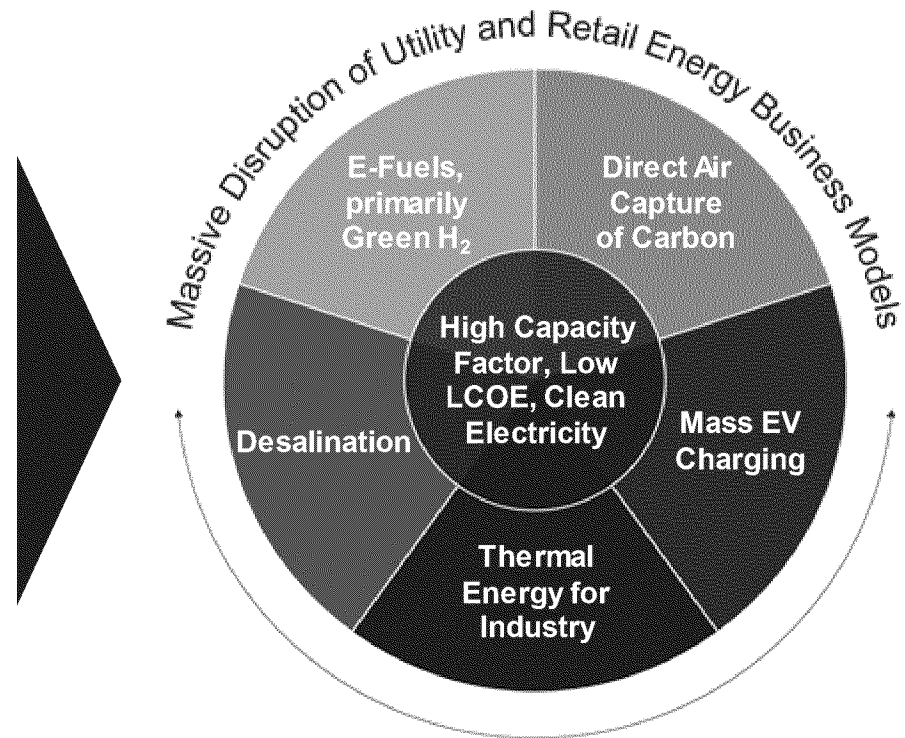
Scale of Development: Intersect's legacy portfolio and current pipeline represent some of the largest projects in the US, aligned with Intersect's approach to develop scalable, capital efficient projects.



High Capacity Factor, Low LCOE, Clean Electricity is the Nexus of Deep Decarbonization



- **Climate change** is the **largest problem** facing this generation
- If the international community **misses** the **climate action goals** in 2035 and 2050, the **problem doesn't go away**
- Causation of climate change spans well beyond the power generation sector – tackling it will result in **explosive growth in the five inevitable industries**
 - These five classes of green infrastructure have the **potential to get the planet to net zero** emissions on their own, without any new breakthroughs



Intersect Power develops and owns the clean energy resources that enable the deep decarbonization of our economy.



**Darden:
A Solar + Storage
+ Green H2 Project
in CA's Central
Valley**



Darden Solar and Green Hydrogen Project Summary



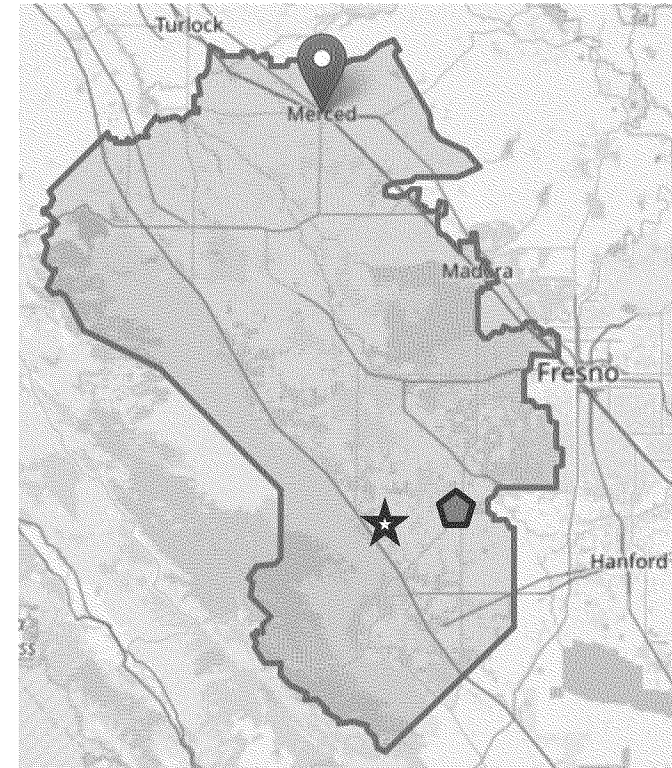
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fresno County, CA near Cantua Creek 	Key: PV = Photovoltaic MWac = Megawatts alternating current BESS = Battery Energy Storage System MT = Metric Tons
Project Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start of Construction: Summer 2026 Commercial Operation: Q4 2028 	
Capacity - Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,150 MWac PV + 1,150 MWac 4-hour BESS 	
Capacity - Hydrogen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 700 MW Electrolyzer producing 105 metric tonnes (MT)/day of hydrogen, enough to power more than 2,500 heavy duty trucks 	
Site Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 9,000 acres of Westlands Water District (WWD) land for PV + BESS under firm site control 13-15 mile gen-tie will span private lands; site control negotiations underway 	
Interconnection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAISO - NP-15 Hub Point of Interconnection on Los Banos-Midway #2 Line 500kV at new breaker-and-a-half (BAAH) switchyard to be built by IP and owned/operated by PG&E Interconnection filed into CAISO's Cluster 14 in April 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase I Study Results: Complete Phase II Study Results: Anticipated November 2023 	
Project Jobs and Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,000 peak jobs during construction An average of 600 jobs during construction 40 permanent jobs in Fresno County for project operations – specific to hydrogen project 	

Darden Solar Project in AD 27



★ = Darden Project ⬠ = Five Points

- Outreach and local engagement:
 - Met with Supervisors late 2022 to introduce the Darden Project
 - Located in Supervisor Pacheco's district
 - Site visit with USFW and CDFW March 23'
 - CUP Application submitted in April 23'
 - Outreach in 23' achieved with:
 - Economic Development Council
 - Fresno Chamber of Commerce
 - Outreach planned over next 12 months with Rios Group:
 - Farm Bureau
 - Central Valley Farmland Trust
 - Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley
 - Outreach to residents will occur in English and Spanish, in convenient locations, at appropriate dates and times with support from the Rios Group



We continue to seek meaningful community engagement opportunities in and around the Darden project

Darden Project Footprint



imagery provided by Microsoft Bing and its licensors © 2022.

Fig. 8. Study Area

Darden Supports California's Broad Clean Energy Goals



2022 was significant for CA clean electricity policy

- **SB 1020 (Laird)** - Defined the state's clean energy targets as 90% by 2035; 95% by 2040; 100% by 2045
 - CEC estimates are that 39GWs of new solar are needed by 2035, with an additional 31GWs by 2045
- **AB 1279 (Muratsuchi)** - Economy-wide 2045 carbon neutrality goal requires significant volumes of renewable fuels to decarbonize hard to electrify industry (long-haul transport, aviation, steel) with 85% of the progress from emission reductions

2022 was also significant for H2 policy

- **AB 179 (Ting) Budget Act of 2022** - \$100 million for the CEC's H2 Program, and \$5 million for GO-BIZ H2 hub application
- **AB 157 Budget State Government** - In addition to funding State Government it specifies that grants received from the regional clean hydrogen hubs program may only be provided to projects that create hydrogen using new zero emission resources (not nukes)
- **AB 211 Public Resources Trailer Bill** - \$96 million to support zero carbon fueling infrastructure for drayage and \$99 million for zero carbon fueling infrastructure for clean trucks, buses, and off-road equipment, (e.g. agricultural equipment)

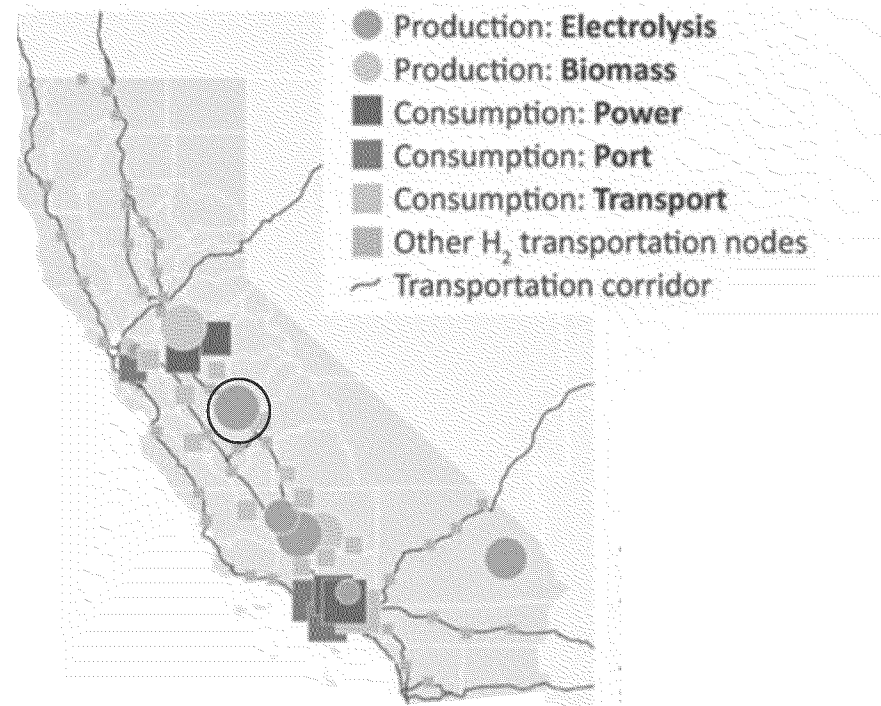
Darden was conceived as a solar + storage project.

Intersect Power is excited to support its transformation into a hydrogen project, but that transformation is ultimately dependent on ARCHES

Why did we elect to add H2 to Darden?



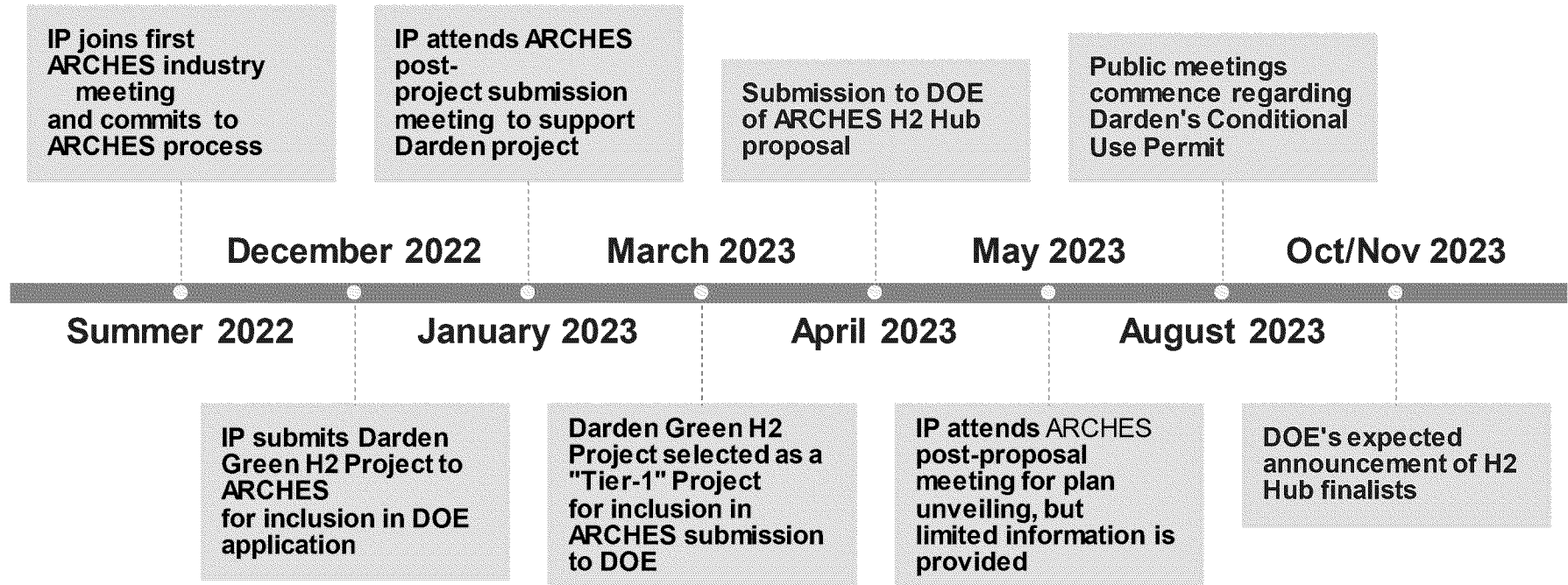
- **Increased congestion and curtailment of solar** resources in California incentivizes renewables developers to incorporate loads behind-the-meter to guarantee that energy is used during periods of congestion
- **CA has ambitious hydrogen and heavy-duty trucking decarbonization goals**, and Intersect wants to devote our core competencies to make those goals a reality
- **Project is strategically located** along I-5 for demand from in-state long-haul trucking, as well as historical pipeline corridor for moving H2 to major CA metros
- **Hydrogen creates more value** in the community by creating 40 permanent jobs and bringing additional investment to the region



Project Development Timeline vs. ARCHES Timeline



Success for the Darden H2 project requires IP secure permits and negotiate offtake contracts well before financing, procurement, and construction.



Key Next Steps for Enabling Darden Green Hydrogen Project Before DOE Announcement

1. Intersect Power and potential offtakers develop a midstream plan for hydrogen transport
2. Intersect Power secures offtake agreements for hydrogen volumes with creditworthy hydrogen consumers



Thank you!

Michael Wheeler

415-306-3042

Michael.wheeler@intersectpower.com

Rainer Wasinger

303-928-9752

rainer@intersectpower.com

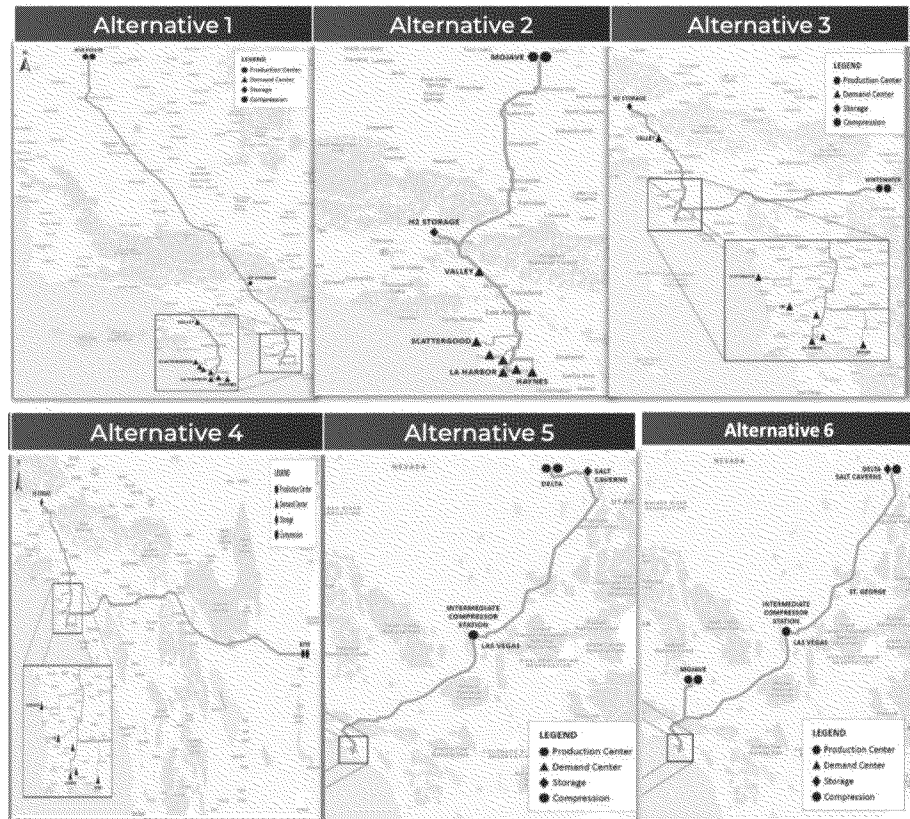


SoCalGas: "Angeles Link" Hydrogen Pipeline Proposal



Darden + Angeles Link = Meaningful participation in H2 economy for Central Valley

- SoCalGas: largest gas distribution utility in N. America and has pledged to achieve net zero GHG targets by 2045
- Proposed in early 2022 by SoCalGas, the Angeles Link project would be the nation's largest Green H2 pipeline system
- Objectives identified include:
 - Replace NG fuel for LA's peaker plants with green H2
 - Provide zero-carbon fuels for CA's heavy industry (steel, cement, etc.)
 - Provide fuels for long-haul trucking and busses
- Six different routes are considered, with three incorporating both production and storage in CA, and three considering production or storage outside of CA
- Angeles Link is a Tier 1 ARCHES partner, just like Intersect Power's Darden project



Angeles Link report: <https://www.socalgas.com/sites/default/files/SPECServicesPhase2-Report.pdf>

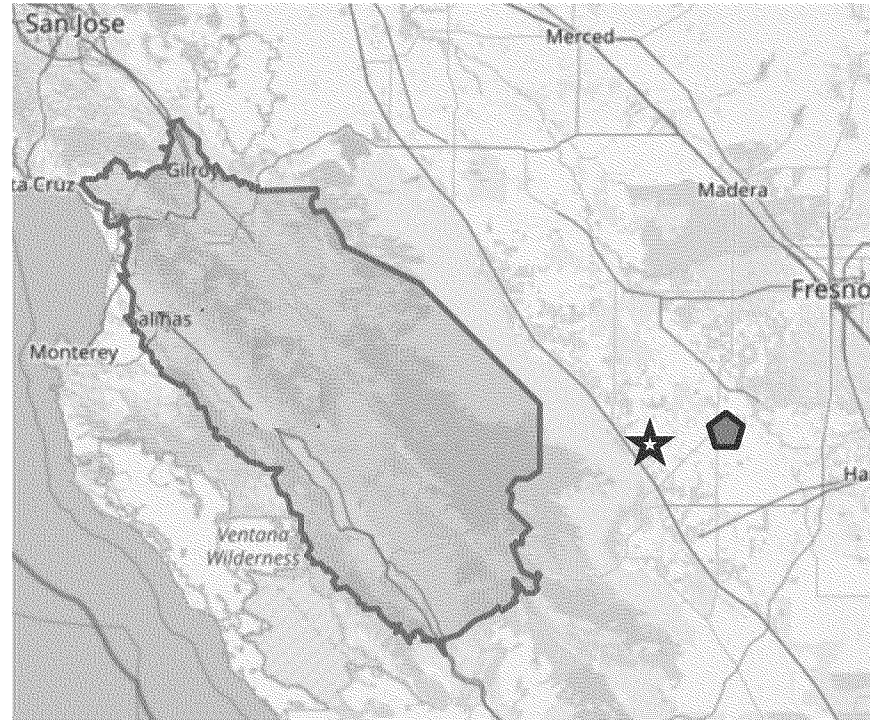
Darden Solar Project near AD 29



★ = Darden Project

⬠ = Five Points

- Outreach and local engagement:
 - Met with Supervisors late 2022 to introduce the Darden Project
 - Located in Supervisor Pacheco's district
 - Site visit with USFW and CDFW March 23'
 - CUP Application submitted in April 23'
 - Outreach in 23' achieved with:
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 - Outreach planned over next 12 months with:
 - Farm Bureau
 - Central Valley Farmland Trust
 - Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley
 - Outreach to residents will occur in English and Spanish, in convenient locations, at appropriate dates and times with support from the Rios Company



We continue to seek meaningful community engagement opportunities in and around the Darden project

Key Questions



- What are the volumes of H2 demand identified by offtake partners?
- Is a pipeline between Fresno and Los Angeles planned as a part of the Hub?
- Is the pipeline permitting underway – can the state assist?
- Does Darden need to amend its CUP application to accommodate a pipeline?
- If no pipeline, a compressor station is necessary, with dedicated truck transport – are H2 trucks the primary transport employed by ARCHES?
- If H2 trucks are contemplated, will equipment for liquefying hydrogen be required to serve those trucks?

Answers to the above questions are needed as soon as possible to avoid the Darden project being limited to only a solar + storage project

ARCHES – List of Tier 1 Participants



Intersect received the following list of participants in Mar 2023:

- **Production:** Intersect Power, Linde, SDG&E, H-Cycle, Mote, Chevron, Clearway Energy Group, AES/Air Products JV, Plug Power, Element Resources, San Luis Hydrogen Partners, NCPA
- **Ports:** POLA, POLB, Port of Oakland
- **Power:** LADWP, Dash Clean Energy, NCPA
- **Other offtake:** Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, Amazon, Scripps Institute, Universal Hydrogen
- **Infrastructure (including stations):** Air Products, First Element Fuel, Chevron, Amazon, Nikola, Pilot Travel Centers, SoCalGas
- **Transit (Bus) Agencies:** AC Transit, Foothill Transit (Pomona), Gold Coast (Ventura), Fresno Express, LAVTA (Livermore), San Joaquin RTD, NCTD (Oceanside), OCTA (Santa Ana and Garden Grove), OmniTrans (San Bernardino), Riverside, SamTrans (San Mateo), Santa Cruz, SunLine (Thousand Palms)

To: Randall , David A. [drandall@fresnocountyca.gov]
Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project - Site map

Hi, David – I apologize for not responding to you email last week. Are you available tomorrow morning before 11:00? My schedule in the afternoon is wide open as well.

In the interim, here are some answers to your questions.

Eric



Eric Knight

Manager
Siting & Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
(916) 591-9931

From: Randall , David A. <drandall@fresnocountyca.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 4:22 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: FW: Darden Clean Energy Project - Site map

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please call me regarding the Darden Project.



David Randall | Senior Planner
Department of Public Works and Planning |
Development Services and Capital Projects Division
2220 Tulare St. 6th Floor Fresno, CA 93721
Main Office: (559) 600-4497 Direct: (559) 600-4052
[Your input matters! Customer Service Survey](#)

From: Randall , David A.
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 4:51 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Shaw, Jeremy <jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov>

Subject: RE: Darden Clean Energy Project - Site map

Eric,

It was an interesting meeting today on the Darden Project. I do have a few general question regarding the SB 205 provisions:

Can you confirm that when a projects opts into the process and are approved through the CEC, the State takes over all jurisdiction including issuance and inspection of building permits, grading permits, etc. The only exceptions being for permissions within County rights-of-way, e.g. encroachment permits etc.

Correct, a certificate issued by the CEC for a site and related facility (e.g., transmission line) is "in lieu of any permit, certificate, or similar document required by any state, local, or regional agency..." – PRC section 25545.1 (b)(1). My understanding this would include encroachment permits, but since these are ministerial, traditionally the CEC has not subsumed them.

Does the section below require all projects that exceed the threshold to be reviewed and approved via the CEC, or just those that elect to apply? The applicable PRC section for opt-in projects is section 25545.1 in Chapter 6.2 (Certification of Nonfossil-Fueled Powerplants, Energy Storage Facilities, and Related Facilities. Section 25500 is in Chapter 6 (Power Facility and Site Certification) and relates to thermal power plants 50 MW or more for which a certificate from the CEC to build or operate the facility is not optional. For the facilities eligible to opt into the CEC's authority, it is at the developer's discretion to file with the CEC, but upon filing the CEC's jurisdiction is exclusive (except as provided in 25545.1 (b) (2) and (3)).

Section 25545.1 reads in relevant part:

(a) A person proposing an eligible facility may file an application no later than June 30, 2029, for certification with the commission to certify a site and related facility in accordance with this chapter, including a person who has an application for certification or small powerplant exemption filed with the commission pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 25500) pending as of the effective date of this section. Upon receipt of the application, the commission shall have the exclusive power to certify the site and related facility, whether the application proposes a new site and related facility or a change or addition to an existing facility.

25500.

In accordance with the provisions of this division, the commission shall have the exclusive power to certify all sites and related facilities in the state, whether a new site and related facility or a change or addition to an existing facility. The issuance of a certificate by the commission shall be in lieu of any permit, certificate, or similar document required by any state, local or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law, for such use of the site and related facilities, and shall supersede any applicable statute, ordinance, or regulation of any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law.

After the effective date of this division, no construction of any facility or modification of any existing facility shall be commenced without first obtaining certification for any such site and related facility by the commission, as prescribed in this division.

I would note that your staff seemed to pick up on a similar concern that I have, that not studying the gas line for the hydrogen production, at least at a programmatic level, would be piecemealing of the CEQA analysis. Do you anticipate preparing an EIR or are the considering using an initial study, assuming all impacts can be mitigated to less than significant? The statute says the CEC "may prepare an initial study ... to help identify the significant effects of an action..." but does not require it. The CEC is required to prepare an EIR for any project that opts-in.

There was a question asked about Zoning and General Plan consistency, and a issue was raised by your staff about ag conversion and mitigation. The County has solar development policies that require reclamation plans, reclamation estimates and financial securities, these are in place as the projects are only considered conditionally consistent with the

General Plan under an unclassified use permit as the arrays are required to have a limited life so the projects does not permanently displace agricultural use of the land. The land is required to be returned to its previous state at the end of the project (25 – 30 years). If the intent is to permanently displace the farmland, the project would not be consistent with the County's land use policies and provisions, hence the state adopting appropriate mitigations to be consistent with the County's policies would seem prudent to avoid this.

Appreciate this information on the county's approach to mitigating impacts to agricultural lands and ensuring consistency with the county's land use policies. I asked the question about zoning/GP consistency and it was Steve Kerr (who reports directly to me) who asked about agricultural land conversion and mitigation. We'd like to discuss this further with you. In addition to findings under CEQA for significant effects, the CEC must make findings regarding a project's conformance with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards.

I look forward to working with you to facilitating the projects review process.



David Randall | Senior Planner
Department of Public Works and Planning |
Development Services and Capital Projects Division
2220 Tulare St. 6th Floor Fresno, CA 93721
Main Office: (559) 600-4497 Direct: (559) 600-4052
[Your input matters! Customer Service Survey](#)

From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 9/27/2023 5:08:28 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
CC: Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]
Subject: Darden Project Application Questions - General

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Eric,

A few questions for you on our opt-in application materials:

1. We understand from the Pre-Application meeting that CEC will create a docket for the Project that Intersect can upload to, but is there any general guidance about the document submittal process or requirements (e.g. document size limitations, formatting requirements, etc.) that we should consider?
2. What support is needed from Intersect to set up the docket page prior to application submittal?
3. Is there flexibility in the order that Appendix B requirements are covered in the Opt-In Application? For example, we think the Engineering requirements flow better if included before the section that covers Environmental topics, and the Alternatives requirements flow better after the Environmental topics are discussed.
4. Is attaching a decommissioning plan appropriate to address the Appendix B Facility Closure requirements? I.e., In the event of premature cessation, the requirements of the decommissioning plan would apply.

Also, I just received an out of office reply from Jon after I sent two bio questions to him regarding the Incidental Take Permit approach. If you are able to provide input on those questions before Jon returns on Oct 6 it would be much appreciated.

Thank you,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 9/27/2023 4:59:28 PM
To: Hilliard, Jon@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=27a838bfda534669858cb8cf13dd12a4-Hilliard, J]
CC: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]
Subject: Darden Project Application Questions - Bio

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Jon,

As we are preparing our opt-in application, we have a few questions on the biology topics related to Swainson's hawk ITP.

1. For the Opt-in requirement related to providing all information required for incidental take authorization, does the CEC require a permit application form be prepared or can we provide a crosswalk that demonstrates the information required in the application is provided in the Biological Resources Assessment and CEC Opt-In Application Biological Resources section?
2. The CDFW typically does not include decommissioning in the ITP process. Is this approach acceptable to CEC, or how would CEC like this addressed?

Thank you,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 10/9/2023 8:51:04 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
CC: Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]; Evelyn Langsdale [elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com]
Subject: RE: Darden Project Application Questions - General

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Hello Eric,

Here is a project summary for Darden. Let me know if you recommend any changes or additions.

IP Darden I, LLC and Affiliates (Applicant) propose to construct and operate the Darden Clean Energy Project on approximately 9,500 acres in western Fresno County. The project consists of a 1,150 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility, an up to 4,600 megawatt-hour battery energy storage system (BESS), an up to 1,150 MW green hydrogen generator, a 34.5-500 kilovolt (kV) grid step-up substation, a 10- to 15-mile 500 kV generation intertie (gen-tie) line, and a 500 kV utility switching station. The project will interconnect to the existing Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Los Banos-Midway #2 500 kV transmission line. The project would be located approximately 4 miles northwest of the community of Five Points, with the utility switchyard located 5 miles south of the community of Three Rocks on the west side of Interstate 5.

The solar PV facility will be made up of approximately 3,100,000 solar panels, inverter-transformer stations, and an electrical collection system, and would be located on approximately 9,000 acres of lands currently owned by Westlands Water District that will be purchased by IP Darden. The 500 kV gen-tie line will be sited within an approximate 200-foot easement on private lands. Following construction of the utility switchyard by IP Darden, ownership and operations would transfer to PG&E. The BESS would be capable of storing up to 1,150 MW of electricity for four hours (up-to 4,600 MWh). The green hydrogen facility would be located on up to 225 acres and would consist of an electrolyzer, water treatment plant, and ancillary equipment. The electrolyzer would be powered by up to 1,150 MW of behind-the-meter renewable power generated by the solar facility and will be capable of producing up to 220 tonnes per day of pure, gaseous hydrogen.

("Affiliates" means IP Darden II, LLC, IP Darden III, LLC, IP Darden IV, LLC, IP Darden BESS I, LLC, IP Darden BESS II, LLC, IP Darden BESS III, LLC, IP Darden BESS IV, LLC, IP Darden I H2, LLC, IP Darden II H2, LLC, and IP Darden BAAH, LLC. IP Darden I, LLC and Affiliates are indirect subsidiaries of Intersect Power, LLC.)

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 1:34 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>; Evelyn Langsdale <elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Darden Project Application Questions - General

Hi Becky – Please see my responses to your questions below. Please let me know if I didn't answer your questions satisfactorily or if you have any follow-up questions. Thanks, Eric


Eric Knight

Manager
 Siting & Environmental Branch
 Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
 California Energy Commission
 (916) 591-9931

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 10:08 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>; Evelyn Langsdale <elangsdale@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: Darden Project Application Questions - General

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Hi Eric,

A few questions for you on our opt-in application materials:

1. We understand from the Pre-Application meeting that CEC will create a docket for the Project that Intersect can upload to, but is there any general guidance about the document submittal process or requirements (e.g. document size limitations, formatting requirements, etc.) that we should consider?

This webpage includes links to guidance documents for e-filing, including the User Training Guide for E-filing and E-Commenting. [E-Filing and E-Commenting \(ca.gov\)](#). Contact information for CEC's Docket Unit is on this page as well if you need assistance.

2. What support is needed from Intersect to set up the docket page prior to application submittal?

Please send me a project description, that includes the project's name, applicant's name, and an overview of the project. See example page here: [Black Rock Geothermal Project \(BRGP\) | California Energy Commission](#)

3. Is there flexibility in the order that Appendix B requirements are covered in the Opt-In Application? For example, we think the Engineering requirements flow better if included before the section that covers Environmental topics, and the Alternatives requirements flow better after the Environmental topics are discussed.

Yes, you can organize the topics in any order you chose.

4. Is attaching a decommissioning plan appropriate to address the Appendix B Facility Closure requirements? I.e., In the event of premature cessation, the requirements of the decommissioning plan would apply.

Yes, a decommissioning plan would be appropriate for that information requirement.

Also, I just received an out of office reply from Jon after I sent two bio questions to him regarding the Incidental Take Permit approach. If you are able to provide input on those questions before Jon returns on Oct 6 it would be much appreciated.

See reply from Carol Watson, Staff Biologist, and me.

Thank you,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E4BBC7048B38485084BDB03FB494B25B-WORRALL, LI]
Sent: 10/11/2023 7:12:23 PM
To: becky.moores@intersectpower.com
CC: Roark, Gabriel@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed87ff1e22cd49f3aaff644c82538d46-Roark, Gabr]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]
Subject: Request for Township, Section, and Range for Darden Clean Energy Project boundaries

Hi Becky,

I am helping Eric Knight on the early steps for Darden project and have received a request from our Tribal Cultural Resources supervisor for the township, section and range details for the project site so he can get an early jump on requesting a list of Native American tribes from the NAHC for tribal consultation.

Also, the docket is now open. The project's docket number is 23-OPT-02.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 10/11/2023 10:27:47 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
CC: Roark, Gabriel@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ed87ff1e22cd49f3aaff644c82538d46-Roark, Gabr]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]
Subject: RE: Request for Township, Section, and Range for Darden Clean Energy Project boundaries
Attachments: Untitled Extract Pages.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Lisa,

Below are the section/township/range for the Darden Project. For reference, I have also attached the list of tribes that our consultant (Rincon) sent letters to in early August.

And thanks for letting me know the docket page is live!

- Township 17 Range 14
 - Section 25
- Township 17 Range 15
 - Section 13
 - Section 14
 - Section 15
 - Section 16
 - Section 19
 - Section 20
 - Section 21
 - Section 30
- Township 17 Range 16
 - Section 2
 - Section 3
 - Section 4
 - Section 10
 - Section 12
 - Section 15
 - Section 16
 - Section 17
 - Section 18
 - Section 21
- Township 17 Range 17
 - Section 18

Thank you,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2023 1:12 PM

To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Roark, Gabriel@Energy <gabriel.roark@energy.ca.gov>; Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Request for Township, Section, and Range for Darden Clean Energy Project boundaries

Hi Becky,

I am helping Eric Knight on the early steps for Darden project and have received a request from our Tribal Cultural Resources supervisor for the township, section and range details for the project site so he can get an early jump on requesting a list of Native American tribes from the NAHC for tribal consultation.

Also, the docket is now open. The project's docket number is 23-OPT-02.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall

Senior Environmental Planner

California Energy Commission

Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814

Direct: (916) 661-8367

Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Fresno County
8/30/2023

County	Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties	Last Updated
Fresno	North Valley Yokuts Tribe	N	Katherine Perez, Chairperson	P.O. Box 717 Linden, CA, 95236	(209) 887-3415		canutes@verizon.net	Costanoan Northern Valley Yokut	Alameda, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Sacra mento, San Benito, San Joaquin, Santa	
	North Valley Yokuts Tribe	N	Timothy Perez,	P.O. Box 717 Linden, CA, 95236	(209) 662-2788		huskanam@gmail.com	Costanoan Northern Valley Yokut	Alameda, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Sacra mento, San Benito, San Joaquin, Santa	5/12/2020
	Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe	F	Leo Sisco, Chairperson	P.O. Box 8 Lemoore, CA, 93245	(559) 924-1278	(559) 924-3583		Southern Valley Yokut	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Tulare	
	Table Mountain Rancheria	F	Brenda Lavell, Chairperson	P.O. Box 410 Friant, CA, 93626	(559) 822-2587	(559) 822-2693	rpennell@tmr.org	Yokut	Fresno, Madera, Merced	
	Table Mountain Rancheria	F	Bob Pennell, Cultural Resource Director	P.O. Box 410 Friant, CA, 93626	(559) 325-0351	(559) 325-0394	rpennell@tmr.org	Yokut	Fresno, Madera, Merced	
	Tule River Indian Tribe	F	Neil Peyron, Chairperson	P.O. Box 589 Porterville, CA, 93258	(559) 781-4271	(559) 781-4610	neil.peyron@tulerivertribe- nsn.gov	Yokut	Alameda, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Maripo sa, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San	
	Tule River Indian Tribe	F	Joey Garfield, Tribal Archaeologist	P. O. Box 589 Porterville, CA, 93258	(559) 783-8892	(559) 783-8932	joey.garfield@tulerivertribe- nsn.gov	Yokut	Alameda, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Maripo sa, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San	7/22/2016
	Tule River Indian Tribe	F	Kerri Vera, Environmental Department	P. O. Box 589 Porterville, CA, 93258	(559) 783-8892	(559) 783-8932	kerri.vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov	Yokut	Alameda, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Maripo sa, Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San	7/22/2016
	Wuksachi Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band	N	Kenneth Woodrow, Chairperson	1179 Rock Haven Ct. Salinas, CA, 93906	(831) 443-9702		kwood8934@aol.com	Foothill Yokut Mono	Alameda, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Fresno, Inyo, Kings, Madera, Marin, Marip osa, Merced, Mono, Monterey, San Benito, San	6/19/2023

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed 22-12530 Darden Clean Energy Project, Fresno County.

Record: PROJ-2023-004424
Report Type: List of Tribes
Counties: Fresno
NAHC Group: All

From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 9/18/2023 4:58:00 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
CC: Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]
Subject: RE: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power
Attachments: 2023.09.15_Darden CEC Pre App Meeting_Slide Deck.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Eric,

Thank you for providing the contacts.
 A copy of the slide deck is attached.

It was great to have so many people attend the pre-app call and get an introduction to the Darden project. Great job on coordinating that large of a group!

Best,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735
 (e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 4:26 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power

Hi, Becky and Marisa – Thank you for the informative presentation today. Would it be possible to have a copy of the slides presented today?

Here's the CEC subject matter expert list. Please copy me on any communications with the topic area specialists.

Air Quality, Greenhouse Gases, Public Health, Transmission Line Safety & Nuisance: joseph.hughes@energy.ca.gov
 Hazards/Hazardous Materials, Worker Safety/Fire Protection, Wildfire: brett.fooks@energy.ca.gov
 Efficiency, Reliability, Facility Design, Noise and Vibration: Shahab.Khoshmashrab@energy.ca.gov
 Transmission System Engineering: mark.hesters@energy.ca.gov
 Geology/Soils, Hydrology/Water Quality, Minerals, Waste Management: Abdel-Karim.Abulaban@energy.ca.gov
 Land Use, Agriculture/Forestry, Transportation, Visual Resources (Aesthetics), Socioeconomics (population and housing, recreation, public services), Alternatives: steven.kerr@energy.ca.gov
 Cultural/Tribal Cultural Resources: Gabriel.roark@energy.ca.gov
 Biological Resources: jon.hilliard@energy.ca.gov

Thanks,
 Eric

**Eric Knight**

Manager
Siting & Environmental Branch
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
(916) 591-9931

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 5:21 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power

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Hi Eric,

Attached is a figure you can share in advance of the meeting.
Talk to you later this week!

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 12:23 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power

I meant to ask, if you could you send me a site map? I'd like to send to the CEC/agency team a few days in advance of Friday's meeting.

From: Knight, Eric@Energy
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 10:01 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power

Hi Becky – That's fine. One or more of CEC's attorneys will be attending. – Eric

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:59 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>

Subject: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power

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Hi Eric,

A representative of our internal legal team would like to sit in on the pre-app call this Friday. Would that be acceptable, do you have any concerns with that?

Best,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com



Darden Clean Energy Project

California Energy Commission
Pre-Application Meeting

September 15, 2023



Intersect Power's Asset Portfolio

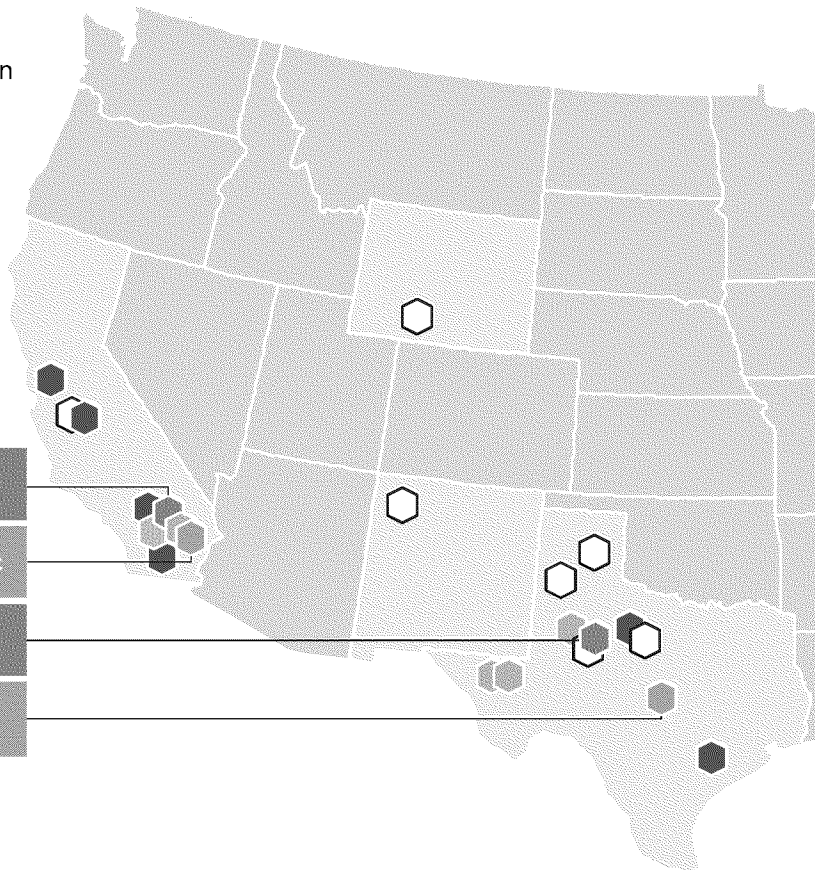


Intersect Power has a base portfolio of 2.2 GWp of solar PV and 1.4 GWh of co-located storage that is under construction or in operation. The company's business plan includes growth in grid-tied renewables, as well as large-scale clean fuels assets.

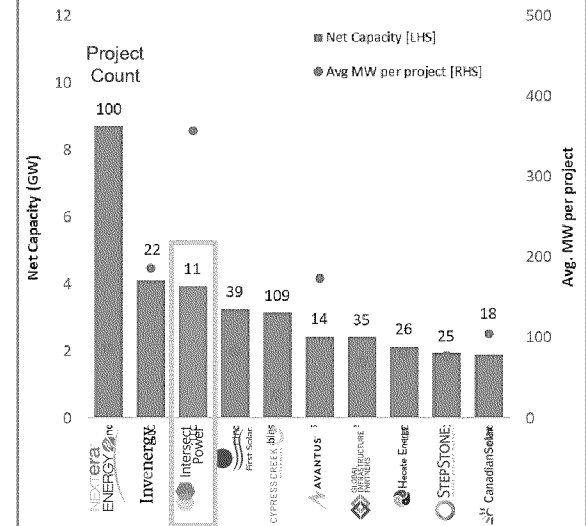
- Operating
- Under Construction
- In Development
- Sold
- Fuels Project Location

Base Portfolio

Oberon 500 MWac
Athos III 224 MWac
Lumina 640 MWac
Radian 320 MWac



Top U.S. Solar Developers since 2017



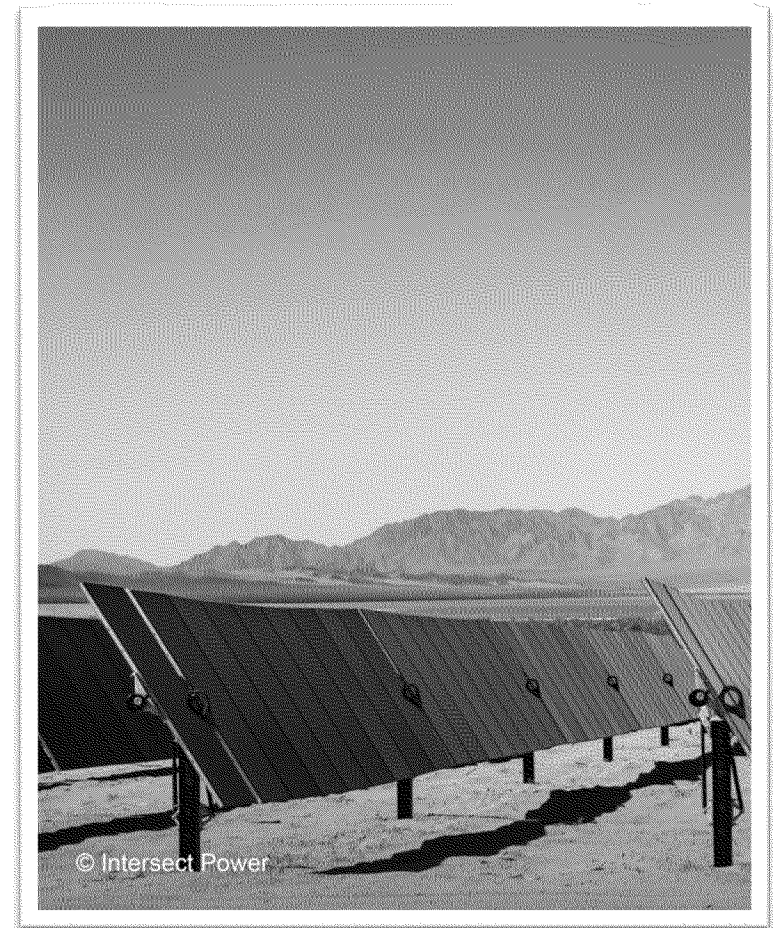
Source: BNEF as of 12/31/22; Numbers indicated on the chart are based on the net-owned capacity of Solar-PV projects in operation or under construction.

Intersect Power's Environmental Stewardship Model



Intersect Power is a clean energy company bringing innovative and scalable low-carbon solutions to its customers in global energy markets. We are proud to take a step-wise, risk-based approach to environmental siting, design, monitoring, and research of our solar energy portfolio. Our primary goal is rapidly decarbonizing our economy, but we place a strong emphasis on avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating local impacts to the environment.

- **Deep Experience in the Natural Resources of California**
- **Environmentally Sensitive Siting & Design Approach**
- **Proactive Communication with Trustee Agencies, Conservation Organizations, Tribal Communities, and Other Key Stakeholders**
- **Participation in Research on Solar Interactions with Wildlife**
- **Management of Sites for Long-term Environmental Values**



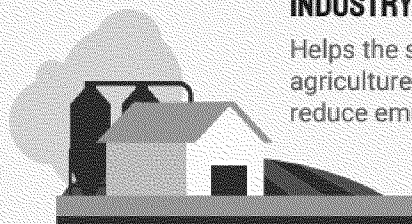
Green Hydrogen is the Bridge Between Sectors



Conversion of clean electrons to clean fuels allows decarbonization of difficult-to-decarbonize sectors of the economy: transportation, agriculture, manufacturing

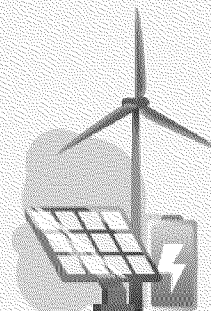
HOW IS GREEN HYDROGEN USED?

Hydrogen is a versatile energy solution for several sectors of the economy – including industries that are otherwise hard to decarbonize.



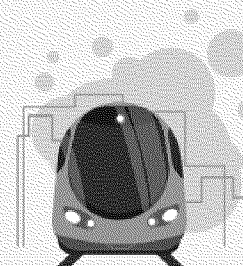
INDUSTRY

Helps the steel and agriculture industries reduce emissions



POWER GENERATION

Produces reliable power (using stored hydrogen) to the electric grid

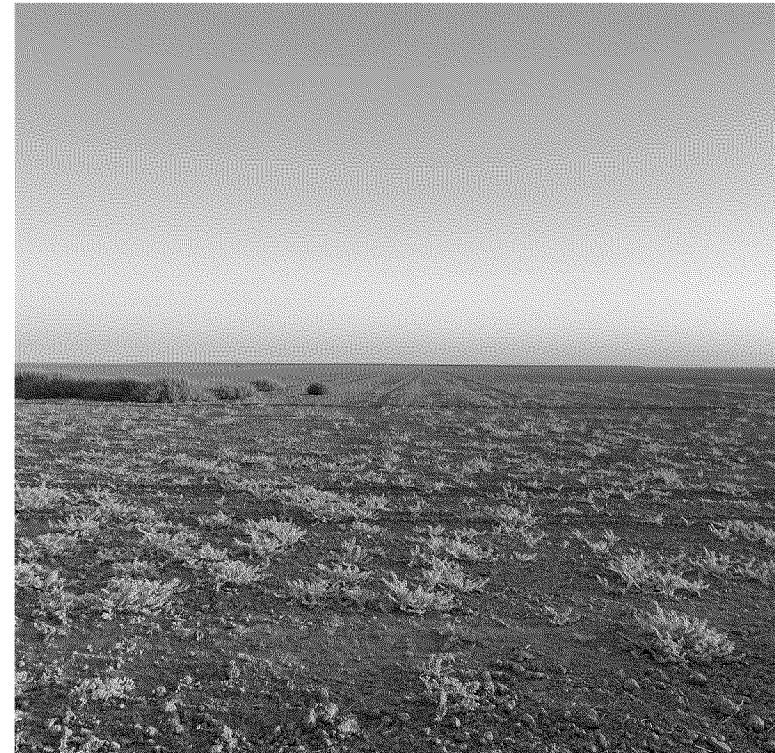


TRANSPORTATION

Creates green fuels to power ships, planes, and trucks

Darden Site Selection Strategy

- Identified as “**Smart from the Start**” by numerous conservation organizations and state agencies
- Identified as **Priority Least Conflict Land** for solar energy development in the San Joaquin Valley Least Conflict analysis
- Primarily sited on **retired agricultural land**
- **Highly disturbed** land due to agricultural use
- The utility switchyard is located adjacent to the existing PG&E Los Banos-Midway #2 500 kV line and other existing transmission lines



Intersect Power pursues a disciplined approach to acquisition and site control with a careful eye toward development opportunities where environmental and permitting obstacles, as well as complexity of interconnection, are minimized to the greatest extent possible.

Interconnection Strategy – Unlocking Westlands



- Westlands land that is no longer suitable for irrigated agriculture has been hailed as the favored location for solar development for a decade
- Development has been slow due to a lack of transmission interconnection opportunities
- The Darden Project would create a **vital new point of interconnection** for future renewable energy generators in the Central Valley



Project Location



Darden Clean Energy Project

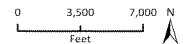
Fresno County, California

Project Components

- Solar Facility
- Utility Switchyard
- Utility Switchyard Parcel
- Gen-Tie Line ROW
- Option 1**
 - BESS
 - Green Hydrogen Facility
 - O&M Facilities
 - Step-Up Substation
 - Gen-Tie Line ROW Extension
- Option 2**
 - BESS
 - Green Hydrogen Facility
 - O&M Facilities
 - Step-Up Substation

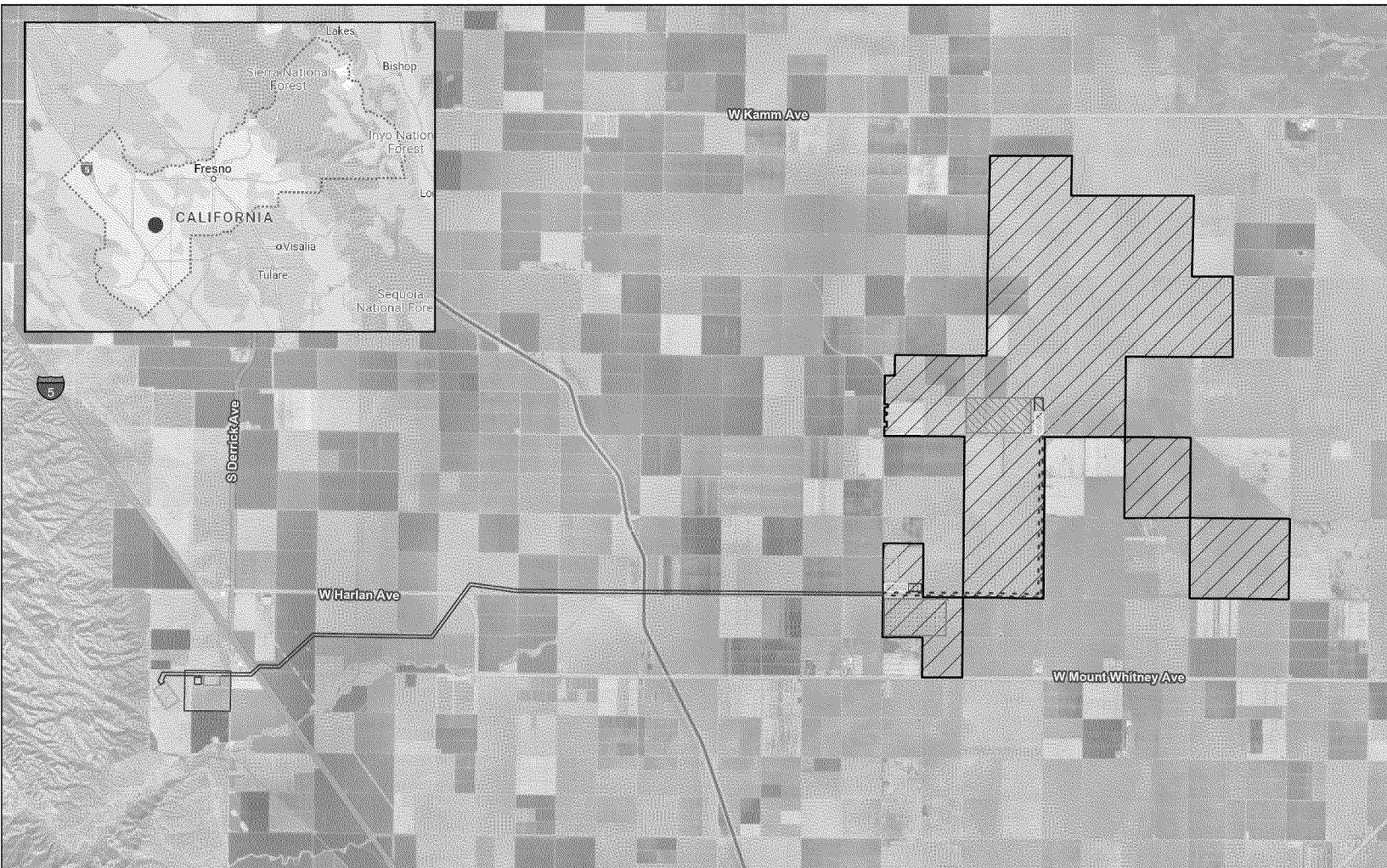
Alternate Green Hydrogen Site

- Green Hydrogen Facility
- Green Hydrogen Substation
- Green Hydrogen Switchyard
- Green Hydrogen Parcels



RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

20-122300 Project Description
Fig. A Project Site



Imagery provided by ESRI and its licensors. © 2023.

Project Components



- Solar facility (1,150 MW)
- Step-up substation
- Up to 15-mile generation intertie line (500 kV)
- Battery energy storage system (up to 4,600 MWh)
- Green hydrogen facility (up to 1,150 MW)
- PG&E-owned utility switchyard (500 kV)

Once built, the Project would be California's largest solar generator and largest green hydrogen producer.

Darden Clean Energy Project Fresno County, California

Project Components

- Solar Facility
- Utility Switchyard
- Utility Switchyard Parcel
- Gen-Tie Line ROW
- Option 1**
 - BESS
 - Green Hydrogen Facility
 - O&M Facilities
 - Step-Up Substation
 - Gen-Tie Line ROW Extension
- Option 2**
 - BESS
 - Green Hydrogen Facility
 - O&M Facilities
 - Step-Up Substation
- Alternate Green Hydrogen Site**
 - Green Hydrogen Facility
 - Green Hydrogen Substation
 - Green Hydrogen Switchyard
 - Green Hydrogen Parcels

0 3,500 7,000 N
Feet

RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

23-125300 Project Description
Fig. 10 Project Area

ARCHES Participant - Green Hydrogen Generator



- ARCHES submitted a proposal to the DOE's Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs program
- The Darden Project's green hydrogen facility would
 - Meet 1/5th of the ARCHES' 500-ton per day hydrogen goal by 2030
 - Help California decarbonize its over-the-road transportation, heavy industry, and ports
 - Achieve economies of scale to enable low-cost delivery of green hydrogen to the Bay Area, Los Angeles Basin, and Central Valley
- The Project is strategically positioned to be an anchor hydrogen provider for the pipeline infrastructure that will be required to achieve California's potential for a sustainable hydrogen ecosystem

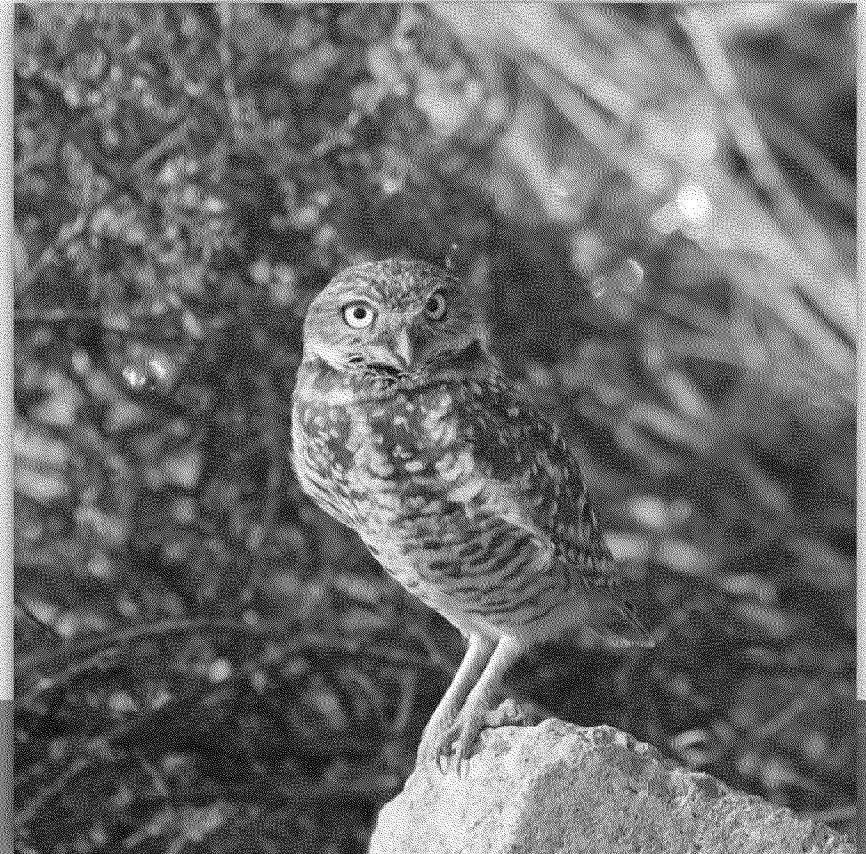


Environmental Due Diligence



- **Fieldwork conducted**

- Cultural resources surveys
- Biological resources reconnaissance surveys
- Swainson's hawk protocol nest surveys
- Swainson's hawk foraging surveys
- San Joaquin kit fox habitat assessment
- Land cover/vegetation mapping
- Noise measurements
- Visual simulation KOPs
- Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessment



Early Agency Coordination



California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Fresno County
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Westlands Water District

Technical Studies

Critical Issues Analysis	Swainson's Hawk Foraging Habitat Assessment
Biological Resources Assessment	Swainson's Hawk Protocol Nest Survey Report
Cultural Resources Technical Report	Swainson's Hawk Conservation Strategy
Paleontological Resources Assessment	Transportation Analysis
Noise and Vibration Technical Analysis	Socioeconomics Analysis
Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases Technical Report	Water Supply Assessment
San Joaquin Kit Fox Habitat Assessment	



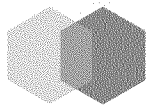
Swainson's Hawk Strategy



- Intersect Power is preparing a conservation strategy to address potential effects to Swainson's hawk nesting and foraging habitat at the Project site
- Objectives
 - No net loss in nesting activity at the Project site
 - No net reduction in long-term foraging conditions on the Project site
 - Provide evidence that the strategies provided will fully mitigate temporary and permanent impacts to the Swainson's hawk
 - Implement a research program to validate the success of the conservation strategy



Source: Julia Dinsdale



Intersect
Power

Thank You

Marisa Mitchell

Vice President, Environmental and Permitting
marisa@intersectpower.com

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental and Permitting
becky.moores@intersectpower.com

intersectpower.com



From: Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 8/23/2023 11:38:32 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
CC: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Subject: Re: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

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Yes, that is correct.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:21:07 PM
To: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hi – I'm about to send the calendar hold.

Is this accurate: "Prefiling meeting for Intersect Power's Darden Clean Energy Project, which would include a 1,150 MW photovoltaic solar, 4,600 MWh battery energy storage, and green hydrogen production facilities, on an approximately 9,000 acre site in Western Fresno County."

Thanks,
Eric

From: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:18 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Subject: Re: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

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Thank you, Eric! Yes, our team is available 9/15 during either time for the pre-filing meeting. We will prepare a slide deck introduction to the project. Please let us know if there is specific guidance we should follow.

Marisa Mitchell
Head of Environmental and Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
415.846.0730
marisa@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-n-mitchell

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 12:37 PM
To: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hi Marisa – I'm narrowing in on a date/time for the pre-filing meeting so wanted to check back and make sure that 9/15, either from 1:00-2:30 or 2:30-4:00 will work for the Intersect Power team? I've coordinated with CDFW (HQ/region), DTSC, Water Board (state/region), Fresno County, and Westlands. I'll send out a hold the date once I get confirmation from you and CDFW region 4. Thanks, Eric

From: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:40 AM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Subject: Re: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks, Eric!

Marisa Mitchell
 Head of Environmental and Permitting
 INTERSECT POWER
 415.846.0730
marisa@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-n-mitchell

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:32 AM

To: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hi Marisa – I apologize I'll get this scheduled. It cannot be waived. – Eric

From: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:29 AM

To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Subject: Re: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

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Hi Eric, we're anxious to get the pre-app scheduled so that we can submit our (nearly complete) application 30 days afterwards; alternatively, could we get an exemption to the 30-day "cooling off period"? When you do schedule the pre-app, please include Russ Freeman, Westlands Water District (rffreeman@wwd.ca.gov).

Please see available September dates, below:

September: 5, 8 (after before 12:00), 11-15, 21

Marisa Mitchell
Head of Environmental and Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
415.846.0730
marisa@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-n-mitchell

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 9:51 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hello Eric,

I wanted to check in to make sure you received this email and see if you need any additional information to get the pre-app meeting scheduled.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Becky Moores
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 10:04 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Eric,

Apologies for a second email but I have one correction below for September 8.

August: 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31

September: 5, 8 (after before 12:00), 11-15

Best,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Becky Moores
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 9:17 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hello Eric,

Below are dates Intersect Power and our consultant are available for scheduling a pre-application meeting for the Darden Clean Energy Project.

I have also listed the contacts at Fresno County and CDFW that we have been engaged with.

August: 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31
September: 5, 8 (after 12:00), 11-15

Fresno County Contacts:

Jeremy Shaw, Planner
Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning
jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov
David Randall, Senior Planner
Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning
drandall@fresnocountyca.gov

CDFW Contacts:

Julie Vance
Julie.Vance@wildlife.ca.gov
Krista Tomlinson
Krista.Tomlinson@wildlife.ca.gov

Thank you,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 9/12/2023 12:20:42 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]
CC: Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]
Subject: RE: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power
Attachments: Darden Project Site_Draft_Sept2023.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Eric,

Attached is a figure you can share in advance of the meeting.
 Talk to you later this week!

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 12:23 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power

I meant to ask, if you could you send me a site map? I'd like to send to the CEC/agency team a few days in advance of Friday's meeting.

From: Knight, Eric@Energy
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 10:01 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power

Hi Becky – That's fine. One or more of CEC's attorneys will be attending. – Eric

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:59 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: AB 205 Pre-App Meeting 9/15 - Intersect Power

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Eric,

A representative of our internal legal team would like to sit in on the pre-app call this Friday. Would that be acceptable, do you have any concerns with that?

Best,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com



Darden Clean Energy Project

Fresno County, California

Project Components

Solar Facility

Utility Switchyard

Utility Switchyard Parcel

Gen-Tie Line ROW

Option 1

BESS

Green Hydrogen Facility

O&M Facilities

Step-Up Substation

Gen-Tie Line ROW Extension

Option 2

BESS

Green Hydrogen Facility

O&M Facilities

Step-Up Substation

Alternate Green Hydrogen Site

Green Hydrogen Facility

Green Hydrogen Substation

Green Hydrogen Switchyard

Green Hydrogen Parcels

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFT

03,5007,000

Feet

N

RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

22-12530 Project Description

Fig X Project Site

Imagery provided by ESRI and its licensors © 2023.

From: Knight, Eric@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BE42548337F44852A291A9845F226F62-KNIGHT, ERI]
Sent: 8/21/2023 5:38:09 PM
To: jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov; drandall@fresnocountyca.gov; rfreeman@wwd.ca.gov
Subject: Invitation to CEC pre-filing meeting for an Opt-in application for the Darden Clean Energy Project

Hi Jeremy, David, and Russ –

The California Energy Commission (CEC) has received a request for a pre-filing meeting for the proposed Darden Clean Energy Project in Western Fresno County, in advance of the applicant (Intersect Power) filling an Opt-in application for certification with the CEC under the Assembly Bill (AB) 205 optional certification program. As you probably know, AB 205 allows a proponent of certain clean energy projects to optionally seek certification (permitting) from the CEC in lieu of seeking permitting from the local government. Pursuant to the regulations the CEC adopted to implement the program, CEC is mandated to invite the local government that would have had permitting authority to the mandatory pre-filing meeting for such an application. I understand the applicant's intent is to file with the CEC in October. I will provide detailed project description information prior the meeting, but at this time I understand the project to include a photovoltaic solar plant, battery energy storage, and green hydrogen production on a 9,000 acre site. In addition to the County (and Westlands Water District), the meeting will be attended by CEC staff technical specialists, and representatives from California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the State Water Board/regional board.

Please let me know your availability for these proposed dates/times:

September 8
9:00 – 10:30
10:30 – noon

September 12
1:00 – 2:30

September 14
9:00 – 10:30

September 15
9:00 – 10:30
10:30 – noon
1:00 – 2:30
2:30 – 4:00

We look forward to the county's participation.

Thank you



Eric Knight

Manager

Siting & Environmental Branch

Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection Division

California Energy Commission

(916) 591-9931

From: Knight, Eric@Energy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BE42548337F44852A291A9845F226F62-KNIGHT, ERI]
Sent: 8/23/2023 10:40:55 PM
To: Marisa Mitchell [marisa@intersectpower.com]
CC: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Thank you Marisa. Sounds good. I'd appreciate receiving a site/regional map(s) and some basic project description to share with CEC staff/agencies in advance of the meeting. That way folks can come to the meeting prepared with questions/input.

From: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:18 PM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Subject: Re: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you, Eric! Yes, our team is available 9/15 during either time for the pre-filing meeting. We will prepare a slide deck introduction to the project. Please let us know if there is specific guidance we should follow.

Marisa Mitchell
Head of Environmental and Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
415.846.0730
marisa@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-n-mitchell

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 12:37 PM
To: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hi Marisa – I'm narrowing in on a date/time for the pre-filing meeting so wanted to check back and make sure that 9/15, either from 1:00-2:30 or 2:30-4:00 will work for the Intersect Power team? I've coordinated with CDFW (HQ/region), DTSC, Water Board (state/region), Fresno County, and Westlands. I'll send out a hold the date once I get confirmation from you and CDFW region 4. Thanks, Eric

From: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:40 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Subject: Re: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks, Eric!

Marisa Mitchell
 Head of Environmental and Permitting
 INTERSECT POWER
 415.846.0730
marisa@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-n-mitchell

From: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hi Marisa – I apologize I'll get this scheduled. It cannot be waived. – Eric

From: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:29 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Subject: Re: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

<p>CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.</p>

Hi Eric, we're anxious to get the pre-app scheduled so that we can submit our (nearly complete) application 30 days afterwards; alternatively, could we get an exemption to the 30-day "cooling off period"? When you do schedule the pre-app, please include Russ Freeman, Westlands Water District (rfreeman@wwd.ca.gov).

Please see available September dates, below:

September: 5, 8 (after before 12:00), 11-15, 21

Marisa Mitchell
 Head of Environmental and Permitting
 INTERSECT POWER
 415.846.0730
marisa@intersectpower.com
www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-n-mitchell

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 9:51 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>
Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hello Eric,

I wanted to check in to make sure you received this email and see if you need any additional information to get the pre-app meeting scheduled.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Becky Moores
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 10:04 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Eric,

Apologies for a second email but I have one correction below for September 8.

August: 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31
September: 5, 8 (after before 12:00), 11-15

Best,

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Becky Moores
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 9:17 AM
To: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>
Subject: Opt-in Pre-Application Meeting - Darden Clean Energy Project

Hello Eric,

Below are dates Intersect Power and our consultant are available for scheduling a pre-application meeting for the Darden Clean Energy Project.

I have also listed the contacts at Fresno County and CDFW that we have been engaged with.

August: 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31
September: 5, 8 (after 12:00), 11-15

Fresno County Contacts:

Jeremy Shaw, Planner
Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning
jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov
David Randall, Senior Planner
Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning
drandall@fresnocountyca.gov

CDFW Contacts:

Julie Vance
Julie.Vance@wildlife.ca.gov
Krista Tomlinson
Krista.Tomlinson@wildlife.ca.gov

Thank you,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting

INTERSECT POWER

(c) 303.919.6735

(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

Sent: 11/8/2023 11:33:05 PM
To: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]; Lindsey Sarquilla [lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com]
CC: Crisp, Ann@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b89c4de7ece742679d19e1e3ee713dc2-Crisp, Ann@]; Knight, Eric@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=be42548337f44852a291a9845f226f62-Knight, Eri]; Babula, Jared@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6cf386251c7a47f697f411cee0910882-Babula, Jar]; Mayer, Alex@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1a7ef7ec23eb4292abd2748ce1b69948-ef756fa8-50]
Subject: Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02) CDFW information for ITP application

Hi Becky,

Staff has reviewed Appendix U (TN 252929) and found it does not include all the information required to be in an Incidental Take Permit application. Staff stated (per email) on Oct 3, 2023, that the incidental take permit should not include a crosswalk but should include all the pertinent details in one place. However, Appendix U provides a crosswalk to other appendices and chapters of the application under the headings of Project Description, Project Location, Impact Analysis, Jeopardy Analysis, Proposed Mitigation Measures, Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, and Funding Sources and Availability.

Under Public Resources Code section 25545.2, CEC requests that the ITP application be a complete stand-alone document for ease of review. Please follow CDFW instructions (available at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/CESA/Permitting/Incidental-Take-Permits> and resubmit Appendix U to include complete answers to all questions in one stand-alone document.

This will facilitate expedited review of the ITP application with our MOU agency partners. Until this is submitted the application will not be considered completely uploaded.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Becky Moores [becky.moores@intersectpower.com]
Sent: 10/25/2023 3:53:32 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e4bbc7048b38485084bdb03fb494b25b-Worrall, Li]
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lisa,

We are still hoping to start submitting some items on Friday, but we may need a few extra days to finalize everything and may not have all documents uploaded until maybe Monday or Tuesday next week. Is it okay to spread out submittal to your system over a few days or does that create a problem at all?

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 2:48 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Wonderful. Thanks for the update. I know it takes a while to get the whole application uploaded for dockets.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 1:45 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lisa,

We are anticipating having our submittal documents ready by end of next week. I hope to have things submitted by end of day on Friday 10/27, but given the process to get all the documents uploaded, it could push a little past that. I will keep you updated on document submission and the wire transfer.

Thank you,

Becky Moores
 INTERSECT POWER
 (c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 10:52 AM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Good morning Becky,

Can you give us an update on when you anticipate filing Darden. Thanks so much,

Lisa

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2023 12:41 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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Absolutely, not a problem.

Becky Moores
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 4:34 PM
To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Thank you so much for letting us know. It helps out with our workflow. Can you give us at least one day's notice before you docket, if possible, although we are ready waiting.

From: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 2:29 PM
To: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>
Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>; Marisa Mitchell <marisa@intersectpower.com>; Lindsey Sarquilla (Rincon) <lsarquilla@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

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Lisa and Ann,

Thank you for reaching out and the introductions. I am very much looking forward to working with you both on this project. I am leading the permitting efforts for Darden and will be your main point of contact. Marisa Mitchell is head of Intersect's environmental and permitting group and will be engaged throughout the process as well. Rincon is our environmental consultant supporting the opt-in application efforts with Lindsey Sarquilla as project manager.

We are diligently working on finalizing the application documents, but we may be slipping into the following week (week of October 23) for submittal of all materials.

Best,

Becky Moores

Director, Environmental & Permitting
INTERSECT POWER
(c) 303.919.6735
(e) becky.moores@intersectpower.com

From: Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 2:36 PM

To: Becky Moores <becky.moores@intersectpower.com>

Cc: Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>; Babula, Jared@Energy <Jared.Babula@energy.ca.gov>; Crisp, Ann@Energy <Ann.Crisp@energy.ca.gov>

Subject: Filing Darden Clean Energy Project (23-OPT-02)

Hi Becky,

Are you on schedule for filing the Darden application this Monday or Tuesday?

The docket is set up and so is the webpage. Here is a link to the webpage: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/solar-photovoltaic-pv/darden-clean-energy-project>

Ann Crisp, who has also worked at the CEC as a staff biologist is the primary project manager and I am working with her as a Co-Project Manager for this project. We are looking forward to reviewing this project.

Thanks,

Lisa Worrall
Senior Environmental Planner
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814
Direct: (916) 661-8367
Email: lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov



From: Shaw, Jeremy [jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov]
Sent: 9/15/2023 10:14:41 PM
To: Kerr, Steven@Energy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d0d5a66bed2249fca830918f58b3b921-Kerr, Steve]
Subject: RE: CUP 3759 IS 8358 - Intersect Power
Attachments: 02. Attachment 2 Conditional Use Permit Application Forms_040723.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Steve,

Please see attached. Let me know if you need anything additional.



Jeremy Shaw | Planner
Department of Public Works and Planning |
Development Services and Capital Projects Division
 2220 Tulare St. 6th Floor Fresno, CA 93721
 Main Office: (559) 600-4230 Direct: (559) 600-4207
 Email: jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov
[Your input matters! Customer Service Survey](#)

From: Kerr, Steven@Energy <Steven.Kerr@energy.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 2:47 PM
To: Shaw, Jeremy <jshaw@fresnocountyca.gov>
Subject: CUP 3759 IS 8358 - Intersect Power

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Hi Jeremy,

I just participated in a meeting with Intersect Power regarding the Darden Clean Energy Project and then found CUP 3759 IS 8358 - Intersect Power listed on your website. Would you be able to send me a copy of the CUP application?

Steve Kerr

Supervisor, Community Resources Unit
 Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection
 California Energy Commission
www.energy.ca.gov



Attachment 2

Conditional Use Permit Application Forms

Westlands Water District



Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning

MAILING ADDRESS:

Department of Public Works and Planning
Development Services Division
2220 Tulare St., 6th Floor
Fresno, Ca. 93721

Date Received:

(Application No.)

LOCATION:

Southwest corner of Tulare & "M" Streets, Suite A
Street Level
Fresno Phone: (559) 600-4497
Toll Free: 1-800-742-1011 Ext. 0-4497

APPLICATION FOR:

- ☐ Pre-Application (Type) _____
- ☐ Amendment Application ☐ Director Review and Approval
- ☐ Amendment to Text ☐ for 2nd Residence
- ☒ Conditional Use Permit ☐ Determination of Merger
- ☐ Variance (Class)/Minor Variance ☐ Agreements
- ☐ Site Plan Review/Occupancy Permit ☐ ALCC/RLCC
- ☐ No Shoot/Dog Leash Law Boundary ☐ Other _____
- ☐ General Plan Amendment/Specific Plan/SP Amendment)
- ☐ Time Extension for _____

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED USE OR REQUEST:

IP Darden proposes to construct and operate a solar energy generation facility with approximately 9,000 acres of solar arrays and battery storage in addition to approximately 13 to 15 miles of gen-tie lines. The site for the solar arrays is located on Westlands Water District land within Exclusive Agriculture (AE20) Zone Districts. The site for the solar arrays is located on Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, and Farmland of Local Importance.

CEQA DOCUMENTATION: ☒ Initial Study ☐ PER ☐ N/A

PLEASE USE FILL-IN FORM OR PRINT IN BLACK INK. Answer all questions completely. Attach required site plans, forms, statements, and deeds as specified on the Pre-Application Review. **Attach Copy of Deed, including Legal Description.**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: East side of Cantua Creek

between South Sonoma Avenue and State Route 145

Street address: N/A

APN: See Attachment Parcel size: Approx. 9,000 acres excluding gen-tie Section(s)-Twp/Rg: S _____ - T _____ S/R _____ E

ADDITIONAL APN(s): See attachment for APNs, parcel sizes, and Section(s)-Twp/Rg

I, Marisa Mitchell (signature), declare that I am the owner, or authorized representative of the owner, of the above described property and that the application and attached documents are in all respects true and correct to the best of my knowledge. The foregoing declaration is made under penalty of perjury.

Westlands Water District	3130 N. Fresno Street	Fresno, CA	93703	(559) 224-1523
Owner (Print or Type)	Address	City	Zip	Phone
IP Darden I, LLC c/o Intersect Power, LLC	9450 SW Gemini Drive PMB #68743	Beaverton, Oregon	97008-7105	
Applicant (Print or Type)	Address	City	Zip	Phone
Marisa Mitchell	9450 SW Gemini Drive PMB #68743	Beaverton, Oregon	97008-7105	(415) 846-0730
Representative (Print or Type)	Address	City	Zip	Phone

CONTACT EMAIL: Marisa@intersectpower.com

OFFICE USE ONLY (PRINT FORM ON GREEN PAPER)

Application Type / No.:	Fee: \$
Application Type / No.:	Fee: \$
Application Type / No.:	Fee: \$
Application Type / No.:	Fee: \$
PER/Initial Study No.:	Fee: \$
Ag Department Review:	Fee: \$
Health Department Review:	Fee: \$
Received By: _____	Invoice No.: _____
TOTAL: \$	

UTILITIES AVAILABLE:

WATER: Yes ☒ / No ☐

Agency: Westlands Water District

SEWER: Yes ☐ / No ☒

Agency: N/A

STAFF DETERMINATION: This permit is sought under Ordinance Section:

Sect-Twp/Rg: _____ - T _____ S/R _____ E

Related Application(s): _____

APN # _____ - _____ - _____

Zone District: _____

APN # _____ - _____ - _____

Parcel Size: _____

APN # _____ - _____ - _____

**REQUIRED FINDINGS NECESSARY FOR GRANTING A
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION
AS SPECIFIED IN ZONING ORDINANCE SECTION 873**

1. That the site of the proposed use is adequate in size and shape to accommodate said use and all yards, spaces, walls and fences, parking, loading, landscaping, and other features required by this Division, to adjust said use with land and uses in the neighborhood.
2. That the site for proposed use relates to streets and highways adequate in width and pavement type to carry the quantity and kind of traffic generated by the proposed use.
3. That the proposed use will have no adverse effect on abutting property and surrounding neighborhood or the permitted use thereof.
4. That the proposed development is consistent with the General Plan.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING SITE PLANS TO THE
FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
DEPARTMENT**

The purpose of the site (or plot) plan is to enable the Development Services Division to determine whether or not a proposed development conforms to Zoning Ordinance regulations. The requirements below are necessary to ensure proper and timely review based on complete information, and to prevent unnecessary delays in the processing of applications. Improper or incomplete site plans will not be accepted.

General Requirements

1. The plan must be drawn on a sheet having the following minimum dimensions:
 - 18" x 24" for CUPs and SPRs
 - 8.5" x 11" for Variances and DRAs
2. The plan must show the entire parcel of property described in the application. If only a portion of an existing parcel is to be developed, a key map shall be included showing the entire parcel.
3. The plan must be drawn to scale, and the scale must be clearly shown. (Scale should also be large enough to adequately show required information). Parking and circulation plans must be drawn to a scale of 1"= 30', 1/32"= 1', or larger.
4. The plan shall be drawn so that north is at the top of the page and shall include a north arrow.
5. Each plan shall be folded individually, with the bottom right-hand corner facing up. Maximum acceptable folded size shall be 8.5" x 11"

Specific Information to be Shown

1. All existing and proposed building and structures, including buildings to be removed. Buildings should be labeled as either existing (E) or proposed (P).
2. The proposed use of all buildings and structures.
3. All adjacent streets and roads and their names
4. Access to the property: pedestrian, vehicular, and service.
5. Proposed street improvements and dedications.

**REQUIRED FINDINGS NECESSARY FOR THE GRANTING
OF A VARIANCE APPLICATION AS SPECIFIED IN ZONING
ORDINANCE SECTION 877**

1. There are exceptional or extraordinary circumstances or conditions applicable to the property involved which do not apply generally to other property in the vicinity having the identical zoning classification.
2. Such variance is necessary for the preservation and enjoyment of a substantial property right of the applicant, which right is possessed by other property owners under like conditions in the vicinity having the identical zoning classification.
3. The granting of a variance will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to property and improvement in the vicinity in which the property is located.
4. The granting of such variance will not be contrary to the objectives of the General Plan.

**REQUIRED FINDINGS NECESSARY FOR THE GRANTING
OF A DIRECTOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL APPLICATION
AS SPECIFIED IN ZONING ORDINANCE SECTION 872**

1. That the site of the proposed use is adequate in size and shape to accommodate said use and all yards, spaces, walls and fences, parking, loading, landscaping and other features required by this Division, to adjust said use with land and uses in the neighborhood.
2. That the site for the proposed use relates to streets and highways adequate in width and pavement type to carry the quantity and kind of traffic generated by the proposed use.
3. That the proposed use will not be detrimental to the character of the development in the immediate neighborhood or the public health, safety, and general welfare.
4. That the proposed development be consistent with the General Plan.

6. Existing and proposed off-street parking and loading areas: location and type of paving, number of spaces (including detailed layout) and internal circulation pattern.
7. Existing and proposed signs: location, type of lighting, face area (text) and height.
8. Existing and proposed on-site lighting: location, type of fixtures, height and method of controlling glare and illumination.
9. The following measurements:
 - All dimensions of the site (or sites)
 - All dimensions of buildings and structures (including height).
 - All dimensions of off-street parking and loading areas.
 - The distance of all buildings and structures from property lines.
 - The distance between all buildings and structures.
10. Walls and fences: location, height and type of material.
11. Landscaping: location and type of plant material.
12. Pedestrian walkways: location, width and type of paving.
13. Existing wells and private sewage disposal systems.
14. Such other information as may be pertinent to the application.

Application Attachment

APN	Parcel Size (acres)	Zoning	Active Williamson Act	Section(s) – Twp/Rg
PV Solar and BESS Parcels				
040-070-31ST	159.09	AE-20	No	S22 - 16S - 16E
040-070-32ST	161.33	AE-20	No	S22 - 16S - 16E
040-110-15ST	668.30	AE-20	No	S35 - 16S - 16E
040-110-16ST	647.52	AE-20	No	S34 - 16S - 16E
040-110-20ST	672.90	AE-20	No	S36 - 16S - 16E
040-110-21ST	160.21	AE-20	No	S26 - 16S - 16E
040-110-23ST	4.64	AE-20	No	S26 - 16S - 16E
040-110-25ST	163.91	AE-20	No	S26 - 16S - 16E
040-110-27ST	161.81	AE-20	No	S27 - 16S - 16E
040-110-28ST	161.28	AE-20	No	S27 - 16S - 16E
040-110-29ST	161.68	AE-20	No	S27 - 16S - 16E
040-110-30ST	164.59	AE-20	No	S27 - 16S - 16E
040-110-31ST	163.86	AE-20	No	S26 - 16S - 16E
040-110-32ST	157.15	AE-20	No	S26 - 16S - 16E
040-110-34ST	326.67	AE-20	No	S25 - 16S - 16E
050-020-47ST	614.63	AE-20	No	S4 - 17S - 16E
050-030-04ST	40.63	AE-20	No	S2 - 17S - 16E
050-030-05ST	122.57	AE-20	No	S2 - 17S - 16E
050-030-07ST	265.83	AE-20	No	S2 - 17S - 16E
050-030-08ST	53.67	AE-20	No	S2 - 17S - 16E
050-030-10ST	203.05	AE-20	No	S2 - 17S - 16E
050-030-21ST	327.31	AE-20	No	S3 - 17S - 16E
050-030-24ST	157.83	AE-20	No	S12 - 17S - 16E
050-030-25ST	160.73	AE-20	No	S12 - 17S - 16E
050-030-26ST	161.25	AE-20	No	S10 - 17S - 16E
050-030-27ST	159.53	AE-20	No	S10 - 17S - 16E
050-030-29ST	165.90	AE-20	No	S10 - 17S - 16E
050-030-30ST	80.61	AE-20	No	S3 - 17S - 16E
050-030-31ST	81.30	AE-20	No	S3 - 17S - 16E
050-030-32ST	241.35	AE-20	No	S02, 03 - 17S - 16E
050-030-33ST	81.34	AE-20	No	S3 - 17S - 16E
050-030-49ST	161.95	AE-20	No	S10 - 17S - 16E
050-060-45ST	474.53	AE-20	No	S21 - 17S - 16E
050-060-46ST	52.26	AE-20	No	S16 - 17S - 16E
050-060-47ST	52.33	AE-20	No	S16 - 17S - 16E

Darden Solar Project

APN	Parcel Size (acres)	Zoning	Active Williamson Act	Section(s) – Twp/Rg
050-060-48ST	103.71	AE-20	No	S16 - 17S - 16E
050-070-02T	161.31	AE-20	No	S15 - 17S - 16E
050-070-41ST	79.36	AE-20	No	S15 - 17S - 16E
050-070-42ST	83.17	AE-20	No	S15 - 17S - 16E
050-070-43ST	160.53	AE-20	No	S15 - 17S - 16E
050-070-64ST	151.13	AE-20	No	S15 - 17S - 16E
050-080-01-ST	782.78	AE-20	No	S18 - 17S - 17E
Total Westlands Water District Solar/BESS Acreage	9115.53			

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