

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	19-SPPE-05
Project Title:	Mission College Data Center SPPE
TN #:	231369
Document Title:	Notice of Receipt of an Application for a Small Power Plant Exemption for Mission College Data Center
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Marichka Haws
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	1/3/2020 12:35:13 PM
Docketed Date:	1/3/2020

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



**NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF AN
APPLICATION FOR A SMALL POWER PLANT EXEMPTION
FOR MISSION COLLEGE DATA CENTER
(19-SPPE-05)**

On November 25, 2019, Oppidan Investment Company (Oppidan or applicant) filed an application with the California Energy Commission (CEC) for a Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE) for the Mission College Data Center (project) (19-SPPE-04).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Oppidan proposes to construct and operate the Mission College Data Center located at 2305 Mission College Boulevard in Santa Clara, California. The project consists of two, three-story data center buildings encompassing a total square footage of 490,000. The maximum electrical load of the project would be 78.1 megawatts (MW). The project would be supplied electricity by Silicon Valley Power (SVP) through a new distribution substation constructed by Oppidan in the northeast corner of the project site and to be owned and operated by SVP. Forty-three 2.5 MW emergency generators would provide backup electricity solely in the rare event that electricity cannot be supplied from SVP and delivered to the data center buildings. The generators and associated electric equipment would be housed in two generator yards, each serving its respective data center building. In addition, the project includes two 600 kilowatt (kW) house power emergency generators.

SMALL POWER PLANT EXEMPTION PROCESS

CEC has the exclusive authority to certify all thermal power plants (50 MW and greater) and related facilities proposed for construction in California. The SPPE process allows applicants with facilities between 50 and 100 MW to obtain an exemption from CEC's jurisdiction and proceed with local approval rather than requiring CEC certification. CEC can grant an exemption if it finds that the proposed facility would not create a substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy resources. In this case, the facility is subject to CEC's licensing authority unless the exemption is granted. Should the exemption be granted, the applicant would still need to secure the appropriate licenses and permits from relevant local, state, and federal agencies.

STAFF EVALUATION OF THE SPPE APPLICATION AND FURTHER STEPS

Public Resources Code section 25519(c) designates CEC as the lead agency, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for all facilities seeking an SPPE. CEQA requires the lead agency to consider the whole of the action; therefore, CEC will include the entire project in its analysis, which includes the construction and operation of the data center buildings, backup generators, and any associated utility connection facilities.

As lead agency, CEC is required by Public Resources Code section 21080.3 and CEQA Guidelines section 15063(g) to consult with responsible and trustee agencies to ascertain whether a negative declaration or environmental impact report is required. CEC staff (staff) has begun its review of the application and will request the appointment of a Committee of two Commissioners at CEC's January 22, 2020 Business Meeting to oversee the SPPE proceeding. Over the coming months, staff will evaluate the project and prepare an environmental analysis document—for SPPE projects this typically takes the form of an Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration. The Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will be published and made available for a 30-day public comment period. The assigned Committee will then conduct a hearing to determine whether to propose that the full Commission adopt the proposed CEQA documents and to determine whether to recommend to the full Commission that the facility be exempt from CEC's power plant certification process. This hearing will provide the public as well as local, state and federal agencies and California Native American tribes the opportunity to provide input on the exemption request. Subsequent steps include issuance of a proposed decision by the Committee, and possible adoption of that decision by CEC at a Business Meeting or hearing. CEC's regulations setting forth the SPPE process are primarily located in Title 20, California Code of Regulations, sections 1934-1947.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

CEC maintains a website for this project at:

<https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/missioncollege/>. The SPPE application and related project documents are viewable by clicking the "Documents for this Proceeding (Docket Log)" link located near the upper right corner of the project webpage. The direct link to the project docket log is: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=19-SPPE-05>.

You can subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices and announcements at:

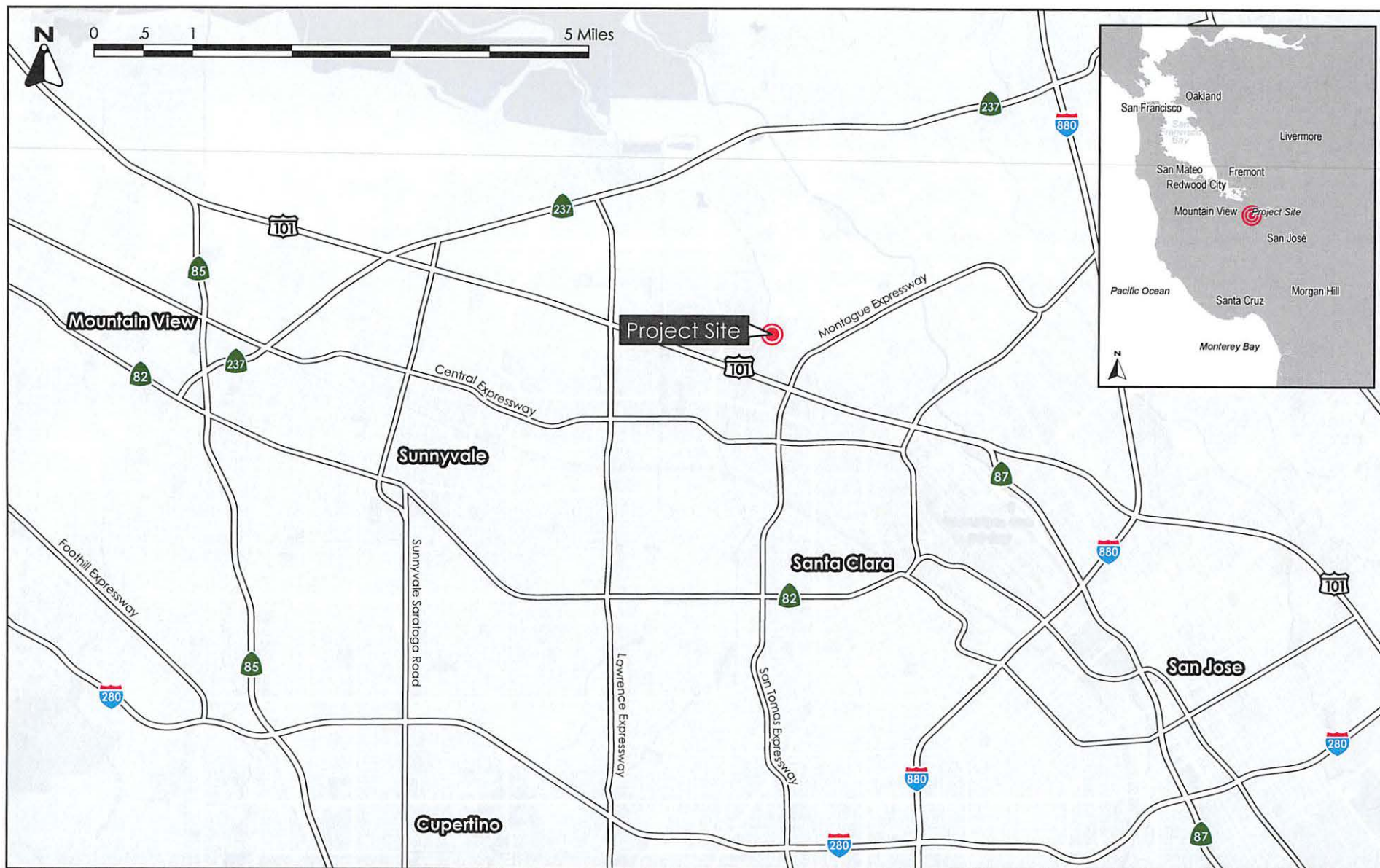
https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index_cms.html. The listserve for this project is called "missioncollege" and the relevant check-box can be found under the "PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW" heading. By being on this email list, you will receive notice of all project-related events and documents pertaining to the project's review. Most notably, CEC will issue a public notice for workshops and hearings at least 10 days prior to their occurrence.

CEC's 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 at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California, at (800) 822-6228, and can also be contacted via email at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov.

Please direct any technical questions related to the project to Leonidas Payne, Project Manager, by e-mail at leonidas.payne@energy.ca.gov.

Attachments:

Project Location Figure from SPPE Application
Site Plan Figure from SPPE Application
Project Rendering Figures from SPPE Application



REGIONAL MAP

FIGURE 1-1



NORTH AND SOUTH BUILDING ELEVATIONS

FIGURE 2-2



FIGURE 2-3