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PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Planning **Community Development Administrative Operations**

2017111079

June 6, 2019

File:

Franchise Agreement

S.D. #2 - Scrivner

State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit

Re: Revised Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the Edwards AFB Solar Project by Edwards AFB Solar, LLC (SCH#2017111079)

State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit:

Subsequent to printing of the EIS/EIR document prepared for the project noted above, County Staff made revisions to the Notice of Availability (NOA) included in the document. This revision consists of an update to the East/West Generation Tie Line Options discussed for the project (see attachment) in the NOA. The revision was made in order to correctly identify an additional East/West Generation Tie Line Option C that was included in the EIS/EIR discussion. For reference purposes, the EIS/EIR will circulate for 45-days, beginning on June 7, 2019 and ending on July 26, 2019 and the revised NOA document will be included in the distribution materials.

Should you have any questions regarding this revision, please do not hesitate to contact me at (661) 862-8793 or via email at mayesj@kerncounty.com

Sincerely.

Janice Mayes, Planner III Advance Planning Division

Attached: Revised Notice of Availability

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW REVISED

This is to advise that Edwards Air Force Base and the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department have prepared an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the project identified below. As mandated by State law, the minimum public review period for the EIR is 45 days. The document and documents referenced in the Draft EIS/EIR are available for review at the Planning Natural Resources Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301 or on the Departmental website (https://kernplanning.com/planning/environmental-documents/).

A public hearing has been scheduled with the Kern County Board of Supervisors to receive comments on the document on: **December 17, 2019**, at 2:00 p.m. or soon thereafter, Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, First Floor, Kern County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California.

Comments can also be submitted at one of the additional public workshops that will be held from **5:00 p.m.** at the following locations and dates:

Mojave Veterans Hall, Room 1, 15580 O Street, Mojave, CA Hummel Community Building, Room 2, 2500 20th Street West, Rosamond, CA June 26, 2019

June 27, 2019

The comment period for this document closes on **July 26, 2019**. Testimony at future public hearings may be limited to those issues raised during the public review period either orally or submitted in writing by 5:00 p.m. the day the comment period closes.

Project Title: Edwards AFB Solar Project by Edwards AFB Solar, LLC (PP18136); Franchise Agreement.

Project Location: The project facility site is located at the northwest corner of Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), at the intersection of Lone Butte Road and East Trotter Avenue, approximately 6 miles northeast of the community of Rosamond and 6 miles south of the unincorporated town of Mojave, in eastern Kern County, Sections 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, and 27, T 10N/R 12W and Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20, T 10 N/R 11W; in San Bernardino Base and Meridian, County of Kern, State of California.

The Franchise Agreement corridors for the generation tie-line route options are located at:

- (N/S Option 1) runs 5.6-miles from the Edwards AFB solar generation site north adjacent to 20th Street, west adjacent to East Reed Avenue, north adjacent to 15th Street, then generally follows the north side of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) and finally runs west to the intersection of Purdy Avenue and the BNSF (Sections 7 & 18, T 10N/R 11W; Sections 1 & 12, T 10N/R 12W; Sections 26, 27, 35, 36 T 11N/R 12W SBBM) County of Kern, State of California.
- (N/S Option 2) runs 4.5-miles from the northwestern edge of the Edwards AFB solar generation site north on Lone Butte Road, west on West Reed Avenue, and north on United Street, where it intersects with Purdy Avenue (Sections 2, 10, & 15 T 10N/R 12W; Sections 27 & 34, T 11N/R 12W SBBM) County of Kern, State of California.
- (E/W Options A, &-B, and C) runs 9.8-miles from the intersection of Purdy Avenue and the BNSF west to the Westwind Substation and the Windhub Substation. Along Oak Creek Road for 0.6 mile there are three options for the east—west gen-tie route—Option A would run north of Oak Creek Road (Sections 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 30 T 11N/R 12W; Sections 16, 17, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28 T 11N/R 13W SBBM) and cross SR 14 along the north side of Purdy Avenue; Option B would run south of Oak Creek Road (Sections 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 30 T 11N/R 12W; Sections 17, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28 T 11N/R 13W SBBM) and cross SR 14 along the north side of Purdy Avenue; while Option C, a proposed alignment at the intersection of Purdy Avenue and SR 14, would cross SR 14 along the south side of Purdy Avenue (Sections 21 and 28, T 11N/R 12W SBBM) County of Kern, State of California.

Project Description: The project proponent is requesting: (a) Franchise Agreement for installation of the proposed generationtie line within the Kern County right-of-way, which would support the Edwards AFB approximately 750 MW solar facility on up to 4,000 acres of Edwards Air Force Base owned non-excess lands. The generation-tie line would run approximately 14 miles northwest from the Edwards AFB solar facility to the SCE Windhub Substation, south of Oak Creek Road, and/or the privately-owned Westwind substation, north of Oak Creek road.

Anticipated Significant Impacts on Environment: Aesthetics and Air Quality

Document can be viewed online at: https://kernplanning.com/planning/environmental-documents/

For further information, please contact Janice Mayes, Planner 3 (661) 862-8793).

LORELEI H. OVIATT, AICP, Director Planning and Natural Resources Department

To be published once only on next available date and as soon as possible

MOJAVE DESERT NEWS

JKM:sc (6/7/19)

cc: County Clerk (2) (with fee)
Environmental Status Board
Sierra Club/Kern Kaweah Chapter
LiUNA/Arthur Izzo
Supervisorial District No. 2

California Native Plant Society/Kern Chapter Kern County Archaeological Society Native American Heritage Pres. Council/Kern County Center on Race, Poverty and Environment (2) Communities for a Better Environment