Northern California Power Agency

651 Commerce Drive Roseville, California 95678



Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

NCPA Solar Project 1 – Plumas-Sierra Chilcoot Site

The Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) is in the process of implementing its NCPA Solar Project 1. The objective of the NCPA Solar Project 1 is to develop a fleet of Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Power Plants throughout participating member service territories to begin construction by the end of 2019. The plants will be managed by NCPA as a single project to be owned and operated by a third-party provider through a power purchase agreement (PPA). After the initial 5 – 7 years of operation, NCPA plans to purchase the plants.

At this time, the following member agencies are participating in this Project: Cities of Alameda, Healdsburg, Lodi and Redding as well as the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative. NCPA prepared separate Initial Studies and Mitigated Negative Declarations for these member's projects.

NCPA has now completed Phase 1 and the site selection and screening portion of Phase 2. Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC) selected a site near Chilcoot for further analysis. The Project site is located within a 36-acre vacant parcel that is located just south of Highway 70 east of its intersection with Highway 49. The site is bordered by Highway 70 to the north, an industrial facility to the east, Union Pacific Railroad to the south, and scattered residences to the east. This site would accommodate a 5.64 MW_{dc} facility with a one-year output of 9,720 megawatt-hours.

This project site is not on a list compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

In accordance with §15072(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, this Public Notice officially notifies the general public, public agencies, and landowners that a 30-day public review period will begin on July 5, 2019. Comments on the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS&MND) should focus on environmental issues and must be received by August 5, 2019. Please submit email comments to <u>ksdpe67@gmail.com</u> and written comments by mail to the following location:

Keith S. Dunbar, P.E., BCEE, Hon.D.WRE., F. ASCE K.S. Dunbar & Associates, Inc. Environmental Engineering 45375 Vista Del Mar Temecula, California 92590-4314 (951) 699-2082

Email or written comments received by August 5, 2019, will be forwarded to NCPA's Commission, and will be considered before the MND is approved for adoption. A public meeting of NCPA's Commission to take action on the MND will be held on September 27, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon as possible thereafter, at:

Resort at Squaw Creek 400 Squaw Creek Road Olympic Village, California 96146

Copies of the Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration are available at NCPA's headquarters at 651 Commerce Drive, Roseville, CA 95678, at Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative headquarters at 73233 State Route 70, Portola, CA 96122-7069 and can be downloaded at: <u>http://www.ncpa.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Plumas-Sierra-ISMND.pdf</u>. Personal copies are available upon request.

Project Overview

The objective of the NCPA Solar Project 1 is to develop a fleet of Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Power Plants throughout participating member service territories with construction to start by the end of 2019. The plants will be managed by the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) as a single project to be owned and operated by a third-party provider through a power purchase agreement (PPA). After the initial 5 – 7 years of operation, NCPA plans to purchase the plants.

The project will be executed in three phases:

- Phase 1 Determine member interest and requirements and identify potential sites.
- Phase 2 Site selection and screening, plan development and selection of a third-party provider to fulfill design, construction and operation through a PPA.
- Phase 3 Construction and operation per the PPA.

NCPA has now completed Phase 1 and the site selection and screening portion of Phase 2. Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC) selected a site near Chilcoot for further analysis as shown below:

Site	Location		Developable Area	Estimated Capacity
	Latitude, Longitude	Section, Township, Range	(acres)	(MW _{dc})
Plumas-Sierra Chilcoot	39° 47' 56.66" N, -120° 09' 49.99" W	Sec 34, T 23 N, R 16 E, MDB&M	28.2	5.64

The Project site is located within a 36-acre vacant parcel that is located just south of Highway 70 east of its intersection with Highway 49. The site is bordered by Highway 70 to the north, an industrial facility to the east, Union Pacific Railroad to the south, and scattered residences to the east (Figure 1). This site would accommodate a 5.64 MW_{dc} facility with a one-year output of 9,720 megawatt-hours.



Figure 1 Proposed Project Site