

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

This is to advise that the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has prepared an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below. As mandated by State law, the minimum public review period for this document is 45 days. The document and documents referenced in the Draft 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/environmental-doc/rb-inyokern-solar-project/>).

A public hearing has been scheduled with the Kern County Planning Commission to receive comments on the document on: **September 10, 2020**, at 7:00 p.m. or soon thereafter, Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, First Floor, Kern County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California.

The comment period for this document closes on **August 17, 2020**. 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: RB Inyokern Solar Project by R&L Capital, LLC (PP16109); Conditional Use Permit No. 23, Map 47; Conditional Use Permit No. 27, Map 47; and Inyokern Specific Plan Amendment No. 4, Map 47 (Circulation).

Project Location: The project is located in the eastern high desert region of Kern County in the unincorporated community of Inyokern. The proposed project is located along United States Highway 395 (US 395) to the east and Brown Road to the west. Phase 1 is located north of Inyokern Road (State Route 178 [SR 178]), between Brown Road and US 395. Phase 2 is directly north and adjacent to Phase 1. The project site would be directly accessed by SR 178 to Brown Road. A wastewater treatment plant is located adjacent on the northeastern portion of the project site. The Inyokern Airport is located west of the project site. An existing 4.2 acre borrow pit is located on the southeast corner of the Phase 1 portion of the site, which was originally used to build a roadway overpass. The pit is fenced around its perimeter and would not be developed or disturbed during project construction activities and is not included as part of the project site footprint. The proposed solar facility can be found within Sections 19 and 20, Township 26 South, Range 39 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDB&M).

Project Description: The project proponents are requesting: **(a)** Two (2) Conditional Use Permits (CUP), to allow for the construction and operation of a 26.6 MW solar photovoltaic electrical generating facility and battery energy storage on approximately 166.5 acres of land (Section 19.38.030.G) in an M-2 Zone District (CUP 23, Map #47 and CUP 27, Map #47); and **(b)** Amendment to the Circulation Element of the Inyokern Specific Plan to remove a portion of the designated future secondary collector from Brown Road to the southern boundary of the project site (Specific Plan Amendment 4, Map #47). The project's permanent facilities would include the solar modules, energy storage systems, operations and maintenance building, switchyards, electrical collector system and inverters, gen-tie lines, telecommunication facilities and meteorological station, security fencing, and access roads.

Anticipated Significant Impacts on Environment: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Hydrology, Noise, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire

Document can be viewed online at: <https://kernplanning.com/environmental-doc/rb-inyokern-solar-project/>

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

The Bakersfield Californian
Daily Independent
The News Review

RRC (6/20/2020)

cc: County Clerk (2) (with fee)
Environmental Status Board
Sierra Club/Kern Kaweah Chapter
LiUNA
Lozeau Drury, LLP

California Native Plant Society/Kern Chapter
Kern County Archaeological Society
Native American Heritage Pres. Council/Kern County
Center on Race, Poverty and Environment (2)
Supervisory District No. 1