

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 9
500 SOUTH MAIN STREET
BISHOP, CA 93514
PHONE (760) 872-0785
FAX (760) 872-0678
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.

8/17/2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Jul 22 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

July 22, 2020

Ms. Ronelle Candia
Kern Planning/Natural Resources Dept.
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

File: Ker-395-23.0
DEIR
SCH #: 2017071020

RB Inyokern Solar Project Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Ms. Candia:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 9 appreciates the opportunity to review the DEIR for the RB Inyokern Solar project near the northwest junction of State Route 178 and US 395. We offer the following:

- The Project's security fence should be placed on Project property at a distance from the US 395 barbed wire right-of-way (R/W) fence, sufficient for its maintenance within project property.
- Details regarding US 395 gen-tie crossing may be found in Section 602.4B Transverse Encroachments within Access-controlled Right-of-way of the **Encroachment Permit Manual**. Supports for overhead lines must be locate outside the access control R/W. In this case it looks to be well over 400-ft, and traffic control would be required. Underground installation would be preferred (via bore and jack or horizontal directional drilling) from outside of the R/W. This would not require traffic control.

See: <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/traffic-operations/documents/encroachment-permits/chapter-6-ada.pdf>

- On page 3-27, the 3rd quarter 2020 construction start schedule should be updated.
- For Caltrans encroachment permit information (for US 395 gen-tie crossing, traffic control, etc.), Stephen Winzenread - District 9 Encroachment Permit Engineer, may be contacted at (760) 872-5222 or stephen.winzenread@dot.ca.gov.

See: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep>

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We value our cooperative working relationship with Kern County regarding development impacts on the state transportation system. For any questions, feel free to contact me at (760) 872-0785 or at gayle.rosander@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gayle J. Rosander". The signature is written in a cursive style.

GAYLE J. ROSANDER
External Project Liaison

c: State Clearinghouse
Mark Reistetter, Caltrans D9