

Notice of Determination

To:
Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Contact: Kevin Hurt
Phone: (805) 458-5775



Lead Agency:
County of Kern
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301
Contact: Carlos Rojas
Phone: 661-862-5015

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2015051069

Project Title: Valentine Solar Project (Amendment No. 3 to Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2018-0153-R4)

Project Location: The Project is located within a larger solar development located south of Aqueduct Road, west of 132nd Street West, north of Hamilton Road, and east of 150th Street West, with two generation tie-in (gen-tie) line route options extending approximately 0.5 miles to the north to connect to existing overhead electrical lines, approximately 10 miles northwest of the community of Rosamond in an unincorporated area of Kern County, California.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Amendment No. 3 to Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2018-0153-R4, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Valentine Solar, LLC represented by Michael Brady.

The Project includes the construction of up to 35 at-grade road crossings and cable installation on 21 streams and up to 11 Solar Intersect Areas, which includes solar panel, underground cable and fencing installation, and grading of unimproved roads within 11 streams. Amendment No. 3 extends the time required to complete measures related to the permanent protection of habitat management lands for mitigation and revises avoidance language regarding the State candidate western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*).

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above described project on 11/27/2024 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will / will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the environmental impact report prepared by the Lead Agency and the Addendum prepared by CDFW for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were / were not made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were / were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The final environmental impact report prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency. The subsequent Addendum to the final EIR prepared by CDFW on August 29, 2018, and CDFW's record of project approval as Responsible Agency are available at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:

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Date: 11/27/2024

FOR Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager, Central Region

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____