

Notice of Determination**- 1 -****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:

Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
 South Coast Region
 3883 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123
 Contact: Erinn Wilson-Olgin
 Phone: 562-900-8138

Lead Agency (if different than CDFW)
 County of Santa Barbara
 Planning & Development
 Energy, Minerals & Compliance Division
 123 Anapamu Street
 Santa Barbara, CA 93101
 Contact: Kathy Pfeifer
 Phone: 805-568-2507

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

State Clearinghouse Number: 2018071002

Project Title: Strauss Wind Energy Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2018-065-05 Amendment No. 2 (ITP))

Project Location (include county): The Project site is located in the city of Lompoc in an unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County. The Project site is bounded by Vandenberg Space Force Base (VSFB) on the south and west sides and private property on the north and east sides (Figure 1 below). The Project area lies within the Tranquillon Mountain, Lompoc Hills, and Lompoc U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangles at latitude 34° 34' 59" N and longitude 120° 30' 55" W.

Project Description: This proposed Project involves operating a wind energy facility on 5,887 acres of rural land with the installation of 27 wind turbine generators, including the operation of various facilities, including a substation, operation and maintenance facility, a switchyard, electrical transmission lines, on-site mitigation, and off-site mitigation.

The Project will result in impacts to 203.29 acres of Gaviota tarplant *Gaviota tarplant* (*Deinandra increscens ssp. villosa*) habitat including temporary impacts to 182.26 acres; the Project will permanently remove 21.03 acres of Gaviota tarplant (*Deinandra increscens ssp. villosa*) habitat. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of Gaviota tarplant (*Deinandra increscens ssp. villosa*), which is designated as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act. The Amended ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on September 18, 2023 and made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

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. [An environmental impact report / A negative declaration] was prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
 3. Additional 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 Public Resources Code § 21081(a).
 7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4 (check one):
 - Payment is submitted with this notice.
 - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.
- Responsible Agency statement: The EIR prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFW's administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

Notice of Determination

DocuSigned by:
Erinn Wilson-Olgin
Signature _____ Date: 9/20/2023
888208ED835F4E2...
Erinn Wilson-Olgin, *Environmental Program Manager*

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____