

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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**TO:** Santa Clara County Clerk  
110 West Tasman Drive, First Floor  
San Jose, CA 95134

**FROM:** Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
375 Beale Street, Suite 600  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**SUBJECT:** FILING OF NOTICE OF DETERMINATION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21152(a) AND CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15094.

**PROJECT TITLE:** Vantage Data Centers – McLaren Data Center Project (City Land Use Permit Number PLN23-00308, State Clearinghouse #2018062057) - Issuance of Authority to Construct for four diesel backup generators. (Air District Application 32087).

**Public Agency Approving Project (Lead Agency):** City of Santa Clara; Contact Person: Rebecca Bustos, Associate Planner, 1500 Warburton Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050; Telephone: (408) 615-2464, Email: rbustos@SantaClaraCA.gov

**Public Agency (Responsible Agency) Approving Project (Issuance of Authority to Construct):** Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District), 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105; Contact Person: Cameron Fee, Air Quality Engineer, Telephone: (415) 749-4709, Email: cfee@baaqmd.gov

**Project Applicant and Entity Carrying Out Project:** Vantage Data Centers.

**Project Applicant Mailing Address:** 2820 Northwestern Parkway, Santa Clara, CA 95051.

**Project Applicant Contact Person:** Rob Gire, Construction Manager, Vantage Data Centers, 2820 Northwestern Parkway, Santa Clara, CA 95051; Telephone: (925) 337-3027; Email: rgire@vantage-dc.com

**Project Location:** 737 Mathew Street, Santa Clara, Santa Clara County; Nearest Cross Street: Lafayette Street.

**Date of Approval by Lead Agency:** June 12, 2024.

**Date of Approval at Issue by Responsible Agency:** August 19, 2024

**Project Description:**

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) has issued an Authority to Construct for the McLaren Backup Generating Facility (MBGF) for four additional backup diesel generators. The MBGF provides emergency backup power for the McLaren Data Center (MDC). The MDC consists of three four-story, 175,000-180,000 ft<sup>2</sup> data center buildings and a paved parking lot on a 9-acre site. The MBGF consists of 15 to 20 diesel-fired backup generators for each data center building to provide emergency backup power for the buildings' servers in the event of a power outage and also one additional generator for each building to provide emergency power for fire suppression and other life safety systems. The four new diesel-fired backup generators will be for Building CA23.

The Air District has already issued Authority to Construct for 50 existing backup diesel engines supporting the three data center buildings. This Authority to Construct authorizes Vantage to install four additional 4043-horsepower emergency backup power generators. These generators will be operated only for emergency purposes, plus up to 37 hours per year for testing, maintenance and reliability purposes. They will not be used for routine data center operations. In addition, the existing permitted generators will have their permit

conditions changed to reduce the non-emergency use hours for testing, maintenance and reliability from 50 to 37 hours per year.

**Notice of Determination:**

The California Energy Commission (CEC) was the lead agency for the Vantage McLaren Data Center (formerly McLaren Backup Generating Facility) project which included 50 diesel backup generators (S-1 through S-50). It adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the project on November 7, 2018, finding that the project would not have the potential to cause any significant adverse environmental impacts. The lead agency designation was pursuant to the CEC's authorizing statute relating to its exclusive permitting jurisdiction over thermal power plants. Vantage Data Centers (Vantage) subsequently applied for and the CEC granted Vantage a Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE).

For the facility's current proposed installation of four additional backup generators at Vantage McLaren Data Center, the City of Santa Clara is the lead agency for this project. On June 12, 2024, the City of Santa Clara adopted an Addendum to the IS/MND for the installation of four additional emergency generators. Because the project does not require additional electrical demand from the substation and the total electrical demand will not exceed the 100-megawatt CEC threshold, the CEC has confirmed to the applicant that this modification does not require additional CEC approval.

The Air District is a CEQA responsible agency for the project. It issued its Authority to Construct on August 19, 2024. The record of the Air District's approval is available for review at the Air District's address shown above.

The Air District has reviewed and considered the CEC's environmental analysis and the City of Santa Clara's Addendum to the IS/MND in connection with its decision to issue the Authority to Construct referenced above. Based on that review, the Air District has determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. Since the modified project will not have any significant impacts, the Air District finds that changes to the project do not result in any new significant impacts or any increase in the severity of previously identified significant impacts anticipated by the 2018 IS/MND. The Air District additionally finds that there is no new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the 2018 IS/MND was adopted that shows that:

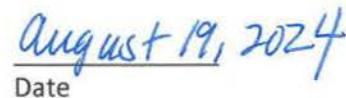
- (a) The project will have any significant effects not discussed in the 2018 IS/MND;
- (b) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the 2018 IS/MND;
- (c) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or
- (d) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the 2018 IS/MND would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

Accordingly, the Air District finds no subsequent or supplemental EIR is required for the modified project pursuant to CEQA section 21166 or CEQA Guidelines section 15162.

City of Santa Clara's Addendum to the IS/MND and associated documents can be viewed:  
<https://santaclara.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6719610&GUID=3C7EA131-557E-43B6-9001-A7708AA5C83C&Options=&Search=>

  
 Pamela J. Leong

Director of Engineering  
 Bay Area Air Quality Management District

  
 Date