

**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/pastoria-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 10, 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: Pastoria Solar Project by Pastoria Solar Energy, LLC (PP19149); Conditional Use Permit No. 9, Map 219; Williams Act Land Use Contract Cancellation 19-02; and General Plan Amendment 10, Map 219 (Circulation).

Project Location: The project site is located approximately 3 miles east of the unincorporated community of Grapevine, approximately 5 miles southeast of the unincorporated community of Wheeler Ridge, and approximately 5 miles northeast of the unincorporated community of Lebec. Surrounding land uses include undeveloped grazing land and vineyard to the north and east, and undeveloped grazing land to the south and west of the project site. Development in the area consists of the Pastoria Energy Facility, the Griffith Aggregate Mine, the California Aqueduct, and the Department of Water Resources' Edmonston Pumping Plant. The site is located in Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, Township 10 North, Range 19 West (SBB&M), County of Kern, State of California.

Project Description: The project proponent is requesting: (a) One (1) Conditional Use Permit (CUP), to allow for the construction and operation of a 115 MW solar photovoltaic electrical generating facility with up to 80 MW of energy storage (Section 19.12.030.G) in an A Zone District (CUP No. 9, Map No. 219); (b) One Williamson Act Land Use Contract Cancellation on approximately 650 acres (WALUC Cancellation 19-02); and (c) Amendment to the General Plan to remove section and mid-section line road reservations as follows; the Section line between Section 11, T10 N R19 W, and Section 12, T10 N R19 W; the Section line between Section 14, T10 N R19 W, and Section 13, T10 N R19 W; the Section line between Section 11, T10 N R19 W, and Section 14, T10 N R19 W; the Section line between Section 13, T10 N R19 W, and Section 12, T10 N R19 W; the south half of the north-south mid-section line of Section 11, T10 N R19 W; the east half of the east-west mid-section line of Section 11, T10 N R19 W; the south half of the north-south mid-section line of Section 12, T10 N R19 W; the west half of the east-west mid-section line of Section 12, T10 N R19 W; the north half of the north-south mid-section line of Section 14, T10 N R19 W; the east half of the east-west mid-section line of Section 14, T10 N R19 W; the north half of the north-south mid-section line of Section 13, T10 N R19 W; the west half of the east-west mid-section line of Section 13, T10 N R19 W (General Plan Amendment No. 10, Map 219). The project's permanent facilities would include service roads, overhead and underground transmission lines, a step-up conversion station, project substations, energy storage facilities, perimeter security fencing, and generational tie lines.

Anticipated Significant Impacts on Environment: Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, and Wildfire

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

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

The Bakersfield Californian
Mountain Enterprise

clh (6/18/2020)

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California Native Plant Society/Kern Chapter
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