

## NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 10th Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:** California Department of Water Resources  
State Water Project Power and Risk Office  
2135 Butano Drive, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95825

**Subject:** Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Public Resources Code section 21108

**Project Title:** Pastoria Solar Project

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2019090305

**CEQA Lead Agency:** Kern County Planning and Natural Resource Department  
2700 M Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, California 93301

**Project Location:** The Pastoria Solar Project (Project) is located in Kern County, California, approximately 3 miles east of the unincorporated community of Grapevine, approximately 5 miles southeast of the incorporated 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 California Department of Water Resources' (DWR's) Edmonston Pumping Plant.

**Project Description:** DWR's role in the Project is to enter into a power purchase agreement (PPA) with the Project developer, Pastoria Solar Energy Company, LLC, to purchase 100 megawatts (MW) of capacity and associated energy from the Project for the period of 20 years with the option for ownership interest in the Project and its components. The proposed PPA would fulfill part of DWR's commitments to renewable energy procurement under Senate Bill 100 and in DWR's *Climate Action Plan Phase 1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, Update 2020*. The final scale of the Project would involve construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic power-generating facility that would produce a total of 115 MW of electricity with up to 80 MW of energy storage on approximately 650 acres of privately owned land in Kern County. 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 electric generation tie lines. Kern County, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and approved the Project in June 2020.

This is to advise that DWR, as a Responsible Agency, approved the PPA on December 21, 2021, and has made the following determinations regarding the Project:

1. The Project would have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An EIR was prepared for the Project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Kern County adopted a Mitigation Measure Monitoring Plan (MMMP) for the Project.
4. Compliance with the MMMP will be required pursuant to the proposed PPA between DWR and Pastoria Solar Energy Company, LLC.
5. DWR adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations for the Project.
6. DWR made findings pursuant to the provisions of CEQA for the Project.

This is to certify that the prepared EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval are available to the General Public at: Kern County Planning and Natural Resource Department, 2700 M Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, California 93301.

Responsible Agency Contact Person: Deane Burk, (916) 574-0669.

**Signature:** *Ghassan Alqaser*  
Ghassan AlQaser, Manager  
State Water Project Power and Risk Office

**Date:** 12/21/2021

**Date Received for Filing at OPR:** \_\_\_\_\_