

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 9
500 SOUTH MAIN STREET
BISHOP, CA 93514
PHONE (760) 872-0785
FAX (760) 872-0678
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

9/14/2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Aug 31 2020

Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

August 31, 2020

Ms. Ronelle Candia
Kern County Planning/Natural Resources Dept.
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301

File: Ker-58-137.81
NOP DEIR
SCH#: 2020089020

Aratina Solar - Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Ms. Candia:

Thank you for giving the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 9 the opportunity to comment during the NOP phase for the Aratina Solar Farm project abutting State Route (SR) 58 between Gephart and Borax Roads in eastern Kern County. We offer the following:

- We look forward to reviewing the EIR's evaluation of potential impacts on the roadway system from construction related trips. Such analysis should address the need for a traffic management plan, and adequacy of the Gephart Rd/SR 58 and Borax Rd/SR 58 interchanges for geometrics, queueing, structural integrity, etc. (Please be aware that no direct access to SR 58 would be allowed, even for a temporary access.)
- The plans show a gen-tie crossing of SR 58 for Site 4. Details regarding state highway gen-tie crossings may be found in Section 600 Utility Permits of the **Encroachment Permit Manual** at: <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/traffic-operations/documents/encroachment-permits/chapter-6-ada.pdf>

The permit application may be found at:
<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>

For permitting details, you may contact Stephen Winzenread, District 9 Permits Engineer, at (760) 872-5222.

We value our cooperative working relationship with Kern County regarding development impacts on the state transportation system. For any questions, feel free to contact me at (760) 872-0785 or at gayle.rosander@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Gayle J. Rosander in blue ink.

GAYLE J. ROSANDER
External Project Liaison

c: State Clearinghouse
Mark Reistetter, Caltrans D-9