

CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION

100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202



Established in 1938

JENNIFER LUCCHESI, Executive Officer

916.574.1800

TTY CA Relay Service: **711** or Phone **800.735.2922**
from Voice Phone **800.735.2929**
or for Spanish **800.855.3000**

Contact Phone: 916.574.1890

October 22, 2021

**La Notificación y el Resumen Ejecutivo de la
Informe de Impacto Ambiental en español, están
disponibles para su revisión en:**

<https://www.slc.ca.gov/ceqa/>

SCH # 2020100234

CSLC File Ref.: EIR No. 808

W30213; W26868

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15087, this is to advise that the California State Lands Commission (CSLC), as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has completed a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Project described below.

Project Title: Stagecoach Solar Project (Project)

Applicant: Aurora Solar, LLC, subsidiary of Avangrid Renewables

Project Location: The proposed Project area encompasses approximately 3,000 acres of State-owned school land in the central portion of San Bernardino County, about 12 miles northwest of the unincorporated community of Lucerne Valley and 15 miles south of the City of Barstow. The Project area is located east of Interstate 15, south of Interstate 40, and about 3 miles west of State Route 247.

Project Description: The Applicant has applied to the CSLC for lease of lands managed by the CSLC on which to construct and operate a solar generation project. The proposed Project would produce up to 200 megawatts (MW) of solar energy using photovoltaic (PV) technology. The proposed Project area encompasses approximately 3,000 acres, with PV modules and associated infrastructure to be constructed on approximately 1,950 acres. The proposed Project also includes construction of a 9.1-mile-long 220 kV generation intertie (gen-tie) transmission line to carry the electricity generated by the solar facility

to the regional transmission system interconnection at the proposed 7-acre Southern California Edison Calcite Facilities, including the substation.

Potential Significant Impacts on the Environment: The Draft EIR discusses the potential for significant impacts on the environment in 18 subject areas: Aesthetics/Light and Glare, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Tribal Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise and Vibration, Paleontological Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, Utilities, and Service Systems, Recreation, Traffic and Transportation, and Wildfire.

The Draft EIR identifies significant and unavoidable impacts associated with the proposed Project related to: Aesthetics/Light and Glare (visual contrast and degradation of visual character or quality); Air Quality (air pollutant emissions from construction and operation); Cultural Resources (adverse effect on a historical resource); Energy (conflict with local plans); Land Use and Planning (conflict with local plans); Public Services, Utilities, and Service Systems (increase in emergency response times); Traffic and Transportation (traffic volumes affecting the circulation system and potential effect on emergency vehicle response).

DRAFT EIR PUBLIC REVIEW AND VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Review Period: **October 22** through **December 22, 2021**.

Comments Due: Submit by or before **5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 22, 2021**.

Comments Email*: CEQA.comments@slc.ca.gov
 Subject: **Stagecoach Solar Project Draft EIR Comments**

Comment Mailing Address and Contact Information:

California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825
Attn: Sarah Mongano
Phone: 916.574.1889

** You are encouraged to submit comments via email and include any attachments in PDF or Microsoft Word format.*

Public Hearings: Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15087, subdivision (i), CSLC staff will hold two public hearings to receive oral or written comments on the Draft EIR (see details below). Each session of the virtual public hearing will be conducted using the online meeting platform Zoom. You may join by entering the web link listed below for the session you would like to join, or by dialing in by telephone at the number listed below. The Zoom meeting links will also be available on the CSLC's website at www.slc.ca.gov (under the "Information" tab and "CEQA" link) or <https://www.slc.ca.gov/ceqa/>. You may join from a desktop computer, laptop, mobile device, or telephone. Staff recommends that you test your device, internet connection, and Zoom app compatibility before attempting to join the meeting.

Each hearing will be the same format, beginning with a brief presentation on the proposed Project and contents of the Draft EIR, including alternatives, significant environmental impacts, and proposed mitigation measures. Staff will then receive comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR.

**INFORMATION ON PUBLIC HEARINGS BY CSLC STAFF ON DRAFT EIR SCHEDULED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021.**

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87621497804>

or by Phone: 669.900.6833

then enter Webinar ID: 876 2149 7804

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83445946317>

or by Phone: 669.900.6833

then enter Webinar ID: 834 4594 6317

If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in the hearings, for a disability as defined by the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act and California Fair Employment and Housing Act, please contact the Project Manager (Sarah Mongano) identified above (see Draft EIR Public Review) at least 48 hours in advance of the hearings to arrange for such accommodation. A sign language interpreter can be provided, but the request should be made at least 7 days before the hearings in order to contract services.

Draft EIR Review Options: The full document can be viewed on the CSLC website at <https://www.slc.ca.gov/ceqa/>.

At this time, the CSLC offices are closed to the public due to public health and safety concerns regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19); therefore, it is not currently feasible to provide paper copies for review at the CSLC offices. Please contact Sarah Mongano at sarah.mongano@slc.ca.gov or 916.574.1889 for the most up-to-date information on the availability of the Draft EIR or to receive a paper copy. Please note that paper copies will be printed on demand and may take several days to produce and ship.

Electronic copies may also be reviewed at the three libraries listed below:

- Lucerne Valley Janice Horst Branch Library: 33103 Old Woman Springs Rd., Lucerne Valley, CA 92356; 760.248.7521
- Barstow Branch Library: 304 Buena Vista Street, Barstow, CA 92311-2806; 760.256.4850
- Apple Valley Newton T. Bass Branch Library: 14901 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley, CA 92307; 760.247.2022

Note: Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time (including in the Final EIR and posted on the CSLC’s website). While you may ask the CSLC (prominently at the beginning of your submission) to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, the CSLC cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so. The CSLC will make available for inspection, in their entirety, all comments submitted by organizations or businesses or by individuals identifying themselves as representatives of organizations or businesses.

JENNIFER LUCCHESI
Executive Officer