

# California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

## NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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To: County of Santa Clara  
Clerk-Recorder's Office  
70 West Hedding St, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95110

From: Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
375 Beale St, Suite 600  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Contact: Cameron Fee, (415) 749-4709

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

**Project Title:** Great Oaks South Backup Generating Facility Small Power Plant Exemption - Issuance of Authority to Construct and Permit to Operate for Emergency Standby Diesel Engines (Air District Application 31897), California Energy Commission Docket No. 20-SPPE-01, State Clearinghouse ID 2020100431).

**Public Agency Approving Project (Lead Agency):** California Energy Commission, Contact: Lisa Worrall, 715 P Street, MS-40, Sacramento, CA 95814, Telephone: (916) 661-8367, Email: [STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov](mailto:STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov)

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

**Project Applicant and Entity Carrying Out Project:** SV1, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Equinix, LLC.

**Project Applicant Contact Person:** Masoud Zafaripour, SV12x, 1 Lagoon Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065, Telephone: (408) 594-9547

**Project Location:** 123 Great Oaks Boulevard, San Jose, Santa Clara County, CA 95119.

### Project Description:

In Air District Application #31897, SV1, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Equinix, LLC (SV1), has applied for an Authority to Construct for fifteen (15) emergency standby diesel engines (Sources #1-#15), each providing power to backup generators at the facility.

**Sources #1 - #14 Stationary Emergency Standby Diesel Engines-Generator Sets, 4,841 hp  
Abated by Diesel Particulate Filters/Diesel Oxidation Catalysts (DPF/DOC), and  
Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR)**

**Source #15 Emergency Standby Diesel Engine-Generator Set, 1,490 hp  
Abated by DPF/DOC and SCR**

SV1 is constructing the Great Oaks South Data Center (GOSDC) and the supporting Great Oaks South Backup Generating Facility (GOSBGF). This project will be constructed on two parcels of land that encompass approximately 18 acres associated with three (3) addresses at 123, 127, and 131 Great Oaks Blvd. in San Jose, CA 95119. When fully built out, the GOSDC will consist of three (3) two-story buildings that will house electronic data storage equipment. Each of the three buildings will have a footprint of approximately 92,000 square feet and have a total of approximately 182,350 square feet of floorspace. To support the GOSDC, the GOSBGF will include a total of thirty-nine (39) onsite diesel-fired backup generators to provide backup power to the GOSDC in the event of a loss of power from the local electric utility provider. Thirty-six (36) of these generators, each rated at 3.25 MW, would serve the tenant load of the data center. The remaining three (3) generators, each rated at 500 kW, would serve as "life-safety" generators, providing power for ancillary building demand, such as fire alarms, fire pumps, general lighting, and other common building systems. These generators will be operated only for emergency purposes, plus up to 20 hours per year for testing, maintenance, and reliability-related purposes. The backup generators would have a collective nameplate capacity exceeding 99.0 MW but would not be able to generate more than 99.0 MW, because the GOSDC's demand requirements would not exceed 99.0 MW, as determined by the California Energy Commission (CEC) in their approval of the Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE) for the GOSBGF.

For the first phase of this project, SV1 submitted Application No. 31897 for the first fifteen (15) engines. Fourteen (14) of these engines (Sources #1-#14) are for the 3.25 MW backup generators to serve the tenant load of the data center, and one (1) of the engines (Source #15) is for one of the 500 kW "life-safety" backup generators. Each of these 15 engines will

be equipped with a Diesel Particulate Filter/Diesel Oxidation Catalyst (DPF/DOC) and Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR). SV1 will be required to apply separately for the remaining twenty-four (24) engines.

**Notice of Determination:**

This is to advise that the Air District, acting as a Responsible Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has issued Authorities to Construct on November 7, 2023 for the first fifteen (15) engines/generators, pursuant to District Regulation 2-1-301. In issuing the Authorities to Construct, the Air District has reviewed and considered the environmental effects of the entire project (including all 39 proposed diesel engines) as discussed in the California Energy Commission's (CEC) Final Decision on the Small Power Plan Exemption (SPPE) and supporting analyses. The CEC is the CEQA lead agency for the project ("Great Oaks South Backup Generating Facility Small Power Plant Exemption"). The CEC's consideration of the project included an evaluation of the facility's SPPE application and of the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that was prepared for the project. The CEC approved the SPPE on December 8, 2021, and subsequently filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) on December 13, 2021, finding that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Based on this review, the Air District has determined that with the Conditions of Exemption imposed by the CEC, there will be no significant environmental impacts. As the project will not have any significant impacts, the Air District has not imposed any mitigation measures (beyond the conditions the Air District has imposed to ensure compliance with air quality regulations) and has therefore not adopted a mitigation monitoring plan or program. Additionally, no Statement of Overriding Conditions was adopted.

The CEC's Final Decision on the SPPE is available for public review on the CEC's website at the following link: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/backup-generating-system/great-oaks-south-generating-facility>

The Air District record of project approval is available for review at the Air District office at 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA, 94105 (Air District Permit Application Number 31897).



Pamela J. Leong  
Director of Engineering  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Nov. 7, 2023  
Date