

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**DISTRICT 6 OFFICE**

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Making Conservation
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Dec 01 2020**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

November 30, 2020

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DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT NO. 7869
SONRISA SOLAR PROJECT

SENT VIA EMAIL

Jeremy Shaw, Planner
Development Services Division
Department of Public Works and Planning
2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor
Fresno, CA. 93721

Dear Mr. Shaw:

Thank you for the opportunity to review Notice of Preparation (NOP) for a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) NO. 7869, proposing a 200-megawatt alternating current (MWac) photovoltaic (PV) energy generation facility with battery storage capacity of up to 100 MW and battery storage duration of up to 8 hours, an approximately 3.5-mile long 230 kV transmission line, and related facilities and infrastructure. The approximately 1,700-acre Project site is bounded generally by State Route (SR) 33 (South Derrick Avenue) to the west, West Manning Avenue to the south, South Merced Avenue to the east, and West Adams Avenue to the north. West South Avenue bisects the Project site from east to west, in the County of Fresno.

Caltrans provides the following comments consistent with the State's smart mobility goals that support a vibrant economy and sustainable communities.

1. Caltrans recommends that the Project pay into the Fresno County Regional Traffic Mitigation Fee or RTMF for on-going development in the vicinity.
2. Caltrans has access control along this segment of SR 33. As a result, access to the site via SR 33 will not be permitted.
3. Site access to the project should be provided via Manning Avenue, Adams Avenue, or such other local road.
4. Caltrans recommends a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) for SR-33 be prepared and submitted for our review. The TMP will have to be consistent with California's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). In addition, the TMP may contain a Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) plan that addresses traffic safety and control through the work zone.
5. Any proposed traffic control devices within our State facilities will require an Encroachment Permit. The approval of the TMP must be done prior to the approval

of an Encroachment Permit. Additional requirements may arise during the permit process.

6. Components of the Project where adjacent to SR-33 should not encroach into State right-of-way. If the project design proposes to encroach into State right-of-way, approval of an Encroachment Permit will be required.
7. An encroachment permit must be obtained for all proposed activities for placement of encroachments within, under or over the State highway rights-of-way. Activity and work planned in the State right-of-way shall be performed to State standards and specifications, at no cost to the State. Engineering plans, calculations, specifications, and reports (documents) shall be stamped and signed by a licensed Engineer or Architect. Engineering documents for encroachment permit activity and work in the State right-of-way may be submitted using English Units. The Permit Department and the Environmental Planning Branch will review and approve the activity and work in the State right-of-way before an encroachment permit is issued. The Streets and Highways Code Section 670 provides Caltrans discretionary approval authority for projects that encroach on the State Highway System. Encroachment permits will be issued in accordance with Streets and Highway Codes, Section 671.5, "Time Limitations." Encroachment permits do not run with the land. A change of ownership requires a new permit application. Only the legal property owner or his/her authorized agent can pursue obtaining an encroachment permit. **Please call the Caltrans Encroachment Permit Office - District 6: 1352 W. Olive, Fresno, CA 93778, at (559) 488-4058. Please review the permit application checklist at:**
<https://forms.dot.ca.gov/v2Forms/servlet/FormRenderer?frmID=TR0402&distpath=MAOTO&brapath=PERM>
8. Upon project approval by the local public agency and prior to an encroachment permit application submittal, the project proponent is required to schedule a "Pre-Submittal" meeting with District 6 Encroachment Permit Office. **Please contact District 6 Encroachment Permit Office at (559) 488-4058 to schedule this meeting.**
9. According to the Caltrans Transportation Concept Report (TCR), this segment of SR 33 in the vicinity of the proposed project is currently a 2-lane conventional highway and ultimately planned to be a 4-lane facility within a total of 110 feet of right-of-way (55 feet from the centerline). Caltrans right-of-way maps shows this segment of SR 33 existing at 100 feet with 50 feet from the centerline on the eastside of SR 33.
10. An Irrevocable Offer of Dedication to Caltrans for five feet of right-of-way is needed to accommodate the ultimate configuration of SR 33. Dedications should be required by the Lead Agency and should be shown on a revised site plan and forwarded for our review.
11. The proposed generation tie (gen-tie) line running along the west side of SR 33, between Dinuba and Manning Avenues, should be placed outside of the Caltrans ultimate right-of-way for SR 33.

Mr. Jeremy Shaw- SONRISA SOLAR PROJECT
November 30, 2020
Page 3

12. As development of the project continues, Caltrans requests that progress project plans be submitted to Caltrans for further review. At that time, additional comments may be required.

If you have any other questions, please call or email Edgar Hernandez at (559) 488-4168 or edgar.hernandez@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Padilla', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Padilla, Branch Chief
Transportation Planning – North