

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 9
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research



Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.

Mar 11 2021

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

March 11, 2021

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#: 2021020513

Aratina Solar 2.0 - 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 revised Aratina Solar project abutting State Route (SR) 58 between Gephart and Borax Roads. We offer the following:

- We look forward to reviewing the DEIR'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 temporarily 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) 874-8348.

- Any security fence placed along SR 58 right-of-way (R/W) should be on Project property at a sufficient distance from the R/W fence to allow for its maintenance from within Project property.

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) 874-8330 or at gayle.rosander@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gayle J. Rosander".

GAYLE J. ROSANDER
External Project Liaison

c: State Clearinghouse
Mark Reistetter, Caltrans D-9