

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND HEARING ON
THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
FOR THE PROPOSED AZALEA SOLAR PROJECT**

This is to advise that the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has prepared an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below. As mandated by State law, the minimum public review period for this document is 45 days.

PROJECT TITLE: Azalea Solar Project by SF Azalea, LLC (PP21401); CUP No. 10, Map No. 3; CUP No. 14, Map No. 3; and Williamson Act Land Use Cancellation # 20-06 (SCH #2021090602)

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located approximately 2.5 miles northwest of Twisselman Road and Kings Road, approximately 16 miles south of Kettleman City, approximately 14 miles northwest of the community of Lost Hills, approximately 6 miles west of Interstate 5, and approximately 4 miles east of State Route 33, in the northwestern portion of the Kern County Valley Region. The project site is located in Section 11 of Township 25 South, Range 19 East in the Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDB&M).

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The document and documents referenced in the Draft EIR are available for review at the Planning and Natural Resources Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301 or on the Departmental website (<https://kernplanning.com/planning/environmental-documents/>).

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT: Kern County is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in the Draft EIR. You may comment by providing testimony at the public hearing on:

DATE: December 08, 2022
TIME: 7:00 P.M. or soon thereafter
LOCATION: Chambers of the Board of Supervisors
Kern County Administrative Center, First Floor
1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301

And/or submitting written comments to the project planner identified below prior to the close of the public comment period on October 17, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Testimony at future public hearings may be limited to those issues raised during the public review period either orally or submitted in writing.

HOW TO COMMENT: You may provide testimony at the public hearing on the date and time specified above or provide written comments prior to the close of public comment period on October 17, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. to:

**Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department
ATTN: Terrance Smalls, Supervising Planner
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Phone: (661) 862-8607
E-mail: smallst@kerncounty.com**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Azalea Solar Project, as proposed by SF Azalea, LLC, would develop a photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure necessary to generate up to 60 megawatt-alternating

current (MW-AC) of renewable energy, with 55MW of energy storage, on approximately 640 acres of privately-owned land. The project site consists of 1 site located on 2 parcels. The project would be supported by a 70-kilovolt (kV) gen-tie overhead and/or underground electrical transmission line(s) originating from one or more on-site substations and terminating at either the PG&E Arco Substation. The project's permanent facilities would include, but are not limited to, service roads, a power collection system, inverter stations, transformer systems, transmission lines, electrical switchyards, project substations, energy (battery) storage system, and operations and maintenance facilities.

Implementation of the project as proposed includes the following requests:

- a) Issuance of Conditional Use Permit No. 10, Map No. 3 to allow for the construction and operation of an approximate 60 MW solar facility, as well as ancillary structures including a 55 MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), on the 640-acre site within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) zone district pursuant to Section 19.12.030.G of the Kern County Zoning Ordinance.
- b) Issuance of Conditional Use Permit No. 14, Map No. 3 to allow for the construction and operation of a microwave communications tower, within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District pursuant to Section 19.12.030.F, of the Kern County Zoning Ordinance.
- c) Cancellation of an Existing Williamson Act Land Use Contract

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: Aesthetics (Cumulative); Agriculture and Forest Resources (Project); Air Quality (Cumulative); Biological Resources (Cumulative); and Wildfire (Cumulative)

LORELEI H. OVIATT, AICP, Director
Planning and Natural Resources Department

To be published once only on next available date and as soon as possible

THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN

TJS (08/15/22)

cc: County Clerk (2) (with fee)
Environmental Status Board
LiUNA
Supervisory District No. 4