

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2022020479

Project Title: Use Permit Application No. PLN2021-0111 – Beltran Solar Energy Center

Lead Agency: Stanislaus County

Contact Name: Kristen Anaya, Associate Planner

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Project Location: Newman / Crows Landing area Stanislaus County
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Request to amend Use Permit No. 2011-11 – Beltran Ranch Solar Farm, which was approved by the Stanislaus County Planning Commission on April 18, 2013 to construct a utility-grade 140 megawatt (MW) solar facility comprised of three phases on 606± acres of a 1,720± acre project site. A Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was prepared and adopted in conjunction with the approved project. The proposed modifications will remain within the project footprint approved in 2013, on land regularly disturbed in conjunction with on-site crops and crop rotation, with the exception of a proposed 400-foot-wide 24.5 kilovolt (kV) collector line, which will be located outside of the original project site in order to connect to a substation located on the Proxima Solar Energy Center, just 1 mile north of the project site. The 2013 project identified three phases totaling 606 acres (113, 167, and 326 acres approved for each phase respectively) within the 1,720-acre project site to be developed over the course of 3 to 4 years. To date, none of the phases have been developed. The applicant is proposing to develop the project in a single phase within an 18-month construction schedule and expand the overall development footprint by up to 211± acres from 606± acres to 817± acres.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The project will potentially significantly impact biological resources, included special status-species like the San Joaquin Kit Fox. Mitigation Measures such as pre-construction surveys, avoidance buffers, and coordination with CDFW have been added to the project.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

None identified to date in association with the proposed project modifications. See the Project Early Consultation and attachments for the approved 2013 Staff Report which identified project issues in association with the approved facility.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

See Early Consultation Distribution List.