

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 #: 2022030713

Project Title: Vidal Energy Project

Lead Agency: County of San Bernardino

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Project Location: Vidal San Bernardino
City *County*

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

CDH Vidal LLC (CORE) plans to construct and operate the Vidal Energy Project (Project), a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation and energy storage facility that would produce up to 160 megawatts (MW) of solar power and include up to 640 megawatt hours (MWh) of energy storage capacity rate in a battery energy storage system (BESS) on up to approximately 1,090 acres of land. The Project would be supported by the existing, adjacent Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) 161-kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission corridor. The Project would include the construction of one on-site substation facility, which would collect and convert the power generated on-site for transmission in an overhead or underground line to the WAPA transmission system and interconnection location. The Project's permanent facilities would include PV panels, BESS, fencing, service roads, a power collection system, communication cables, overhead and underground transmission lines, electrical switchyards, a Project substation, and operations and maintenance (O&M) facilities.

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

Air Quality: Ground disturbance during Project construction could disturb dust particles, which could result in potential impacts related to Valley Fever. Implementation of MM AQ-1 requires a Valley Fever Management Plan and training program to minimize potential for unsafe dust exposure during construction. Impacts reduced to less than significant.

Biological Resources: The Project would require implementation of MM BIO-1 through MM BIO-11 to reduce impacts to less than significant. MM BIO-1 requires a biological monitor to conduct pre-construction sweeps and inspect compliance with protection measures. MM BIO-2 requires avoidance to the greatest extent possible of desert riparian vegetation in Drainage 5, 6, and 6. MM BIO-3 implements an environmental training program for construction to avoid/minimize impacts. MM BIO-4 would reduce impacts to nesting birds. MM BIO-5 would relocate sensitive species, if found, according to a capture/relocation plan. MM BIO-6 would conduct a burrowing owl Take Avoidance Survey. MM BIO-7 would reduce impacts to desert kit fox. MM BIO-8 would reduce impacts to jurisdictional resources. MM BIO-9 would recontour temporarily impacted drainage features. MM BIO-10 requires a biological monitor to demark limit of disturbance boundaries. MM BIO-11 would require stabilization of graded areas to promote infiltration and reduce run-off potential.

Cultural Resources: Implementation of MM CUL-1, which would require a WEAP and hiring a Qualified Archaeologist and applicable Indian Tribe representative, and MM CUL-2, which would develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan for discoveries, would reduce impacts to less than significant. Additionally, MM TCR-1 and TCR-2 would reduce impacts to tribal cultural resources to less than significant.

Geology and Soils: Implementation of MM GEO-1 would require a Final Geotechnical Report and associated recommendations. Implementation of MM GEO-2 and GEO-3 would reduce impacts to paleontological resources to less than significant.

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

Comment letters received during the public review period indicated environmental concerns on the Project's potential impacts to the desert tortoise, cultural resources, and tribal cultural resources. These issues are addressed within the Draft EIR.

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

Responsible Agencies: Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Trustee Agencies: California Department of Fish and Wildlife