

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #

Project Title: Nipton Communication Site Project

Lead Agency: California Department of Fish and Wildlife Contact Person: Julia Karo
Mailing Address: 3602 Inland Empire Boulevard, Suite C-220 Phone: (909) 278-2950
City: Ontario Zip: 91764 County: Riverside

Project Location: County: San Bernardino City/Nearest Community: Nipton
Cross Streets: 10 miles south of CA-NV border/1.25 miles southwest of the junction of Interstate 15 and Nipton Road Zip Code: 92258
Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 35 ° 28 ' 03.0 " N / 115 ° 28 ' 10.0 " W Total Acres: 6.13 acres
Assessor's Parcel No.: 0573091115 (Tower Location); 057309116 (Road) Section: 33 Twp.: 16N Range: 14E Base: San Bernardino
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: Interstate 15 Waterways: Two unnamed ephemeral streams
Airports: None Railways: None Schools: None

Document Type:

CEQA: [] NOP [] Draft EIR NEPA: [] NOI Other: [] Joint Document
[] Early Cons [] Supplement/Subsequent EIR [] EA [] Final Document
[] Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) [] Draft EIS [] Other:
[] Mit Neg Dec Other:

Local Action Type:

[] General Plan Update [] Specific Plan [] Rezone [] Annexation
[] General Plan Amendment [] Master Plan [] Prezone [] Redevelopment
[] General Plan Element [] Planned Unit Development [] Use Permit [] Coastal Permit
[] Community Plan [] Site Plan [] Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) [] Other: Incidental Take Permit

Development Type:

[] Residential: Units Acres
[] Office: Sq.ft. Acres Employees Transportation: Type
[] Commercial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees Mining: Mineral
[] Industrial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees Power: Type MW
[] Educational: Waste Treatment: Type MGD
[] Recreational: Hazardous Waste: Type
[] Water Facilities: Type MGD Other: Telecommunication

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

[] Aesthetic/Visual [] Fiscal [] Recreation/Parks [] Vegetation
[] Agricultural Land [] Flood Plain/Flooding [] Schools/Universities [] Water Quality
[] Air Quality [] Forest Land/Fire Hazard [] Septic Systems [] Water Supply/Groundwater
[] Archeological/Historical [] Geologic/Seismic [] Sewer Capacity [] Wetland/Riparian
[] Biological Resources [] Minerals [] Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading [] Growth Inducement
[] Coastal Zone [] Noise [] Solid Waste [] Land Use
[] Drainage/Absorption [] Population/Housing Balance [] Toxic/Hazardous [] Cumulative Effects
[] Economic/Jobs [] Public Services/Facilities [] Traffic/Circulation [] Other:

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Federal Land: Resource/Land Management; Ivanpah Area of Critical Environmental Concern

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

The proposed Project would include construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning of a communication site, ancillary components, and an access road (totaling approximately 6.13 acres). The Project components, including the access road, would occur entirely on Bureau of Land Management-administered land. The Project would be a multi-tenant wireless communication facility designed to accommodate a minimum of four national carriers, as well as government agencies including police, fire, and highway patrol. The Project is within the California Desert Conservation Area Plan Utility Corridor "BB," which permits the expansion of utility facilities for the purpose of telecommunication, electricity, gas, water, and other commodities.
Construction is anticipated to take 4 months, and would likely occur from late 2022 to early 2023. During construction, a new extension of the existing access road (8,953 feet long by 14 feet wide) entering the communication site would be constructed to accommodate construction equipment. The staging area, an already disturbed area, is located adjacent to the I-15/Nipton Road interchange and is currently used for vehicle parking. Direct permanent impacts of Project construction would occur to 5.82 acres. Upon completion of construction, temporary disturbance areas would be restored.
The Applicant has applied for an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the Mojave desert tortoise (Gopherus agassizii). The ITP, if issued by CDFW subject to certain conditions, would remain in effect for 30 years. In addition, the Applicant submitted a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement notification to CDFW for a term of 5 years or less. CDFW, consistent with their obligation as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency, has analyzed and disclosed the environmental effects of the proposed Project as part of the "whole of the action" in the Draft IS/MND.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # <u>8</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # <u>6</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # <u>6</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission | |

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date March 25, 2022 Ending Date April 24, 2022

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>Dudek</u>	Applicant: <u>InterConnect Towers, LLC</u>
Address: <u>605 Third Street</u>	Address: <u>27762 Antonio Parkways, #471</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Encinitas, CA 92024</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Ladera Ranch, California 92694</u>
Contact: <u>Wendy Worthey</u>	Phone: <u>(202) 255-7777</u>
Phone: <u>619.890.2762</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: _____ **Date:** 3/16/2022

DocuSigned by:
Richard Burg
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Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.