

California Department of Transportation

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

April 16 2024

April 15, 2024

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

11-IMP-86
PM 31.288

VEGA SES 6 Solar and Battery Storage Project
DEIR/SCH# 2022070146

Mr. David Black
Planner IV
Imperial County, Planning and Development Services Department
801 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

Dear Mr. Black:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the VEGA SES 6 Solar and Battery Storage Project (SCH#2022070146) located near State Route 86 (SR-86). The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities.

Caltrans has the following comments:

Design

The following Caltrans project has a footprint passing by the VEGA SES 6 Solar and Battery Storage Project area:

- Caltrans Project ID # 1123000001 Broadband Project
 - o This broadband project is still in early design phase and scheduled to be delivered by the end of the year (2024).
 - o Construction is scheduled to start in the beginning of 2025.
 - o Fiber Optic conduit line running under IMP-086 in State Right-of-Way (R/W) North of the Brawley Bypass at SR-86 and SR-78 (Postmile Start R24.052) continuing through the Imperial County/Riverside County line (Postmile end 67.824).

Right-of-Way Utilities

- It is also understood by our agency that no new utility crossings on State Facilities will occur as a result of this project. However, any work performed within Caltrans' R/W will require discretionary review and approval by Caltrans and an encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans' R/W prior to construction. As part of the encroachment permit process, the applicant must provide an approved final environmental document including the California Environmental Quality Act determination addressing any environmental impacts within the Caltrans' R/W, and any corresponding technical studies. Per Business and Profession Code 8771, perpetuation of survey monuments by a licensed land surveyor is required, if they are being destroyed by any construction.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Charlie Lecourtois, LDR Coordinator, at (619) 985-4766 or by e-mail sent to Charlie.Lecourtois@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Melina Pereira

MELINA PEREIRA
Acting Branch Chief
Local Development Review