

To: Office of Planning and Research
 PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 County Clerk County of Tulare

From: University of California, Berkeley
 Physical & Environmental Planning
 200 A&E Building
 Berkeley, California 94720

**Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination
 in Compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resource Code.**

State Clearinghouse Number: 2022080290

Project Title: PG&E Remote Grid Installation Project at Whitaker’s Forest Research Station

Project Applicant: University of California, Berkeley

Parties Undertaking Project: Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)

Project Location: University of California, Berkeley – Whitaker’s Forest Research Station

County: Tulare County

Project Description: The Project would install a new remote solar micro-grid, referred to as a standalone power system (SPS), at the Whitaker’s Forest Research Station within Whitaker’s Forest. Whitaker’s Forest is owned and managed by UC Berkeley and surrounded by public forest land in Tulare County, California. Once installed, the Project would provide existing residential structures on-site with a consistent and reliable source of electricity that would replace the need for the existing overhead electric distribution lines. PG&E will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the facility. The Project consists of a 12-panel solar array mounted on the roof of a new shipping container. Supporting infrastructure includes battery storage, a new driveway, and a new underground conduit between the solar array and residential structures. The Project is part of PG&E’s Remote Grids Pilot Program, a program within PG&E’s Community Wildfire Safety Program.

The Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) analyzed the potential environmental effects of implementation of the Project with regard to the following environmental topic areas: Aesthetics; Agriculture/Forestry Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Energy; Geology and Soils; Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Land Use and Planning; Mineral Resources; Noise; Population and Housing; Public Services; Recreation; Transportation; Tribal and Cultural Resources; Utilities and Service Systems; Wildfire; Mandatory Findings of Significance. Based on the analysis in the MND, it was determined that, for all resource areas, the Project would not result in any significant environmental effects that cannot be mitigated to less than significant levels.

This Notice of Determination is to advise that the University of California Lead Agency has approved the above-described project on *December 16, 2022*, and has made the following determinations:

1. The Project would have no impact, or a less than significant impact with the adoption and incorporation of Project-level Mitigation Measures, best management practices, and species avoidance and protection measures within the responsibility and jurisdiction of the University of California, Berkeley.
2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation Measures were made a condition of approval of the Project and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been prepared. All relevant Mitigation Measures will be monitored pursuant to the MMRP.
4. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

Dated Received for filing at OPR:

This is to certify that the final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the general public at: University of California, Berkeley, Physical & Environmental Planning Office, 200 A&E Building, Berkeley, CA 94720, Attn: Raphael Breines.



Signature: _____
Wendy Hillis
Title: Campus Architect, Assistant Vice Chancellor
Date: *December 16, 2022*

Dated Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21082 and 21087, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2019