

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND HEARING ON
THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
FOR THE PROPOSED CHALAN SOLAR AND STORAGE PROJECT**

This is to advise that the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has prepared an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below. As mandated by State law, the minimum public review period for this document is 45 days.

PROJECT TITLE: Bullhead Solar Project, By EDF Renewables, LLC; GPA No. 8, Map No. 214; CUP No. 48, Map No. 214; CUP No. 49, Map No. 214; Ag Exclusion Map No. 214; SPA No. 42, Map No. 231; SPA No. 43, Map 231; ZCC No. 158, Map No. 231; CUP No. 121, Map No. 231; CUP No. 122, Map No. 231; Vacation of Public Access Easements 03 098 231, Map No. 231; SPA No. 35, Map No. 232; SPA No. 36, Map No. 232; ZCC No. 36, Map No. 232; CUP No. 49, Map No. 232; CUP No. 50, Map No. 232.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The project site is located within Section 1 of Township 9 North, Range 14 West; Sections 5 and 6 of Township 9 North, Range 13 West; and Sections 31, 32, and 33 of Township 10 North, Range 13W in the San Bernardino Base and Meridian (SBB&M) along Dawn Road off Sierra Hwy 14 between 105th Street West and 75th Street West, north of Favorito Avenue and South of Champagne Avenue. The project site is just south of the City of Rosamond and would connect to the Big Beau Solar site via private road. Other communities in the vicinity of the project site include the cities of Lancaster, Palmdale, and Neenach in Los Angeles County, which are roughly 17 miles southeast, 24 miles southeast, and 18 miles southwest of the project, respectively. Edwards Air Force Base is 22 miles east of the project's eastern boundary.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The document and documents referenced in the Draft EIR are available for review at the Planning Natural Resources Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301 or on the Departmental website (<https://kernplanning.com/planning/environmental-documents/>).

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT: Kern County is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in the Draft EIR. You may comment by providing testimony at the public hearing on:

DATE: February 8, 2024
TIME: 7:00 P.M. or soon thereafter
LOCATION: Chambers of the Board of Supervisors
Kern County Administrative Center, First Floor
1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301

HOW TO COMMENT: You may provide testimony at the public hearing on the date and time specified above or provide written comments prior to the close of public comment period on **January 15, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.** to:

**Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department
ATTN: Janice Mayes, Planner III
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Phone: (661) 862-8793
E-mail: majesj@kerncounty.com**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Bullhead Solar Project (proposed project) involves the construction and operation of a solar facility on approximately 1343 acres comprised of 22 private parcels, including PV panels, telecommunications towers, inverter stations, transformer systems, transmission lines, substations, and internal roads, necessary to generate up to 270 megawatts (MW) of renewable electrical energy with a Battery Energy Storage System capable of storing approximately 270 MW, or 1,080 megawatt-hours (MWh) of energy, located on approximately 25 acres of the project site. The project is proposed by EDF Renewable, LLC, and would be developed near the existing BigBeau Solar Project.

Implementation of the project as proposed includes the following requests:

1. General Plan Amendment No. 8, Map No. 214, to change the Circulation Element of Kern County General Plan Map to eliminate future road reservations on section and mid-section lines, thus eliminating solar facility installation setbacks in Sections 31, 32, and 33, Township 10 North/Range 13 West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian (SBB&M);
2. Conditional Use Permit No. 48, Map No. 214 for construction and operation of a solar facility and associated infrastructure, including roads and a battery energy storage system;
3. Conditional Use Permit No. 49, Map No. 214 for installation of a telecommunications tower in support of solar facility operation;
4. Exclusion from Agricultural Preserve, Map No. 214 to remove approximately 842 acres from Agricultural Preserve 24, in support of the solar facility construction and operation;
5. Specific Plan Amendment No. 42, Map 231, to change the Circulation Element of the Willow Springs Specific Plan to eliminate future road reservations on section and mid-section lines, thus eliminating solar facility installation setbacks in Section 6, Township 9 North and Range 10 West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian (SBB&M);
6. Specific Plan Amendment No. 43, Map 231, to remove the 4.4 (Comprehensive Planning Area) designation of the Willow Springs Specific Plan to eliminate the need for future residential or industrial infrastructure development at the solar facility;
7. Zone Change No. 158, Map No. 231, to change zoning from E (2 ½) RS MH FPS (Estate (2 ½) Residential Suburban/Mobile Home Combining/Floodplain Secondary Combining), E (5) RS MH FPS (Estate (5) Residential Suburban/Mobile Home Combining/Floodplain Secondary Combining), and E (5) RS FPS (Estate Residential Suburban/Floodplain Secondary Combining) to A FPS (Exclusive Agricultural, Floodplain Secondary) district;
8. Conditional Use Permit No. 121, Map No. 231 for construction and operation of a solar facility and associated infrastructure, including roads and a battery energy storage system;
9. Conditional Use Permit No. 122, Map No. 231 for installation of a telecommunications tower in support of solar facility operations;
10. Vacation of Public Access Easements 03 098 231, Map No. 231 to remove easements and eliminate internal setbacks for the solar facility;
11. Specific Plan Amendment No. 35, Map No. 232, to remove the 4.4 (Comprehensive Plan) designation of the Willow Springs Specific Plan, on approximately 160 acres, to eliminate the need for future development of infrastructure on the solar facility site; Page 3 of 3 Bullhead Solar Project;
12. Specific Plan Amendment No. 36, Map No. 232 to change the Circulation Element of the Willow Springs Specific Plan, to eliminate future road reservations and eliminate solar facility installation setbacks at Section 1, Township 9 North/Range 10 West;
13. Zone Change No. 36, Map No. 232, to change zoning from E (2 ½) to A FPS (Exclusive Agricultural, Floodplain Secondary) district;
14. Conditional Use Permit No. 50, Map No. 232 for construction and operation of a solar facility and associated infrastructure, including roads and a battery energy storage system;
15. Conditional Use Permit No. 49, Map No. 232 for installation of a telecommunications tower in support of solar facility operations;

To allow the construction and operation of the Bullhead Solar Project, pursuant to Section 19.12.030E of the Kern County Zoning Ordinance.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: Air Quality (Project and Cumulative); Biological Resources (Cumulative); Wildfire (Cumulative); Aesthetics (Project and Cumulative)

LORELEI H. OVIATT, AICP, Director
Planning and Natural Resources Department

To be published once only on next available date and as soon as possible

MOJAVE DESERT NEWS

JKM (11/30/23)

cc: County Clerk (2) (with fee)
Environmental Status Board
LiUNA
Supervisory District No. 2