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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 #: 2022110558

Project Title: Pelican's Jaw Hybrid Solar Project by Pelican's Jaw Solar LLC

Lead Agency: Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department

Contact Name: Terrance Smalls

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Project Location: Lost Hills area (*City*) Kern (*County*)

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

Proposal to construct and operate a photovoltaic (PV) solar facility and associated infrastructure to generate up to 500 megawatts (MW) of renewable electrical energy on X acres of privately-owned land. The project will include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) capable of storing approximately 2,000 megawatt hours (MWh) of energy within approximately 100 acres of the overall project site.
Implementation of the project as proposed includes the following requests:
a) Conditional Use Permit (CUP No. 3, Map No. 5) to allow for the construction and operation of solar facilities with a total generating capacity of approximately 500 MW, and up to 2,000 MWh of energy storage located on an area encompassing no more than 100 acres as an accessory use, within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District pursuant to Section 19.12.030.G of the Kern County Zoning Ordinance.
b) General Plan Amendment to the Circulation Element of the Kern County General Plan (GPA No. 2, Map No. 5) to remove future road reservations on the section and mid-section lines within the project boundaries.

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

Impacts to Aesthetics would be significant and unavoidable, even with mitigation. Implementation of Mitigation Measures MM 4.1-1 through MM 4.1-4 for the solar field would help to reduce visual impacts associated with the proposed project by limiting vegetation removal, planting native vegetation, providing privacy fencing, reducing the visibility of project features, and ensuring that the solar field site is kept free of debris and trash. Even with implementation of Mitigation Measures MM 4.1-1 through MM 4.1-4 for the solar field, project level impacts to visual character and quality would remain significant and unavoidable. Construction- and decommissioning-generated emissions for the project, when considered cumulatively along with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects located within the project area, may exceed SJVAPCD's significance thresholds. Temporary cumulative regional air quality impacts associated with short term construction and decommissioning activities would be considered significant and unavoidable. The proposed project, in conjunction with other related projects, would result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource or a locally important mineral resource recovery site and would contribute to would contribute to cumulative impacts to mineral resources. Even with Mitigation Measure MM 4.12-1, the cumulative impacts to mineral resources would be significant and unavoidable. As development increases within the undeveloped areas of Kern County, impacts to biological resources within impacts to biological resources within the region are increasing on a cumulative level. Even with the implementation of project-specific Mitigation Measures the cumulative impacts to biological resources would be significant and unavoidable.

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

N/A

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

N/A