



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Central Region  
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Fresno, California 93710  
(559) 243-4005  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor  
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



June 14, 2023

Eric Hughes  
County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Planning & Building  
976 Osos Street, Room 200  
San Luis Obispo, California 93408

**Subject: Mitigated Negative Declaration and Supporting Initial Study  
Caballero CA Storage, LLC Battery Energy Storage System Project (Project)  
San Luis Obispo County  
State Clearinghouse No. 2023050514**

Dear Eric Hughes:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and its supporting Initial Study (collectively, IS/MND) from your agency on May 30, 2023. The IS/MND had been prepared by your agency acting as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the above referenced Project.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, CDFW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under Fish and Game Code.

After reviewing the IS/MND, CDFW concurs with the biological resources related analyses and measures proposed in the IS/MND and recommends that all such measures be carried forward into the final MND for adoption. CDFW has determined that the biological resource mitigation measures as currently documented in the IS/MND are sufficient for mitigation of potential Project-related impacts to special status species.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e)). Accordingly, please report any special-status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to CNDDDB. The CNDDDB field survey form can be found at the following link: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Submitting-Data>. The completed form can be mailed electronically to CNDDDB at the following email address: [CNDDDB@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:CNDDDB@wildlife.ca.gov). The types of information reported to CNDDDB can be found at the following link: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Plants-and-Animals>.

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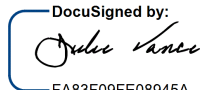
## FILING FEES

If it is determined that the Project has the potential to impact biological resources, an assessment of filing fees will be necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089).

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Project to assist the County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Planning and Building in identifying and mitigating the Project's impacts on biological resources.

More information on survey and monitoring protocols for sensitive species can be found at CDFW's website (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Survey-Protocols>). If you have any questions, please contact Steven Hulbert, Senior Environmental Scientist Specialist, at the address provided on this letterhead, by telephone at (559) 575-6415, or by electronic mail at [Steven.hulbert@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Steven.hulbert@wildlife.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
FA83F09FE08945A...  
Julie A. Vance  
Regional Manager

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