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**PLANNING AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Planning  
Community Development  
Administrative Operations

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND HEARING ON  
THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE  
CARBONFRONTIER CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE (CCS) PROJECT**

This is to advise that the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has prepared a Draft 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:** Draft EIR CarbonFrontier CCS Project by Aera Energy, LLC (PP23402); ZCC No. 4, Map 51; ZCC No. 3, Map 74; ZCC No. 4, Map 75; CUP No. 9, Map 51; CUP No. 10, Map 51; CUP No. 7, Map 74; CUP No. 9, Map 74; CUP No. 7, Map 75; CUP No. 11, Map 75; CUP No. 9, Map.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The proposed project site is located within the Central Valley portion of unincorporated Kern County and within the administrative boundaries of the North and South Belridge oilfields, which is currently owned and operated by Aera Energy, LLC. The proposed project is approximately 12,362 surface acres located on Sections 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 34, 35, and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 20 East; Sections 1, 2, and 12 of Township 28 South, Range 20 East; Sections 6, 7, 17, 18, 20, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, and 34 of Township 28 South Range 21 East; and Sections 2, 3, and 4 of Township 29 South, Range 21 East of the Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM). The North and South Belridge oilfields are contiguous and located west of Highway 33. The Conditional Use Permit boundary, which includes the CCS Surface Land Area and Underground Storage Area (pore space) for the proposed project are approximately seven (7) miles southwest of the community of Lost Hills. Aera Energy, LLC. owns or controls the surface and pore space for approximately 12,268.57 acres with approximately 93.01 acres being provisionally included as owned by others.

**DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY:** The Draft EIR and the documents referenced in it are available for public review at the Planning and Natural Resources Department, which is located at 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, in Bakersfield, CA 93301 or on the Department website at: <https://kernplanning.com/environmental-doc/carbonfrontier-ccs-project>

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The required Draft EIR public review period is 45 days.

**June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Written comments** may be submitted to the project planner identified below prior to the close of the Draft EIR public review period on **August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.** to:

**Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department**  
**ATTN: Keith Alvidrez, Planner II**  
**2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301**  
**Phone: (661) 862-5015**  
**E-mail: [CF-EIRComments@kerncounty.com](mailto:CF-EIRComments@kerncounty.com)**

**PUBLIC HEARING:** A public hearing has been scheduled with the Kern County Planning Commission to consider a recommendation on the project and solicit 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 or additional written comments on:

**DATE:** September 12<sup>th</sup>, 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

After consideration by the Planning Commission, a public hearing will be scheduled for the Kern County Board of Supervisors for final consideration and action. Comments may be provided at that hearing or prior to any action by the Board of Supervisors on any matter. The Board of Supervisors decision is final.

If you challenge the action taken on this request in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at this public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning and Natural Resources Department at, or prior to, the public hearing.

**ASSISTANCE:** If you have any questions about the proposed project or issues accessing the document, please contact the project planner directly :

**Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department**  
**ATTN: Keith Alvidrez, Planner II**  
**2700 “M” Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301**  
**Phone: (661) 862-5015**  
**E-mail: [AlvidrezK@kerncounty.com](mailto:AlvidrezK@kerncounty.com)**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The proposed project would construct and operate a CCS facility for permanent underground storage of up to 40 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the storage space (referred to as the 64 Zone reservoir) on approximately 12,362 surface acres in the North and South Belridge oilfield in unincorporated Kern County. The CCS facility would be comprised of four (4) CO<sub>2</sub> capture sites which consist of one (1) pre-combustion and three (3) post-combustion sources, up to nine (9) Class VI underground injection control (UIC) wells, up to eight (8) monitoring wells, and approximately 14.5 miles of CO<sub>2</sub> facility pipelines.

The proposed CCS project would capture CO<sub>2</sub> from an initial source of existing produced gas streams (pre-combustion) and emissions from existing stationary sources (post-combustion) within the South Belridge Oil Field and transport the CO<sub>2</sub> through a facility pipeline to the North Belridge oilfield for injection at up to the nine (9) dedicated Class VI UIC wells. The proposed CO<sub>2</sub> underground storage space, which is approximately 2,290 acres in size (maximum modeled CO<sub>2</sub> plume area), would be located within the North Belridge oilfield within the CCS Surface Land Area rights held by Aera Energy and other private owners. Oil and gas production activities would cease within the established CCS underground geologic formation where CO<sub>2</sub> would be stored, prior to commencement of the proposed project.

Implementation of the proposed project includes the following requests :

- Zone Change Cases (ZCC No. 4, Map No 51, ZCC No. 3, Map No. 74, ZCC No. 4, Map No. 75) from A-1 (limited Agriculture) to A (Exclusive Agriculture) on approximately 1,737 acres and from

A/NR (Natural Resources – 20-acre minimum) to A (Exclusive Agriculture) on approximately 47 acres.

- Conditional Use Permits (CUP No. 9, Map 51, CUP No. 10, Map 51; CUP No. 7, Map 74; CUP No. 9, Map 74; CUP No. 7, Map 75; CUP No. 11, Map 75; CUP No. 9, Map 96) to permit the construction and operation of the CCS facility on approximately 12,362 acres with site installation of nine (9) Class VI UIC injection wells, up to eight (8) CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring wells, one (1) downhole seismic monitoring station, transport of CO<sub>2</sub> by facility pipeline, and the construction and operation of accessory infrastructure for CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity of up to 40 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS:** Anticipated significant and unavoidable impacts on Aesthetics, Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gases, Hydrology and Water Quality (Water Supply), Mineral Resources, Noise, and Utilities and Service Systems (Water Supply).

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

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

**THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN**  
**TAFT MIDWAY DRILLER**

KTA (06/28/24)

cc: County Clerk (2) (with fee)  
Environmental Status Board  
Supervisorial District No. 4