

# 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 #: 2023060293

Project Title: Draft EIR CarbonFrontier CCS Project by Aera Energy, LLC

Lead Agency: Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department

Contact Name: Keith Alvidrez

Email: AlvidrezK@kerncounty.com

Phone Number: 661-862-5015

Project Location: Unincorporated

Kern County

*City*

*County*

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

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 4 CO<sub>2</sub> capture sites which consist of 1 pre-combustion and 3 post-combustion sources, up to 9 Class VI underground injection control (UIC) wells, up to 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 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.

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

Potentially significant adverse environmental impacts that would result from the project are evaluated in Chapter 4, Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures. The mitigation measures and impact conclusions are summarized in Chapter 1, Executive Summary, which includes a summary chart of impact determinations and mitigation for all topic areas. This EIR concludes that the project has the potential to cause significant environmental impacts in the following categories: Aesthetics (cumulative), Agriculture and Forest Resources (cumulative), Air Quality (project and cumulative), Biological Resources (cumulative), Cultural Resources (cumulative), Energy Resources (cumulative), Geology and Soils (cumulative, seismic activity), Greenhouse Gas Emissions (project and cumulative), Hydrology and Water Quality (cumulative, groundwater supply), Mineral Resources (project and cumulative), Noise (cumulative), and Utilities and Service Systems (cumulative, water supply).

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

Areas of controversy were identified through written agency and public comments received during the scoping period. Public comments received during the scoping period are summarized in Chapter 2, Introduction, and provided in Appendix A-2. In summary, the following issues were identified during scoping and are addressed in the appropriate sections of Chapter 4, Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures:

- \* Coordination and consultation with California Native tribes and compliance with Assembly Bill 52 and SB 18
- \* Special status species and rare biological resources present in the project area as well as federally listed species
- \* Evaluation of construction and operational emissions
- \* Air quality concerns for criteria pollutants and safety of operations
- \* Concerns about the use of CCS to capture GHG from fossil fuel sources

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

#### Federal

- \* EPA UIC – Class VI Permit
- \* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Section 10 Incidental Take Permit and Habitat Conservation Plan (if required)

#### State

- \* California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- \* Section 2081 Permit (State-listed endangered species) (if required)
- \* 401 Water Quality Certification Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- \* Waste Discharge Requirements
- \* National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Construction
- \* State Fire Marshal Approval of CO2 Pipeline
- \* California Department of Conservation
- \* California Department of Conservation, Geologic Energy Management Division
- \* California Air Resources Board (CARB)
- \* Permit for Transport of Oversized Loads (if required)

#### Local

- \* Certification of Final EIR
- \* Adoption of 15091 Findings of Fact and 15093 Statement of Overriding Considerations
- \* Adoption of Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
- \* Approval of Grading Permits
- \* Approval of Kern County Building Permits
- \* Approval of Kern County Encroachment Permits (if required)
- \* San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - Approval of Fugitive Dust Control Plan and Authority to Construct