



**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Steve Maxey
Director

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DATE: October 5, 2023

Equal Opportunity Employer

TO: County Clerk, State Clearinghouse, Responsible and
Trustee Agencies, and Interested Persons

FROM: Tiffany Ho, Deputy Director of Planning
Tiffany@countyofmerced.com
(209) 385-7654 ext. 4407

**SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Adopt an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Conditional
Use Permit No. CUP21-015 ("Canyon Road Solar Energy Project")**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County of Merced intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and supporting Initial Study (IS) for Conditional Use Permit No. CUP21-015 ("Canyon Road Solar Energy Project"), described below, prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

LEAD AGENCY: County of Merced, Community & Economic Development Department
2222 "M" Street, 2nd Floor, Merced CA 95340

CONTACT PERSON: Tiffany Ho, Deputy Director of Planning (209) 385-7654 ext. 4407
Tiffany.Ho@countyofmerced.com

PROJECT DESCRIPTION & LOCATION: The project is a request to construct an approximately 5-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) electric-generating facility (facilities) on approximately 33 acres of the 318-acre parcel. The facilities would consist of a ground-mounted, single-axis tracking system featuring 13,905 PV panels and 40 string inverters, and a battery energy storage system (BESS). The project site is located on the northside of Canyon Road, approximately 0.75 miles west of Interstate-5 (I-5) in the Los Banos area, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 088-020-039. The project site is designated as Foothill Pasture in the General Plan and zoned A-2 (Exclusive Agricultural).

PUBLIC REVIEW & COMMENTS: October 6, 2023 to November 6, 2023

The IS/MND is being circulated for a 30-day public review and comment period. Any written comments on the IS/MND must be received at the above address or above email no later than 5:00 PM on the end date of the public review period.

Copies of the IS/MND are available to review at the above address Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM and on the County's website at www.countyofmerced.com/414/Environmental-Documents.

The Merced County Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider adoption of the MND at a future date to be determined. This meeting will be separately noticed when the date and time are determined.

Buildings and Safety Division
Robert Lindsey, Deputy

**Economic and Castle Airport
Development Division**
Mark Mimms, Deputy

**Environmental Health
Division**
Larry Fay, Interim Deputy

Planning Division
Tiffany Ho, Deputy

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