



**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Steve Maxey
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Equal Opportunity Employer

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A RECIRCULATED 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 recirculated 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).

The project was initially noticed and circulated from October 5, 2023, to November 6, 2023. The document is being recirculated to address comments related to biological resources and transportation mitigations.

PUBLIC REVIEW & COMMENTS: August 19, 2024 to September 19, 2024

The IS/MND is being re-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 recirculated 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 recirculated MND at a future date to be determined. This meeting will be separately noticed when the date and time are determined.