Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613 SCH# For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 Project Title: Lithium Valley Specific Plan Contact Person: Diana Robinson/Jim Minnick Lead Agency: Imperial County Phone: 442-265-1726 Mailing Address: 801 Main Street City: El Centro County: Imperial Project Location: County: Imperial City/Nearest Community: Calipatria/ Niland/ Brawley Cross Streets: NA Zip Code: NA Section: _____ Twp.: Assessor's Parcel No.: Range: State Hwy #: 111 Waterways: Salton Sea, Alamo River, New River Within 2 Miles: Railways: Calexico Subdivision UPRR Schools: Calipatria High, Fremont Primary Airports: Calipatria Municipal **Document Type:** CEQA: NOP Draft EIR NOI Joint Document Supplement/Subsequent EIR EA Early Cons Final Document Draft EIS (Prior SCH No.) Other: ☐ Neg Dec ☐ Mit Neg Dec FONSI **Local Action Type:** General Plan Update Specific Plan Rezone Annexation General Plan Amendment Master Plan Prezone ☐ Redevelopment General Plan Element ☐ Planned Unit Development ☐ Use Permit Coastal Permit ☐ Community Plan Site Plan ☐ Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) ☐ Other: **Development Type:** Residential: Units _____ Acres __ Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres ____ Employees____ Transportation: Type _ Commercial:Sq.ft. Acres Employees Mining: Mineral ☐ Industrial: Sq.ft. ____ Acres ___ Employees ___ ☐ Power: Type _____ Waste Treatment: Type Educational: MGD Recreational: Hazardous Waste:Type Other: Specific Plan ☐ Water Facilities: Type **Project Issues Discussed in Document:** Aesthetic/Visual Fiscal ■ Recreation/Parks ■ Vegetation ■ Flood Plain/Flooding ■ Schools/Universities ■ Water Quality Agricultural Land ■ Air Quality Forest Land/Fire Hazard ■ Septic Systems ■ Water Supply/Groundwater Archeological/Historical ■ Geologic/Seismic Sewer Capacity ■ Wetland/Riparian ■ Biological Resources Minerals ■ Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading Growth Inducement Coastal Zone Noise ■ Solid Waste ■ Land Use ■ Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous ■ Cumulative Effects ☐ Economic/Jobs ■ Public Services/Facilities ■ Traffic/Circulation Other: **Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:** Recreational/Open Space; Agriculture; Government/Special Public; Residential Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

The Project aims to develop a Specific Plan (SP) to facilitate the existing and future renewable energy development, lithium extraction, and associated infrastructure, commercial, and industrial uses within the SP Area (SPA). The agricultural properties in the SPA have historically been utilized for crop cultivation and are equipped with irrigation ditches for water supply. The Salton Sea, as the primary water feature in the County, is a closed basin with a drainage area of 8,000 square miles. Any construction near the Salton Sea below the 220-foot contour necessitates a permit. The Project aligns with federal and state objectives for renewable energy sources and the procurement of raw materials for battery-powered vehicles. The development of the SP will provide a framework and guidance for the necessary infrastructure and facilities to achieve these objectives.

By leveraging the unique environmental characteristics of the Imperial Valley, this Project aims to harness renewable energy resources, extract lithium and potentially other available minerals, develop manufacturing and distribution of related products (electric batteries, capacitors, vehicles, components etc..), other innovative renewable resources industries, and develop the associated infrastructure in a sustainable and environmentally conscious manner. Through careful planning and adherence to regulatory requirements, the Project seeks to foster economic growth, support clean energy initiatives, and preserve the region's natural resources and biodiversity.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S". Air Resources Board Office of Historic Preservation Office of Public School Construction Boating & Waterways, Department of California Emergency Management Agency Parks & Recreation, Department of Pesticide Regulation, Department of California Highway Patrol **Public Utilities Commission** Caltrans District # Caltrans Division of Aeronautics Regional WQCB # X Resources Agency Caltrans Planning Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of Central Valley Flood Protection Board S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy Coastal Commission San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy San Joaquin River Conservancy Colorado River Board Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy Conservation, Department of X State Lands Commission Corrections, Department of Delta Protection Commission SWRCB: Clean Water Grants _____ SWRCB: Water Quality Education, Department of X Energy Commission SWRCB: Water Rights Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Fish & Game Region # ____ Food & Agriculture, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of Water Resources, Department of General Services, Department of Other: _____ Health Services, Department of Housing & Community Development Native American Heritage Commission Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency) Starting Date December 7, 2023 Ending Date January 12, 2024 Lead Agency (Complete if applicable): Applicant: Imperial County Consulting Firm: Dudek Address: 801 Main Street Address: 605 Third Street City/State/Zip: El Centro CA 92243 City/State/Zip: Encinitas CA 92024 Contact: Matt Valerio Phone: 442-265-1726 Phone: 760-479-4145 Date: 12-5-2023 Signature of Lead Agency Representative: Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with and "X".