

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

February 20, 2024

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Feb 23 2024

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Jocelyn Swain, Senior Planner
City of Lancaster
44933 Fern Ave
Lancaster, CA 93534

RE: Conditional Use Permit No. 23-
013/Stroud Energy Storage Project
(MND)
SCH #2024010699
GTS #07-LA-2024-04434
Vic. LA-138/PM 30.11

Dear Jocelyn Swain,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project. The proposed project consists of the construction and operation of a lithium-ion battery energy storage facility capable of delivering up to 250 megawatts (MWs) of energy storage capacity and associated ancillary services into the California electric grid. The proposed project would connect to the adjacent existing Southern California Edison (SCE) Antelope Substation and, among other design features, include upgrades for access roads, security fencing and lighting. The proposed project will be monitored and operated remotely 24 hours per day, 7 days per week from an off-site control center with no permanent on-site operations and maintenance personnel. Operating staff in crews of two to four will visit the site bi-weekly and as needed. The project site is currently vacant and the properties to the north and east are also vacant. The property to the west and south is partially vacant and partially developed with the SCE Antelope Substation.

After reviewing the MND, Caltrans has the following comments:

Currently the project is designed to be accessed directly from Avenue J and the roadways in the general vicinity are already improved. As no new roadways would be constructed, impacts on circulation systems would be less than significant.

In July 2020, the City of Lancaster adopted standards and thresholds for analyzing projects with respect to vehicle miles traveled (VMT), which state that a project site generating fewer than 110 trips per day will not require a VMT analysis. The proposed project is anticipated to generate below the screening threshold of 110 trips per day. Therefore, impacts to VMT would be less than significant. For any community or city to best support California's transportation and livability goals, Caltrans encourages the Lead Agency to consider any potential measures to reduce vehicle trips generated in the routine transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials.

Additionally, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. Caltrans recommends large size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods.

If you have any questions, please contact project coordinator Anthony Higgins, at anthony.higgins@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS #07-LA-2024-04434.

Sincerely,

Frances Duong

Frances Duong
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse