

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



August 29, 2024

SCH #: 2024071095
GTS #: 04-MULTIPLE-2024-00404
GTS ID: 33486
Co/Rt/Pm: VAR/VAR/VAR

Tommy Alexander, Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: LSPGC Power the South Bay Project – Notice of Preparation (NOP) for a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Tommy Alexander:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the LSPGC Power the South Bay Project. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the July 2024 NOP.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The proposed project would improve the reliability of a California Independent System Operator (CAISO)-controlled grid located in the cities of Fremont, Milpitas, San José, and Santa Clara. The proposed project would construct two new high-voltage direct current terminals and associated new transmission lines which would connect the existing Pacific Gas & Electric Company Newark substation and the existing Silicon Valley Power Northern Receiving Station substation. The project runs parallel to Interstate (I)-880 and crosses State Route (SR)-237.

Construction-Related Impacts

Potential impacts to the State Right-of-Way (ROW) from project-related temporary access points should be analyzed. Mitigation for significant impacts due to construction and noise should be identified. Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation

Tommy Alexander, Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst

August 29, 2024

Page 2

permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)).

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' ROW requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. The project will likely require an encroachment policy exception for the portion of the facility crossing Caltrans ROW.

The checklist TR-0416 ([link](#)) is used to determine the appropriate Caltrans review process for encroachment projects. The Office of Encroachment Permit requires 100% complete design plans and supporting documents to review and circulate the permit application package. To obtain more information and download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)). Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Melissa Hernandez, Associate Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



MARLEY MATHEWS

Acting Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse