

**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION**

To:  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
PO Box 3044  
Sacramento CA 95812-3044

From: County of Humboldt  
Planning and Building Department  
3015 H Street  
Eureka CA 95501

County of Humboldt  
County Clerk  
  
825 Fifth Street  
Eureka CA 95501

Contact: Steven Lazar  
Telephone: (707)268-3741  
  
Email: slazar@co.humboldt.ca.us

Lead Agency (if different from above)  
Address:

Contact:  
Telephone:

Applicant: Norah Jaffan / EPD Solutions  
3333 Michelson Drive  
Irvine, CA 92614

APNs: 204-171-045, 204-171-047, 204-081-002, 204-081-006, 204-081-007, 204-171-001

Record No.: PLN-2020-16341

Subject: **Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.**

State Clearinghouse Number: 2024071264  
Project Title: North Coast Highway Solar Project

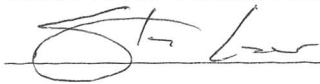
Project Location: The project site is located in an unincorporated area of Humboldt County, 1 mile south of the City of Fortuna, on land situated on the south side of State Route 36 between the communities of Alton and Hydesville, just west of the intersection of Highway 36 and River Bar Road on the property known as 2020 State Highway 36.

Project Description: A Conditional Use Permit is being requested to authorize construction and operation of a 2.8-megawatt solar photovoltaic power generation facility (solar facility) to produce renewable energy for the power grid. The automated facility would occupy an approximately 11-acre fenced area with arrays of solar panels, single-axis trackers, string inverters, transformers, and associated electrical equipment. The approximately 87-acre property is planned and zoned Agriculture Exclusive (AE) and managed as pasture. An existing private driveway provides access to the project site from State Highway 36. Approximately 300 feet of new road is proposed to be developed to connect with a new driveway encroachment along Highway 36, approximately 70 feet west of the existing driveway encroachment. A power line and poles will be run to the site along the driveway route, to allow interconnection to the nearby 12 kilovolt power distribution line located within the highway right-of-way near the driveway encroachment. Approximately 7 acres of the site will be occupied by the solar array. New impervious surfaces totaling approximately 1,500 square feet will be limited to the piles supporting the panel arrays and concrete pads below electrical equipment (approx. 1,060 ft.) Areas beneath the panel will remain vegetated and the project sponsor will maintain continual operation of agricultural uses on the property, including but not limited to sheep grazing, the keeping of honeybees, or planting of row crops, on a rotational basis. Site construction is expected to take approximately 4 months and operation will run for a minimum of 20 years under a power purchase agreement with Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA). Maintenance staff are expected to visit the site on a weekly basis following the start of operation.

This is to advise that the County of Humboldt as the Lead Agency has approved the above-described project on September 19, 2024 for which a Mitigated Negative Declaration was also adopted, and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project  will  will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2.  An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
 A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures  were  were not made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan  was  was not adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations  was  was not adopted for this project.
6. Findings  were  were not made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the adoption and responses and record of project approval, is available to the General Public at: Planning Division, 3015 H St, Eureka, CA 95501.

Signature: 

Date: 9/19/24

Title: Senior Planner

Date received for filing at OPR: