

## California Department of Transportation

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March 28, 2025

11-IMP-8  
PM 26.2  
Saavi Imperial Power  
NOP SCH 2025021072

Mr. David Black  
Imperial County Planning,  
801 Main Street  
El Centro, CA 92243

Dear Mr. Black:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the development review process for the Saavi Imperial Power Energy Storage facility located near Interstate (I-8). The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities.

Safety is one of Caltrans' strategic goals. Caltrans strives to make the year 2050 the first year without a single death or serious injury on California's roads. We are striving for more equitable outcomes for the transportation network's diverse users. To achieve these ambitious goals, we will pursue meaningful collaboration with our partners. We encourage the implementation of new technologies, innovations, and best practices that will enhance the safety on the transportation network. These pursuits are both ambitious and urgent, and their accomplishment involves a focused departure from the status quo as we continue to institutionalize safety in all our work.

Caltrans has the following comments:

### Traffic Analysis

If a Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) based Traffic Impact Study<sup>1</sup> (TIS) is provided for this project or required by the CEQA lead agency, please provide a copy to Caltrans for review.

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<sup>1</sup> California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) 2018. "Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA." [https://opr.ca.gov/docs/20190122-743\\_Technical\\_Advisory.pdf](https://opr.ca.gov/docs/20190122-743_Technical_Advisory.pdf)

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Please clarify the roadway access points to the project.

### **Hauling**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has discretionary authority with respect to highways under its jurisdiction and may, upon application and if good cause appears, issue a special permit to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum limitations specified in the California Vehicle Code. The Caltrans Transportation Permits Issuance Branch is responsible for the issuance of these special transportation permits for oversize/overweight vehicles on the State Highway network.

Additional information is provided online at:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/trafficops/permits/index.html>

### **Right-of-Way**

Per Business and Profession Code 8771, perpetuation of survey monuments by a licensed land surveyor is required, if they are being destroyed by any construction.

Any work performed within Caltrans' R/W will require discretionary review and approval by Caltrans and an encroachment permit will be required for any work within the Caltrans' R/W prior to construction. As part of the encroachment permit process, the applicant must provide approved final environmental documents for this project, corresponding technical studies, and necessary regulatory and resource agency permits. Specifically, CEQA determination or exemption. The supporting documents must address all environmental impacts within the Caltrans' R/W and address any impacts from avoidance and/or mitigation measures.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Roger Sanchez, LDR Coordinator, at (619) 987-1043 or by e-mail sent to [roger.sanchez-rangel@dot.ca.gov](mailto:roger.sanchez-rangel@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Rogelio Sanchez for*

KIMBERLY D. DODSON, GISP  
Branch Chief  
Local Development Review