

Exhibit to Agenda Item #7

Certify the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Country Acres Solar Project (Project) Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), including adoption of the Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations; adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project; and approve the Project.

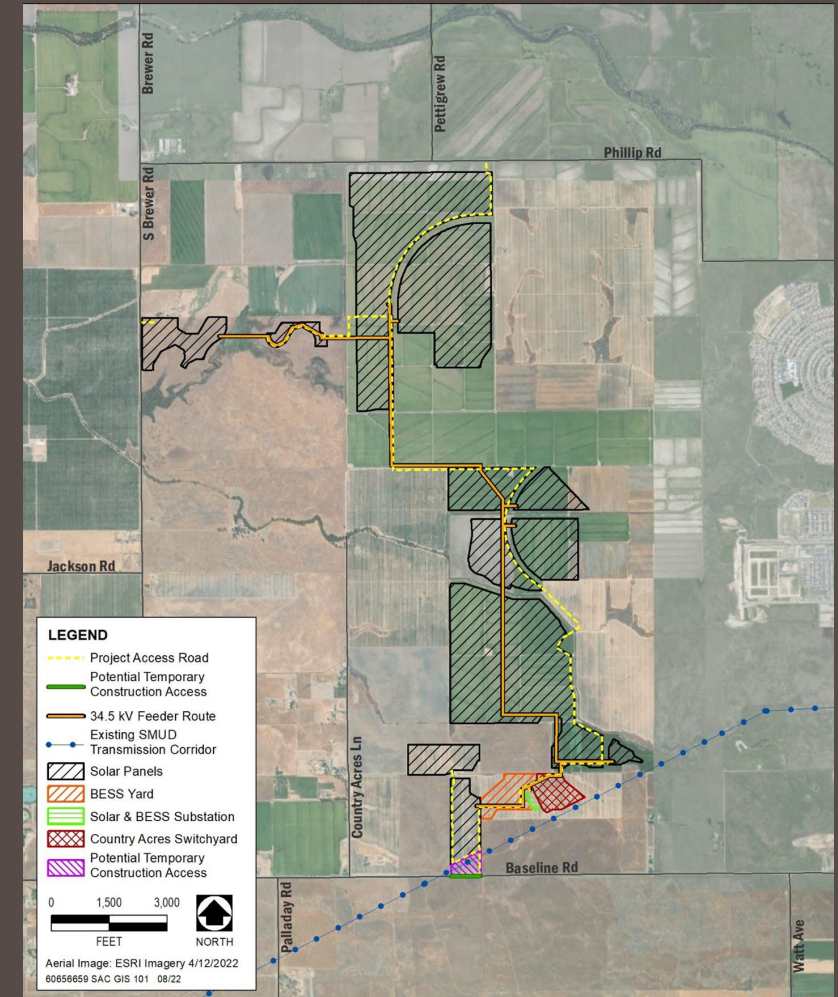
Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2023, scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m.

Auditorium, SMUD Headquarters Building

Project Overview

- Up to 344 MW_{ac} Solar Photovoltaic (PV) and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- Interconnect at SMUD transmission line adjacent to site
- ~ 910 acres to be leased (34 years)
- ~ 225 acres to be purchased
- Timing:
 - Environmental Impact Report/Permitting: 2021-2023
 - Engineering: 2022-2023
 - Construction: 2023-2025
 - Operational: 2025



Public Review Process – Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

- NOP 30-day public comment period (November 19 – December 21, 2021)
- Draft EIR 45-day public comment period (September 13 – October 28, 2022)
- Published at SMUD.org, Sacramento Bee, Placer Herald, Roseville Press Tribune & The Loomis News
- Property owners within ½ mile of project boundaries
- State/Federal Agencies and Tribes, School Districts, County Departments
- SMUD (HQ/ECOC), Placer County Community Development Resource Agency, Placer County Clerk, Roseville Public Library
- Public Meetings
 - Scoping Meeting – December 8, 2021
 - Draft EIR Public Meeting - October 13, 2022

Notice of Preparation Commenters

- Native American Heritage Commission
- United Auburn Indian Community
- California Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Placer County and Placer Conservation Authority
- Placer County Air Pollution Control District
- PG&E
- SMUD Customers Elia Bassin and Steve Schweigert
- Woodland Hills resident Sharon Webb



Draft EIR Commenters

- United States Fish & Wildlife Service
- California Department of Fish & Wildlife
- City of Roseville
- PG&E
- California Native Plant Society
- Alliance for Environmental Leadership
- Placer County Residents Michael Garabedian, Lyn Greenhill, and Tom Tribur
- Placer Conservation Authority (submitted April 18, 2023)
- Placer County (submitted April 19, 2023)



Alternatives Analysis

- Project alternatives analyzed
 - No project alternative
 - Wetlands reduction alternative
 - Farmland reduction alternative
- The preferred alternative is the project as described in this presentation and in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Report

Tribal Consultation under CEQA

- Initial outreach on August 25, 2021
- Tribes Contacted:
 - United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC)
 - Wilton Rancheria
 - Lone Band of Miwok Indians
 - Shingle Springs
- UAIC, Wilton Rancheria, and Shingle Springs requested consultation
- Site visit with UAIC on November 8, 2021 and Wilton Rancheria on November 10, 2021
- Regular updates during monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly Tribal consultation meetings
- Input on Tribal Cultural Resources section of EIR

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

The Project will implement 33 mitigation measures that will reduce all but two potentially significant impacts to a less-than-significant level.

- Mitigation Measures:
 - Agriculture (Significant and Unavoidable)
 - Air Quality (Significant and Unavoidable)
 - Biological Resources
 - Cultural Resources
 - Geology and Soils
 - Hazards and Hazardous Materials
 - Hydrology and Water Quality
 - Noise
 - Transportation
 - Tribal Cultural Resources
- Construction emissions of PM₁₀, NO_x, and loss of Important Farmland are Significant and Unavoidable



Statement of Overriding Considerations

- Sustainable power supply
- Diversifies SMUD's energy portfolio
- Reduces exposure to price volatility
- Adds additional 344 MW of power and 172 MW of storage of clean renewable solar energy
- Significant air quality benefits offsetting approximately 115,000 metric tons of carbon emissions annually, otherwise produced from fossil fuel facilities
- Critical to achieving a carbon-free energy portfolio by 2030

SMUD Board Alternatives

- Certify the EIR for the Country Acres Solar project, adopt the Findings, adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and approve the project
- Return to staff for further study
- Reject the proposal and CEQA analysis



Requested SMUD Board Action

- Certify the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Impact Report;
- Adopt the Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations
- Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and
- Approve the Project