

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE  
IRIS CLUSTER SOLAR FARM PROJECT

**September 30, 2014**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department, as lead agency, is circulating for public review a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Iris Cluster Solar Farm Project.

**Project Title:** Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Iris Cluster Solar Farm Project. (SCH 2014041091).

**Project Location:** The proposed Iris Cluster Solar Farm Project (Ferrell Solar Farm - CUP13-0054, Iris Solar Farm – CUP13-0055, Lyons Solar Farm- CUP13-0056, Rockwood Solar Farm – CUP13-0057 and the and collectively, the “Projects”) is located approximately 2 miles west of the City of Calexico, California on privately owned, undeveloped agricultural land encompassing approximately 1,422 acres, in southern Imperial County. The Projects are generally located between State Route 98 to the south, Kubler Road and Preston Road to the north, Weed Road to the east, and Brockman Road to the west.

**Project Description:** The Ferrell, Rockwood, Iris and Lyons Solar Projects submitted by 85JP 8ME, LLC involve the construction of four utility-scale photovoltaic (PV) or concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) solar facilities, on four non-contiguous independent sites encompassing approximately 1,422 acres. Each Project would include a ground mounted photovoltaic solar power generating system, supporting structures, inverter modules, pad mounted transformers, a water treatment system, plant control system, access roads and fencing, an O&M building, and an on-site substation. Each Project would have its own O&M building and on site substation(s); but may utilize shared facilities with one or more neighboring solar project(s). Each Project would also connect to a 230 kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line which may also be shared with one or more neighboring solar project(s). Each Project is proposed under a separate Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Additionally, the project will involve four Variances and cancellation of Williamson Act contracts for Assessor Parcel Numbers 059-050-001-000, 059-050-002-000, 059-050-003-000, and 059-120-001-000.

**Probable Environmental Effects:** Aesthetics; Agricultural Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Cumulative Impacts; Geology and Soils; Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Change; Growth-inducing Impacts; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology/Water Quality; Land Use and Planning; Noise and Vibration; Public Services; Transportation/Traffic; and Utilities and Service Systems including water supply and energy.

**Availability:** The Draft EIR can be reviewed at the following location: Imperial County Planning and Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243. Additionally, pursuant to CEQA Guideline Section 15150, the Draft EIR incorporates by reference the Mount Signal and Calexico Solar Farm Projects Final EIR (State Clearinghouse [SCH] #2011071066) and the Imperial Solar Energy Center South Project Final EIR/EA (SCH#2010061038). The Mount Signal and Calexico Solar Farm Projects Final EIR and Imperial Solar Energy Center South Final EIR/EA are available at the Imperial County Planning and Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, California 92243.

**Comments:** Written comments regarding the Draft EIR should be directed to Patricia Valenzuela, Planner IV, Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 and must be received **no later than November 19, 2014** (public review period September 30, 2014 through November 19, 2014). A Final EIR incorporating public input will be prepared for consideration by the Imperial County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors at a future public meeting. For environmental review information for this project, please contact Patricia Valenzuela at (760) 482-4320.

This notice was published in the Imperial Valley Press on September 28, 2014.